

This technical bulletin has been prepared jointly by the Manitoba Association of Architects and the Winnipeg Construction Association, and intended as guidelines to increase awareness of recommended practices

TECHNICAL BULLETIN #14

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SUBJECT: TESTS AND INSPECTIONS

In order to promote uniformity in methods of providing for tests and inspections, costs of which are generally borne by the Procurement Authority in one way or another, the following procedure is suggested:

Testing and inspections are included as part of the Bid Price as a cash allowance. A cash allowance should be provided within the contract, to cover the cost of itemized tests and inspections, commissioned by the Procurement Authority/Architect and administered by the Contractor.

The cost of any special procedure not contemplated in the Contract Documents will generally become an increase in the contract sum, subject to the contract provisions for changes in the work. That is, where the Procurement Authority (or Consultant) orders a portion of the work to be examined, notwithstanding that said examination was not itemized in the Contract Documents, and said examination reveals the work as being deficient or otherwise not in accordance with the Contract Documents, the Contractor will bear the costs of both the examination and correction of the deficient work. Conversely, where the examination reveals that the work is in accordance with the Contract Documents, the Owner will bear the costs of the examination and restoration, if any.

Testing requirements, administrative procedures, and cash allowances must be clearly identified in the contract documents, preferably in Division 1 of the specifications.

Independent Tests & Inspections may include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

1. Aggregate analysis
2. Soils & granular materials – Compaction Testing
3. Piling drilling & driving inspections
4. Pile loading tests
5. Welding inspection & testing

6. Membrane waterproofing inspection
7. Soils & granular analysis
8. Concrete mix designs
9. Concrete strength tests
10. Mortar strength tests
11. Load testing for generators and pumps
12. Medical gas tests
13. Roof testing & inspection
14. Thermal testing (windows)
15. Environmental Inspections (mould, asbestos, contaminated soils)
16. Paint mil thickness test
17. Mechanical system testing

Testing and Inspection authorities for all such procedures shall be subject to the mutual approval of the owner, Architect, Engineer, and contractor.