VERIFICATION TESTING AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS
(< $75,000.00)

LEGEND
VS = Verification Sample (AGENCY)
VC = Verification Companion (CONTRACTOR)
IA = Independent Assurance

1. Owner Retest VS and Notify IA to Investigate
2. Are Retested VS and VC Within Tolerance
   YES: Use VC Results for Acceptance
   NO: Use VS Results for Acceptance
3. Does Contractor Dispute Use of VS for Acceptance
   YES: Written Notification of Dispute Resolution Process by Contractor Within 3 Business Days
   NO: Use VS Results for Acceptance
4. Contractor Submits Dispute Resolution Request to Project Engineer (Specifier)
   YES: Owner and Contractor Agree on 3rd Party Testing Lab From Predetermined List (Or As Mutually Agreed) for Process & Completion in 3 Business Days
5. Referee Samples Submitted to 3rd Party Lab (Mutual) and Tested
   YES: Use Contractor Test Results When Referee Sample and the VC Test Results are Within Allowable Tolerance (Owner Pays 100%)
   NO: Use Owner Results When No Results Match (Contractor Pays 100%)
   YES: Use Owner Test Results When Referee Sample and the VS Test Results are Within Allowable Tolerance (Contractor Pays 100%)
   NO: Use Contractors Test Results When Both VS and VC Test Results are Within Allowable Tolerance of Referee Sample (Contractor Pays 50% and Owner Pays 50%)

Use Contractors Test Results When Referee Sample and the VC Test Results are Within Allowable Tolerance (Owner Pays 100%)
Use Owner Test Results When Referee Sample and the VS Test Results are Within Allowable Tolerance (Contractor Pays 100%)
Use Contractors Test Results When Both VS and VC Test Results are Within Allowable Tolerance of Referee Sample (Contractor Pays 50% and Owner Pays 50%)
Use Owner Results When No Results Match (Contractor Pays 100%)
Dispute Resolution Process
(February 14, 2011)

Details for Notes 1-5

1. Per 2360, the owner must retest the material when tolerances are not met. The Agency’s Lab Supervisor notifies the Independent Assurance Inspector (IAI) when the results are out of established tolerances. An IAI review of Agency testing equipment, procedures, worksheets, gyratory specimen height sheets, and personnel is critical to helping determine the source of the problem. The IAI may be asked to review the Contractor’s equipment and test procedures as part of the process. The Contractor should also independently review their corresponding laboratory tests and procedures.

- On State Aid projects, the Local Agency should be consulted prior to dispatching the IAI to review the Contractor’s field testing operations.

2. See MnDOT Lab Manual Section 1003 for Lab-Field Tolerance Procedure.

- When a volumetric property is disputed only the parameter out of tolerance will be retested and, if applicable, substituted.

- All properties, except asphalt content, will be tested using the method used for project acceptance.

- Retested asphalt content will be based on a solvent centrifuge Mn/DOT 1852.

- For AFT – retesting includes Rice gravity, % AC and gradation. Hand washing is required.

- Retest for an extracted gradation will be performed on an ignition burn sample only if that method was originally used for acceptance. Hand washing is required.

3. MnDOT will provide a listing of AASHTO Materials Reference Laboratory (AMRL) accredited laboratories for 3rd party testing.

- See MnDOT Laboratory Manual (1800 series) for testing reference.

- An independent courier may be utilized.

4. The verification/dispute laboratory data shall be applied from the test sample where it was re-established forward.

- A minimum of three referee samples are recommended. (Results in three three-way comparisons.)

5. If needed, can test in-place material on job for resolution.

- Contractor pays for lab testing initially – balance books later at time of partial payment(s).