

# Design Standards Letter

**Letter Number: G-1995-17**

**Letter Date: 12/08/1995**

**Effective Date: 12/08/1995**

**Section/Plan No.: S0301, S0401, S0402, S0403, S1015**

**Subject: SHRP Performance Graded Asphalt Cement**

## Body

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The Materials and Research Division has further clarified their intent for substituting performance graded (PG) asphalt cement for AC-20 and AC-10 asphalt cements. General Letter No. 17, 1995 rescinds the information provided in General Letter No. 15, 1995 of the same subject.

Performance graded asphalt cement is now a part of the standard specifications, effective with the December, 1995 contracts. See Sec 1015 of the General Special Provisions, revisions to the 1993 Standard Specifications for Highway Construction. MRSP 94-02E no longer needs to be included in future contracts (December forward) when a PG grade is required. The Materials and Research Division will continue to recommend PG asphalt cement for specific jobs on a job-by-job basis, but probably no more than already specified for 1996.

As stated in General Letter No. 15, MHTD agreed with the SHRP North Central Asphalt Users/Producers Group to allow the use of PG asphalt cements as alternatives to AC-20 and AC-10 asphalt cements in 1996. In accordance with that agreement, it is requested that all jobs scheduled to be let in 1996, beginning with the February letting, have the Sec 301, 401, 402 and 403 AC-20 asphalt cement items modified to read "AC-20 or PG 64-22" and have the Sec 301, 401, 402 and 403 AC-10 asphalt cement items modified to read "AC-10 or PG 58-22".

The pay items for these items will remain the same as presently used for AC-20 and AC-10 asphalt cement items. This particular provision is simply a change in the method of testing for a particular grade and does not change the current asphalts or suppliers. Potentially the same materials supplies as an AC-20 could be supplied as a PG 64-22, with the same holding true for AC-10 and PG 58-22 asphalt cements.

Attached is a new Materials and Research Special Provision, MRSP-95-08, that will be included in job proposals allowing alternative asphalt cements. The district should include in their index of job special provision, the title, "Alternate Asphalt Cement", with the notation "To be inserted by the Design Division".

pm/maj

Attachment