Test Procedure for

SAMPLING MECHANICAL COUPLERS

TxDOT Designation: Tex-743-I

Effective Date: January 2019

1. SCOPE

1.1 This test method outlines the procedure for sampling mechanical couplers for reinforcing steel from the jobsite.

2. SAMPLING INFORMATION

2.1 An authorized Department representative will collect project samples from all Department projects that use mechanical couplers for reinforcing steel.

2.2 A sampling lot is defined as 500 couplers (or fraction thereof) from the same coupler producer and of the same nominal size, length, and grade.

2.3 Table 1 specifies the minimum length of exposed bar on each side of the coupler required for testing. The coupler shall be centered within the total specimen length.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reinforcement Bar Size</th>
<th>Minimum Length of Exposed Bar per Side</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#9 and smaller</td>
<td>19 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10 and larger</td>
<td>24 in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. PROCEDURE

3.1 An authorized Department representative will select 3 mechanical coupler assemblies from each sampling lot delivered to the project.

3.2 The Contractor will assemble all 3 mechanical coupler assemblies according to the manufacturer’s instructions in the presence of a Department inspector, engineer, or representative. The mechanical couplers will be assembled with the same type, kind, and rating of equipment and/or tools intended to be used for project installation of couplers.
4. TAGGING/LABELING, DOCUMENTING, AND SHIPPING

4.1 Follow the procedures detailed in Tex-701-I and include the following additional documentation:

- copy of the original signed and notarized Form 1818 (D-9-USA-1), “Material Statement,” received with the project shipment(s) of mechanical couplers (Reference Material Inspection Guide, “Buy America Documentation Program.”); and

- copy of mill test reports and certifications received with the project shipment(s) of mechanical couplers and reinforcing bar.

4.2 Tag or mark each assembled specimen to indicate the size, grade, lot, specification, supplier, and coupler producer.

4.3 Securely bundle and wrap the sample to prevent damage during transit.

4.4 Ship the sample with documentation to Texas Department of Transportation, Materials and Tests Division, Rigid Pavements Section, 9500 North Lake Creek Parkway, Austin, TX 78717.