



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Department of Transportation

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Date: November 15, 2005

To: All current Chicago Department Of Transportation (CDOT) Portland Cement Concrete Producers

RE: **Cold Weather Concrete Production**

Accelerators

In the past CDOT In-House Construction crews have requested concrete with calcium chloride added as an accelerator. As a reminder, and as discussed at our meeting on September 28, 2005, CDOT's In-House Construction crews should not be ordering calcium chloride accelerator for their concrete orders. IDOT approved, non-chloride accelerators may be used when the situation warrants.

If the In-House Construction crews place an order requesting calcium chloride as an accelerator, please use this letter as your verification that this practice is not allowed. CDOT QA has also reminded the In-House group of this policy.

Concrete mixes containing unapproved calcium chloride accelerators may result in material being subject to nonpayment.

In addition, accelerators are not to be used with mixes containing fly ash.

Fly Ash

The onset of cool weather is here and the temperature for placement of fly ash compensated mixtures becomes a concern. In an attempt to close out this season without any adverse strength issues a change in policy for the use of these fly ash mixtures is necessary.

To avoid confusion about calendar deadlines and temperature restrictions; the new policy will be as follows:

Should it become necessary to use any type of artificial heat for any component of a concrete mixture to obtain concrete with a temperature above the minimum requirement of 50 deg Fahrenheit, the use of fly ash in concrete mixtures shall immediate cease to occur on any City of Chicago project.

This new policy is effective immediately. Your cooperation is appreciated in obtaining quality materials for the remaining portion of this construction season.

Again, if a non-chloride accelerator is ordered, then, regardless of temperatures, no fly ash will be allowed in the mixture.

As always, if there are any questions or concerns, you may contact Ahmed Eldeen (312-217-4572) or Shelley Costello (847-871-3285) at TranSystems or myself at 312-744-1861.

Sincerely,

Cynthia M. Williams
CDOT Quality Assurance

Cc: CDOT QA / INV Cheaks Fornaciari Prendergast
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