



ATTENTION: TP&D, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION,
MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ENGINEERS
MEMORANDUM

SPECIAL PROVISION AND/OR SPECIFICATION CHANGE MEMORANDUM 15-09

TO: District Engineers **Date:** March 12, 2009
FROM: Thomas R. Bohuslav, P.E. *Blue*
SUBJECT: Statewide Special Provision 247---033, "Flexible Base"

The above referenced special provision has been approved for statewide use. This special provision is required on all projects using Item 247 beginning with the July 2009 letting, but is available for district use immediately.

This special provision adds Grade 5, which allows a coarser gradation and requires a 3 psi lateral pressure strength requirement instead of a 0 psi lateral pressure strength requirement. The special provision removes triaxial classification for Grades 1 and 2, unless otherwise shown on the plans. Testing for strength at the 0 and 15 psi lateral pressures is generally sufficient. My memorandum dated February 11, 2009 (attached) provides guidance for pavement design that relates to the requirements of this special provision.

The special provision adds a depth check requirement with tolerance and clarifies the requirement to check density for acceptance at optimum moisture content. In addition, due to reliable findings of preventative failure due to insufficient moisture during compaction, the contractor testing for moisture content has been strengthened by adding daily testing and reporting requirements. Districts may waive or modify the requirements for contractor testing by plan note or as directed by the Engineer in the field.

Please disseminate this information to your Transportation Planning & Development, Design, Construction, Maintenance, and Traffic Operations Engineers.

cc: TxDOT Specification Committee
Ms. Janice Brown, FHWA