



Florida Department of  
**TRANSPORTATION**

# **Quality Control Inspection Challenges**

**Jon Sands & Sam Joseph**  
**District 1&7**

# What is the QC Role?

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- (Spec. 105-1.2.2) – Provide all necessary inspection to assure effective QC of the operations related to materials acceptance.
- (MM 5.1.4.4) – The purpose of the QC Program is to ensure that contractors and producers have Quality Control and process control measures in place prior to producing and placing materials on the Department's projects.

# What is the QC Role?

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- (CPAM 3.2.3) – A contract requirement that makes the Contractor responsible for material sampling and testing, inspection of the work, and maintaining associated records.

# QC concerns from In-house and CEI staff

- Knowledge and Experience
  - QC staff have very little experience and often not trained properly.
  - Don't have a copy of the plans nor know how to read plans.
  - VT staff have to train or direct QC
  - Do not have enough inspectors on the job to cover multiple key operations.

# QC concerns from In-house and CEI staff

- QC Managers and inspectors do not know their role
  - Inspectors show up and pull a test and leave
  - They are there to test and complete paperwork, no QC inspection happens.
  - QC managers and inspectors leave one job to another in a hurry.
  - QC staff do not stay on the same job - constant turnover.

# QC concerns from In-house and CEI staff

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- QC Managers and inspectors do not correct or stop contractors due to fear of retribution.
- Lack of communication between QC manager, QC inspectors, and VT inspectors.

# Concerns from QC firms

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- Contractors view CQC as a commodity and choose the lowest CQC bid.
- CQC firms to get the job, have to bid lower than what is required for good CQC.
- Contractors look for ways to cut CQC scope to have a competitive edge when bidding for projects.

# Concerns from QC firms

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- Contractors put more emphasis on production than quality
- Contractors self perform CQC to reduce their bid.
- Contractors don't see the value of CQC

# Possible Solutions

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- Require specific experience for QC manager and QC inspectors
- FDOT determining min CQC personnel and rates based on statewide data.
- Establish possible pay items for CQC
- FDOT determining project CQC budget.