



**QUALIFIED PRODUCT POLICY  
FOR  
HIGH-TENSILE STRENGTH SEVEN-WIRE STRAND**

**1.0 General:**

All producers that desire to be listed on Qualified Product List (QPL) 106 must successfully complete an inspection by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP).

For more information on this qualification program, visit the NTPEP web site at [www.ntpep.org](http://www.ntpep.org). Producers must comply with NTPEP SP01, "Qualification of Highway Product Manufacturers Through the Use of NTPEP Audits," and NTPEP REBAR work plan, "Evaluation of Reinforcing Steel Manufacturers."

All producers who have had their product tested by SCDOT for project acceptance, and who are already NTPEP compliant, and whose NTPEP comparison data meet the requirements of this policy have been temporarily added to QPL 106. Those producers will have until January 1, 2022 to submit the certification letter required in Section 2.1 to remain on the QPL.

**2.0 Initial:**

2.1 Once NTPEP compliance certificate has been obtained, email the following:

- A request for inclusion on QPL 106
- A copy of the NTPEP certificate
- A copy of the NTPEP audit report and comparison test results from NTPEP designated laboratory
- A copy of the producer's response (CAR) to any deficiencies noted by NTPEP
- A certification letter stating that all material shipped to SCDOT projects will be made from steel melted and manufactured in the United States. The letter should include the date and a signature from the employee of the producer with the authority to attest to the statement.

to:

Caleb Gunter, PE  
Structural Materials Engineer  
SCDOT Office of Materials and Research  
(803) 737-6694  
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2.2 NTPEP comparison test data will be reviewed for compliance with the requirements of AASHTO M 203 for the following criteria:

- Breaking Strength
- Yield Strength
- Elongation
- Difference Between Center Wire Diameter and Diameter of Any Outer Wire.

2.3 Causes for Rejection:

2.3.1 AASHTO M 203 Specifications

- Two or more sampled heats fail (producer or NTPEP results) based on the same reviewed criterion.
- More than two sampled heats fail (producer or NTPEP results) based on different reviewed criteria.

2.4 If the producer's submitted documents and accompanying test data meet the requirements in Section 2.1 through 2.3, the producer will be added to QPL 106.

### **3.0 Annual:**

3.1 The high-tensile strength seven-wire strand producer's facility must maintain NTPEP compliance at all times to remain on QPL 106. Producers that do not comply with NTPEP program requirements, or whose accompanying test data do not meet the requirements of Sections 2.1 through 2.3 of this Policy will be removed from the QPL. If the SCDOT removes a producer from the QPL, the producer must provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate that these issues have been resolved to be considered for reinstatement to the list.

3.2 The SCDOT has the right to visit and audit any producer's mill and randomly select samples of product and witness testing by the producer.

3.3 The SCDOT may require and review additional information, including information related to NTPEP findings, and require additional alterations to testing or documentation before the producer's mill can be added to QPL 106.

3.4 In the event that the producer appears to be in compliance with all the requirements of this Policy, but the end product does not meet the Department's specifications, then the Structural Materials Engineer may take steps towards suspending the producer's SCDOT qualification status. If the problem has not been properly corrected within 30 days, the Structural Materials Engineer will revoke the qualification status of the producer until the producer demonstrates that all of the issues have been properly resolved. Additionally, a producer will be removed from the QPL and be required to re-apply as a qualified source if not participating in NTPEP annual testing and auditing or due to failure of NTPEP audits and/or SCDOT verification testing.