



MATERIALS BULLETIN

Colorado Department of Transportation
Project Development Branch
(for Materials & Geotechnical Branch)

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Date: March 11, 2008

Class R Concrete *A Guide for the RME*

History

The Class R concrete specification was developed by the Remote Concrete Task Force in the fall of 2007. This task force was comprised of thirty four members, twenty two of which were from Industry. The task force was created to address the growing problem of getting suppliers to provide concrete to CDOT projects. In remote locations, especially in Region 3, CDOT was competing for concrete with resort and oil field construction. These other industries do not have the same testing requirements and disincentive penalties as CDOT. The Class R concrete specification was developed to make it more advantageous for suppliers to bid CDOT work in these locations.

As the specification was developed it became obvious that there were other situations where it would be advantageous to use this class of concrete. In these locations CDOT could save the cost of mix designs and QC testing while assuming little risk.

Intended Use

Locations:

- If the location of the project is where there is a sole supplier with known aggregates.
- If the location of the project is where suppliers are unwilling to bid CDOT work due to the demand from non-government customers.
- If the location is where there are local suppliers that are unable to meet CDOT Specifications with regard to mix design and QC testing.

Project:

- If there is a project with small quantities of concrete as defined by the Field Materials Manual (FMM).
- If the project has several locations over a large area where small quantities of non-critical concrete is needed.
- If the concrete items on the project are of a non-critical nature.

Examples:

1. A project's location is in a remote location with a local supplier that is unable to comply with standard CDOT specifications. The project is an HMA overlay with small quantities of curb and gutter replacement as well as sections of sidewalk replacement as defined in the FMM.
2. A project is in a location where there is a high demand for concrete from outside CDOT. The items on the project are non-critical and small in quantity as defined in the FMM.



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Remember Class R concrete requires no mix design or QC testing. By specifying Class R concrete the RME is stating that he has evaluated it's use and determined that it is an acceptable risk given the situation.

Non-critical – Defined as where if the concrete were to fail prematurely there would be little or no impact to the motoring public.