

## **GENERAL**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures by which asphalt contractor field laboratories are placed on the Qualified Product List (QPL 76). In this policy, a laboratory is defined as a facility engaged in quality control testing of asphalt for Department projects.

## **INITIAL ACCEPTANCE**

In order for a laboratory to be placed on QPL 76, a request must be sent to the SCDOT Office of Materials and Research (OMR) stating that the laboratory has all equipment in accordance with SC-M-404 and that the equipment has been verified or calibrated according to AASHTO R 18. The request should be sent to:

SCDOT Office of Materials and Research Asphalt Materials Unit Susan Dukes (803) 737-6614 DukesSR@scdot.org

The request for intial inspection must be sent a minimum of 30 days prior to the inspection. The Contractor's Quality Control Manager must also submit their Quality Control Program for review and approval. This individual will be responsible for managing their quality control program in accordance with contract specifications.

The inspection will be made by an inspector from OMR. The visit will include inspection of the laboratory and review of equipment records and calibration records. Upon satisfactory compliance, the Department will add the laboratory to QPL 76. A certification sticker will be placed inside of the laboratory indicating that the laboratory is qualified by the Department. If at any time equipment is missing, not working properly, or not being calibrated as required by AASHTO R 18, the laboratory will be removed from the QPL.

## **ANNUAL ACCEPTANCE**

The Contractor will be responsible for submitting a yearly request for annual inspection of their field laboratories. The request must be submitted a minimum of 14 calendar days prior to the expiration date of each laboratory. Inspectors from OMR will re-inspect the laboratory equipment and review records and equipment calibrations. A new laboratory acceptance sticker will be given to the Contractor and the laboratory's information will be updated on QPL 76.

Additional inspections may be conducted anytime during production of asphalt for Department projects to ensure accuracy of the testing.

All Contractor field laboratories must comply with SC-M-404 at all times.

Should the QC Manager for a laboratory change anytime during the year, OMR should be notified of the change and a new Quality Control Program submitted.