



Florida Department of Transportation

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GOVERNOR

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Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD, P.E.
SECRETARY

July 1, 2014

Khoa Nguyen
Director, Office of Technical Services
Federal Highway Administration
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Re: State Specifications and Estimates Office
Section **548**
Proposed Specification: **5480906 Retaining Wall Systems.**

Dear Mr. Nguyen:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of the above referenced Supplemental Specification.

These changes were proposed by Juan Castellanos to clarify the required pH testing for walls.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via email to SP965DS or daniel.scheer@dot.state.fl.us.

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call me at 414-4130.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Daniel Scheer, P.E.
State Specifications Engineer

DS/dt

Attachment

cc: Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.
State Construction Engineer

RETAINING WALL SYSTEMS.(REV ~~5-2907-1-14~~)

SUBARTICLE 548-9.6 is deleted and the following substituted:

548-9.6 Frequency: Conduct sampling and testing at a minimum frequency listed in the table below. The Engineer will perform verification sampling and tests at a minimum frequency listed in the table below.

Test Name	Quality Control (QC)	Verification
Maximum Density	One per soil type	One per soil type
Density	One per LOT	One per four LOTs for each type of QC test.
Gradation	One per Maximum Density	One per Maximum Density
LL&PI	One per Maximum Density	One per Maximum Density
Soil Classification	One per Maximum Density	One per Maximum Density
Organic Content	One per soil type	One per soil type
<i>pH</i>	<i>One per soil type</i>	<i>One per soil type*</i>
Direct Shear	Three per soil type when required by 548-9.5	One per soil type

**Verification testing for pH will be performed on samples taken at the point of placement.*

In addition, for permanent walls utilizing metallic soil reinforcement, test for corrosiveness at a minimum frequency of one test per soil type at point of placement according to the electro-chemical *and pH testing methods specified* table in 548-2.6. ~~For permanent walls utilizing geosynthetic soil reinforcement, test for pH at a minimum frequency of one test per soil type at point of placement.~~ The Engineer will collect enough material to split and create two separate samples and retain one for resolution at point of placement until LOTs represented by the samples are accepted. The Engineer will perform verification tests for corrosiveness at a minimum frequency of one test per soil type.

SUBARTICLE 548-9.7.6 is deleted and the following substituted:

548-9.7.6 Corrosiveness: The Engineer will verify the QC results if the verification result satisfies the electro-chemical *and pH* test criteria set forth in 548-2.6. Otherwise, the Engineer will test the sample retained in 548-9.7.1. The SMO or an AASHTO accredited laboratory designated by the SMO will perform resolution testing. The material will be sampled and tested in accordance with FM 5-550, FM 5-551, FM 5-552 and FM 5-553.

If the resolution test result satisfies the required criteria, material of that soil type will be verified and accepted. If the resolution test results do not meet the required criteria, reject the material and reconstruct with acceptable material.

RETAINING WALL SYSTEMS.
(REV 7-1-14)

SUBARTICLE 548-9.6 is deleted and the following substituted:

548-9.6 Frequency: Conduct sampling and testing at a minimum frequency listed in the table below. The Engineer will perform verification sampling and tests at a minimum frequency listed in the table below.

Test Name	Quality Control (QC)	Verification
Maximum Density	One per soil type	One per soil type
Density	One per LOT	One per four LOTs for each type of QC test.
Gradation	One per Maximum Density	One per Maximum Density
LL&PI	One per Maximum Density	One per Maximum Density
Soil Classification	One per Maximum Density	One per Maximum Density
Organic Content	One per soil type	One per soil type
pH	One per soil type	One per soil type*
Direct Shear	Three per soil type when required by 548-9.5	One per soil type

*Verification testing for pH will be performed on samples taken at the point of placement.

In addition, for permanent walls utilizing metallic soil reinforcement, test for corrosiveness at a minimum frequency of one test per soil type at point of placement according to the electro-chemical table in 548-2.6. The Engineer will collect enough material to split and create two separate samples and retain one for resolution at point of placement until LOTs represented by the samples are accepted. The Engineer will perform verification tests for corrosiveness at a minimum frequency of one test per soil type.

SUBARTICLE 548-9.7.6 is deleted and the following substituted:

548-9.7.6 Corrosiveness: The Engineer will verify the QC results if the verification result satisfies the electro-chemical and pH test criteria set forth in 548-2.6. Otherwise, the Engineer will test the sample retained in 548-9.7.1. The SMO or an AASHTO accredited laboratory designated by the SMO will perform resolution testing. The material will be sampled and tested in accordance with FM 5-550, FM 5-551, FM 5-552 and FM 5-553.

If the resolution test result satisfies the required criteria, material of that soil type will be verified and accepted. If the resolution test results do not meet the required criteria, reject the material and reconstruct with acceptable material.

