

5480206 RETAINING WALL SYSTEMS
COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW

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Comment: (12-5-13)
548-2.6.2, third paragraph: Add highlighted text.

Ensure that the material is non-plastic, as determined by AASHTO T90 and the liquid limit as determined by AASHTO T89 is less than 15. The pH, as determined by FM 5-550, shall not be lower than 5.0 and not higher than 9.0. ~~The Engineer may approve~~ Sources of select backfill material having a pH between 4.5 and 5.0 for walls utilizing metallic reinforcement and between 3.0 and 5.0 for walls utilizing geosynthetic reinforcement ~~with~~ no metallic elements or pipes placed within the backfill, as determined by FM 5-550, may be used provided the interior face of the MSE wall panels have 3 inches of concrete cover over the reinforcement and the concrete used in the panels contains the following ingredients and proportions:

Response: Agreed. Change made.

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Comment: (12-30-13)
The mix design with 50% to 60% cement replaced with slag does not provide the required overnight strength. Due to this constraint, to my knowledge this mix design has never been used before. A possible solution would be to replace the slag with another form of corrosion inhibitor similar to what was used in index 5300.

Response: Specification 400, referenced by this specification, indicates a minimum time and strength for demolding. The 24 hours is a minimum that allows for longer times. However the department understands that in order to produce panels efficiently and cost effectively faster reacting materials would be desirable. Language was added to the spec so that faster reactive options are available to the manufacturer. Change Made.
