

SAMPLING METHOD MB8

SAMPLING OF SLURRY MIXES

1. SCOPE

This method describes the procedures which should be followed when a sample of ready-mixed slurry is taken. (See note 6.1)

2. APPARATUS

- 2.1 Clean, dry sample containers capable of forming an air-tight seal.
- 2.2 A suitable scoop.
- 2.3 Cleaning material such as toluene, cloths for wiping and water.

3. SAMPLE SIZE

A compound sample of at least 4l each must be taken as follows:

Place a clean scoop under the machine's outlet chute and let about 5l flow into the scoop. Be sure to catch the full width of the stream of slurry. Take a 0,5l sample from these 5l and pour it into the sample container. Place the lid on the sample container.

Eight samples must be taken at regular intervals, as described above, from each batch of slurry while it is being spread. The eight single samples must be placed in one container to form one compound sample of at least 4l. (See note 6.2.)

Seal the sample container properly and mark or label it with the sample number, the place at which the batch was laid and the time and date of sampling.

Dispatch the sample to the laboratory immediately so that tests can be done without delay.

2. REPORTING

A full report containing the details of the sample and the slurry mix (mix proportions and mix composition) must accompany the sample to the laboratory.

3. NOTES

- 3.1 Since the slurry seal is a suspension with a fairly low viscosity, it is quite easy to sample. However, the sample can only be taken at one stage and that is while the machine is engaged in spreading the mix onto the road. On no account may the modern slurry machine (which uses a continuous mixing method) be stopped so that a sample can be taken (for example to get a wheelbarrow on top of the trailer under the outlet chute.) As soon as the mixing process stops the mix changes composition. On no account may a sample of slurry be scraped off the road either, because:

The material is in intimate contact with the underlying layers and a pure and representative sample cannot be taken; and

The underlying layers usually absorb some of the binder from the slurry seal.

- 3.2 After each sample has been taken, the equipment must be thoroughly washed with clean water and thereafter dried with clean cloths. If the batch is discharged quickly, it may be necessary to have four sets of equipment ready to avoid the possibility of the equipment still being wet when the next single sample has to be taken.