



CONSTRUCTION

and Materials

# TIPS

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This document is provided for information only and is not to be used for bidding or contract purposes.

Quality Monitoring (QM) programs and the associated Material Producer List (MPL) are one way CST manages quality assurance for materials. Some materials are highly variable, have very limited shelf lives or are supplied on an irregular basis. These materials are not good candidates for QM and the MPL. Materials that are consistent, have long shelf lives and are used regularly are good candidates for TxDOT to use QM and the MPL.

TxDOT develops QM programs for specific products and industries. QM programs generally require the supplier to have a quality control program in routine use to monitor their production and ensure that materials meet specification requirements. TxDOT performs periodic inspection or testing to ensure that the supplier maintains their quality control (QC). Manufacturers adhering to the requirements of a QM program are listed in the MPL maintained by the department. The products and producers on the MPL may require little or no TxDOT sampling from the project.

In all cases, if material quality is suspect or damage is visible from shipping, TxDOT has the right to sample (including MPL materials), test and reject any materials that do not meet specification requirements. This is true even if the product has been tested and shown to meet specifications at some other time after manufacture or during storage.

QM materials generally represent a win-win situation for the manufacturer and TxDOT. TxDOT is assured of receiving products that consistently meet specification requirements with a lesser testing burden. The manufacturer is rewarded with the ability to supply customers with products with little or no additional testing required before incorporation into construction and a lesser need to keep high volumes of inventory on hand.

The department's MPL is located at:  
[http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/producer\\_list.htm](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/producer_list.htm). Each item in the list includes references to the associated Standard Specifications, Department Material Specifications, QM programs and/or test procedures.

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