

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

QUALIFIED PRODUCT POLICY
FOR
WELDED WIRE FABRIC FOR CONCRETE REINFORCEMENT

1.0 General:

This policy outlines the requirements to produce welded wire fabric for SCDOT projects. As shown in the SCDOT Supplemental Reinforcing Steel Supplemental Specification, all producers of welded wire fabric for SCDOT projects must be included on Qualified Product List (QPL) 85. To be listed on QPL 85 the producer must participate in the Reinforcing Steel/Welded Wire Reinforcement (REBAR/WWR) audit and evaluation program of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP).

Until July 29, 2020, producers may be conditionally added to QPL 85 pending successful NTPEP audit. The producer must provide evidence that they have applied for NTPEP compliance audit.

For more information on this qualification program, visit the NTPEP web site at <http://www.ntpep.org/>. Producers must be listed as compliant with NTPEP SP01, "Qualification of Highway Product Manufacturers Through the Use of NTPEP Audits," and NTPEP REBAR/WWR, "Evaluation of Reinforcing Steel Manufacturers."

All welded wire fabric incorporated into SCDOT projects must be manufactured in conformance with the requirements of AASHTO M 336 / ASTM A1064 and SCDOT specifications.

2.0 Initial:

Once NTPEP compliance is achieved, send the following by mail, or electronically:

- A letter requesting inclusion on QPL 85 including the following:
 - Physical address of the facility
 - Name and contact information for Quality Control Supervisor/Point of Contact
- A copy of the most recent NTPEP certificate.
- A copy of the NTPEP audit report and comparison test results from NTPEP designated laboratory.
- A copy of the producer's response to any deficiencies noted by NTPEP.

Submit to:

Caleb Gunter, PE
Structural Materials Engineer
SCDOT Office of Materials and Research
1406 Shop Road
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-6694
Email: guntercb@scdot.org

2.1 NTPEP comparison test data will be reviewed according to the following criteria

2.1.1 NTPEP Comparison

- The test results from each comparable individual wire specimen shall not vary between laboratories by more than the following
 - Tensile Strength: 10.0%
 - Unit Weight (deformed wire only): 5.0%
- The average test results for the same fabric sample tested by each laboratory shall vary between laboratories no more than the following:
 - Tensile Strength: 5.0%
 - Unit Weight: 2.0%

2.1.2 AASHTO/ASTM Specification Compliance

- All Producer and NTPEP test results shall meet the applicable AASHTO/ASTM specifications (i.e., AASHTO M 336 / ASTM A1064)

2.2 Causes for Rejection

2.2.1 NTPEP Test Result Comparison

- More than 10% of comparable test results (including individual wire results and average fabric sample results fail to meet the comparison tolerance listed in Section 2.1.1

2.2.2 AASHTO/ASTM Specifications

- More than one sample fails to meet tensile strength requirements as described below.
 - A sample is deemed to have failed if more than one longitudinal wire fails to meet the required tensile strength or more than one transverse wire fails to meet the required tensile strength based upon the reported mill testing or NTPEP testing.
- More than one sample fails the bend test.

2.3 When submitted, successful NTPEP certification documentation will be reviewed. If the accompanying test data meet the requirements in Section 2.1 through 2.3, the producer will be added to QPL 85.

3.0 Annual:

- 3.1 The welded wire fabric producer must be audited annually by NTPEP to remain on QPL 85. If at any time the welded wire fabric producer becomes non-compliant with the NTPEP REBAR/WWF program, that producer will be removed from QPL 85 until they are reinstated to a state of compliance.
- 3.2 If the producer's annual NTPEP comparison testing fails to meet the requirements listed in Section 2.1 and 2.2, that producer will be removed from the QPL until they have provided sufficient evidence that they have addressed the issues causing the failures.
- 3.3 The SCDOT retains the right to visit and audit any welded wire fabric producer's facility and randomly select samples of product and perform testing or witness testing by the producer. The SCDOT also retains the right to sample welded wire fabric from SCDOT projects and perform AASHTO/ASTM specification compliance testing.
- 3.4 The SCDOT may require and review additional information, including information related to NTPEP findings, and require additional testing or documentation before the producer's mill can be added to QPL 85.
- 3.5 In the event that the welded wire fabric producer appears to be in compliance with all the requirements of this policy, but the end product does not meet the Department's specifications, the State Materials Engineer may take steps towards suspending the producer's SCDOT qualification status. If the problem has not been properly corrected within 30 business days, the State Materials Engineer will revoke the qualification status of the producer until the producer demonstrates that all the issues have been properly resolved.