

# STATE OF COLORADO

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Chief Engineer  
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October 25, 2004

Mr. Ridley Moorman  
Co-Chair of CDOT / ACEC Committee  
URS Corp  
8181 East Tufts Avenue  
Denver, Colorado 80237

Dear Mr. Moorman,

CDOT's Professional Engineer IIIs initiated an effort to develop a qualification plan for construction inspectors. I am pleased to present a summary of this information and how the details can be accessed. I would encourage you to share this information with the consultants of the American Consulting Engineers of Colorado (ACEC) such that each may plan for their staff's participation in this program as soon as possible. The positive outcomes of a qualified inspection staff include a higher quality end product on the highway, improved partnership with the contractor, and identification of a career paths.

There are eight categories of inspection that have been developed: basic highway math, basic construction surveying, basic highway plan reading, basic materials, excavation and embankment, asphalt paving inspection, concrete transportation construction inspection, and storm water management and erosion control. At this time two additional categories, major structures and minor structures, are still under development.

The qualification program products can be accessed both internally and externally at:

<http://www.dot.state.co.us/CHRMEmpCorner/empdev.cfm>

A course catalogue, registration information, and documentation of the overall plan are available. For newer staff, a series of entry-level training courses have been identified and listed. As experienced inspectors prepare for upcoming projects, a series of multi-media refresher materials has been made available for loan to each of the Regions. Regardless if the construction inspector is from CDOT or a consultant, certification is required within the categories that have been developed. The certification involves the demonstration of proficiency by passing an exam. Self-study manuals have been developed for four of the entry-level certification courses.

The pre-requisites of the certification program are still under development. The timeframe for requiring certified inspectors on CDOT projects and the appropriate categories needed for each inspection activity, such as asphalt paving inspection, will be developed soon. They will be listed on the website when they are developed.

It is not too early to begin with this process. I hope everyone can plan to begin making a positive impact on projects in the next construction season. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Craig Siracusa, CDOT Chief Engineer

cc: Tim Harris, Director of Staff Services

Tim Aschenbrener, Materials and Geotechnical Branch Manager