## FY 2017/2018 QC Category No. 10A STATEWIDE INSPECTION GUIDELIST Bridge Structures - General Concrete

# FORMING

- 1. The ground on which concrete or formwork will be supported for pile and drilled shaft footings must be prepared and compacted properly, prior to form setting. [Spec. 455-1]
- Form material must be approved and must have the proper dimensions, chamfers, positioning, bracing, friction collars, release agent, and be free of dirt or any other debris. Engineer must approve forms, including Stay-In-Place (SIP), prior to concrete placement. Check for sheeting defects on all surfaces of polymer coated SIP form elements prior to their installation. [Spec. 400-5]
- 3. Traffic railing removable form alignment is particularly critical since public visibility of railings is very high. [Spec. 521-4]
- 4. Slip formed traffic railing concerns: guide string alignment, adequate slip forming machine operation and vibrators, clean deck surface, and rebar cover adjustments made just before the slip former passes. [Spec. 521-4 and Good Practice]
- 5. Falsework should be reviewed by the Project Administrator prior to any concrete placement. Falsework and shoring requiring shop drawings must be inspected and certified by the Specialty Engineer prior to concrete placement. [Spec. 5-1, 400-4, and Good Practice]

## PLACING AND TYING REBARS

- Storing, bending, splicing, and cutting rebar must be done properly. [Spec. 415-3 thru
  4]
- 7. Rebar placing, tying and support concerns: placement tolerances, securing and lapping of splices, mortar block composition and fastening. If the environment is extremely aggressive, use of metal chairs or bolsters in contact with removable forms or floor surfaces is not permitted. [Spec. 415-5]
- 8. Footing rebars: use double strand single tie at all perimeter intersections and at every other interior intersection. [Spec. 415-5]
- 9. Column hoops shall be tied to the vertical bars at every intersection by a cross or figure 8 ties. [Spec. 415-5]
- 10. Wall rebars shall be tied with a cross or figure 8 tie at all perimeter intersections and at a minimum, every third interior intersection. [Spec. 415-5]
- 11. Beam and cap rebars: Heavy beam bolsters must be used for bottom and top mats of rebars and concrete blocks for spacing longitudinal bars below the top mat; spacing and positioning is critical. Tying shall be double strand single ties at all intersections.

[Spec. 415-5]

- 12. Precast concrete blocks used to space and support the reinforcing bars must have a strength equal to or greater than the concrete in which they are to be placed. [Spec. 415-5]
- 13. Traffic railing rebars must be free of hardened concrete, curing compound and other foreign matter; utility conduits and embedments separated from rebar, and utility conduit slip joints and junction boxes properly installed. [Spec. 415, 521 and Good Practice]

# PLACING CONCRETE

- 14. Monitor surface moisture evaporation rate during placement and prevent the rate from exceeding 0.1 lb/ft<sup>2</sup>/hr unless countermeasures such as application of evaporation retarder or fogging are employed. [Spec. 400-16]
- 15. Temperature restrictions for mixing and placing concrete when very hot or very cold, requirements for keeping concrete warm when cold and for retarding when hot, and specifications for monitoring mass concrete temperature gradient and core temperature. Do not remove the temperature control mechanisms until the core temperature is within 50°F of the ambient temperature for mass concrete. [Spec. 346-3, 346-7 & 400-7]
- 16. Concrete shall not be placed until foundations, forms, falsework and rebars have been inspected and approved and metal forms and rebars are sprayed with cool water in hot weather. [Spec. 400-7]
- 17. Placement concerns: placement in the final position and in level layers, no movement with a vibrator, no displacement of rebars, no aggregate segregation or separation, not dropped freely over 5' and vibrations from adjacent equipment or operations must be controlled. [Spec. 346-6 & 400-7]
- 18. Belt conveyors for concrete placement must be approved. [Spec. 400-7]
- 19. If concrete is pumped, minimum hose diameter is 4" and all other Spec. requirements must be met. [Spec. 400-7]
- 20. Special requirements for placement in successive layers. Ensure vibrator penetration into underlying layer and lifts that do not exceed 20" where possible. [Spec. 400-7]
- 21. Number, type and size of vibrators must be approved and they shall be inserted and withdrawn as near to plumb as possible in a slow and steady manner. Circles of vibrator influence shall overlap to ensure that the entire placement is adequately vibrated. Proper vibration is particularly critical in areas where concrete flow is restricted by dense reinforcement or where concrete will not readily flow since these areas have a high probability of forming voids or honeycomb. [Spec. 400-7]
- 22. Place columns in one continuous operation for each lift unless construction joints are

shown in the plans. [Spec. 400-7]

- 23. Deck slabs: screeding system must be demonstrated and approved prior to placement and concrete must be placed in continuous strips (transverse or longitudinal) with no time for initial set between strips except at planned joints. [Spec. 400-7 and Good Practice]
- 24. Unhardened concrete must be completely protected from rain and runoff by a system that does not come in contact with the concrete. Do not place concrete during rain. [Spec. 400-7]

## CURING

- 25. No further curing is required if forms are kept in place, without loosening, for a least 72 hours; if forms are removed before 72 hours, an approved curing method must be used. [Spec. 400-16]
- 26. Properly apply an approved membrane curing compound at a rate of 0.06 gallon/ square yard of surface area. [Spec. 400-16]
- 27. Covers for continuous moisture curing shall be kept continuously wet for at least 72 hours for elements other than decks: 7 days for decks. Burlap-polyethylene sheeting is required to have a minimum weight of 1-1.8 ounces/square feet for two layers or 0.6-0.7 ounces/square feet for four layers. Provide a tight seal when using curing blankets for tops of components with side forms. [Spec. 925-3 & 400-16]
- 28. Curing compound for slip formed traffic railings must be applied at the proper spread rate within 30 minutes of extrusion or before loss of water sheen and must remain in place for at least 7 days. Contractor must submit spread rate calculations to the Engineer. Remove compound completely if applying a Class 5 coating. [Spec. 400-16]
- 29. Construction joints must be cured using either the continuous moisture or curing blanket method. [Spec. 400-16]
- 30. Curing compounds not used within one year of the date of manufacture shall not be incorporated into the work. [Spec. 925-2]

## FORM REMOVAL

- 31. Time of removal of forms shall be per plans, when minimum time or compressive strength is reached per table in the Specs or by using an approved strength versus time (S/T) curve. [Spec. 400-14]
- 32. Concrete in cofferdams must not be exposed to the action of water prior to final set and must not be exposed to salt or brackish water for 7 days after placement. [Spec. 400-7]

## FINAL FINSHING

33. Remove form tie ends and irregular projections and patch void, honeycomb and form tie voids with mortar material and use methods that comply with specs. [Spec. 400-15]

## **PROTECTION OF CONCRETE**

34. Time of placing superstructure: do not place the weight of the superstructure or beams on the concrete substructure element until they have reached the age of 10 days unless proof of cap concrete strength is provided by testing or by signed and sealed calculations per specification. [Spec. 400-17]

#### **CRACK INSPECTION**

- 35. Measure the width, length, depth (coring may be needed), termination points and precise location of all cracks and display, to scale, the results on a drawing referred to as a crack map. After initial inspection determine the cause of the cracks, monitor the cracks and document the growth of individual cracks. Use a pocket microscope to measure crack widths of 25 mils or less. Determine if cracks are structural or nonstructural and evaluate nonstructural cracks in accordance with CPAM 10.3.5. [Spec. 400-21]
- 36. Inspect underwater components in accordance with CPAM 10.6.