



# PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE DIRECTIVE

**PPD No.** 14b

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 27, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Testing and Certification of Bituminous Distributor Trucks

## 1. GENERAL

1.1. Prior to spreading of bituminous material on any AODT project, bituminous distributor trucks shall have been testing in accordance with Arizona Test Method 411, "Determination of Bituminous Distributor Truck Transverse Spread Rate", and shall have been certified within 12 months prior to the date of spreading in accordance with the requirements of Subsection 404-3.02(A) of the ADOT Specifications.

1.2. ADOT Regional Materials Engineers are responsible for the certification of bituminous distributor trucks.

1.3. All testing, including the preparation of test pads and test plates, shall be performed by an independent testing laboratory which has been approved by the respective ADOT Regional Materials Engineer. A professional Engineer, registered in the State of Arizona and employed by the independent testing laboratory, shall be responsible for all testing and test methods.

1.4. The distributor truck owner shall be responsible for all costs associated with the testing performed by the independent testing laboratory.

1.5. Upon completion of testing, the independent testing laboratory shall issue a letter to the owner of the distributor truck. The letter shall include the following:

1.5.1. A statement that the testing was performed in accordance with the requirements of Arizona Test Method 411.

1.5.2. The name and location of the facility where the testing was performed.

1.5.3. The date that the testing was performed.

1.5.4. Identification of the truck for which testing was performed. Such identification shall consist of

- (a) Name of the owner of the distribution truck.
- (b) Truck number.
- (c) Truck license plate number.
- (d) Truck make and VIN number

1.5.5. Name of person performing the testing

1.5.6. Name, signature, and seal of the registered professional Engineer responsible for the testing and test results. The date shall be recorded as part of the seal.

1.5.7. A copy of the test results shall be attached to the letter from the independent testing laboratory. The test results shall be sealed, signed, and dated by the Engineer responsible for the testing.

- (a) An example of the test results is shown in Attachment #2.

1.6. The owner of the distributor truck shall submit the letter from the independent testing laboratory, along with the accompanying test results, to the respective ADOT Regional Materials Engineer.

1.6.1. The Regional Materials Engineer shall review the submitted from the owner of the distributor truck for accuracy and completeness. If the submittal is satisfactory, the Regional Materials Engineer will approve the test results.

1.6.2. Upon approval of the bituminous distributor truck transverse spread rate test results, the respective ADOT regional Materials Engineer will issue a completed "Certificate of Test" and a completed "ADOT Bituminous Distributor Truck Certification" sticker to the owner of the distributor truck. Illustrations of blank Certificate of Test and a blank certification sticker are shown in Attachment #3 and Attachment #4, respectively.

1.7. The owner of the distributor truck shall apply the completed certification sticker to the inside of the driver's side door of the truck in a clearly visible location. The Certificate of Test shall be kept in the distributor truck and shall be readily available for review by the Engineer.

1.8. Bituminous distributor trucks that do not have a valid and current Certificate of Test and ADOT certification sticker will not be allowed to supply bituminous materials on ADOT projects.

1.9. Regardless of certification, the Engineer may at any time require that distributor trucks be tested to determine their acceptability.

Attachments (4)

***Letterhead of Approved Independent Laboratory***  
***(Name of Laboratory is shown as "ABC" below)***

Month, Day, Year

First Name, Last Name

Title of Position Held

Owner of Distributor Truck (*Company Name is shown as "XYZ" below*)

Address

City, State Zip

**RE: Bituminous Distributor Truck Certification**

Dear ( \_\_\_\_\_ ),

As requested and authorized by XYZ Company, ABC laboratory has completed testing on the following bituminous distributor truck which is owned and operated by XYZ.

Truck Make: \_\_\_\_\_ VIN Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Truck Number: \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Testing was performed in accordance with the requirements of Arizona Test Method 411, "Determination of Transverse Distributor Spread Rate".

Testing was conducted by the undersigned at (*name of testing facility*) on (*Date*). Prior to performing the testing, the pads were prepared, weighed, and assembled in accordance with Arizona Test Method 411. Spray bar application of the bituminous material was observed. The pads were removed from the metal sheets and weighed to determine the application rate of the bituminous material. The data was analyzed per Arizona Test Method 411 and Subsection 404-3.02(A) of the ADOT Specifications.

A summary of the test results is attached to this report for your information and review. Please submit this letter, along with the accompanying test results, to the respective ADOT Regional Materials Engineer for their approval and certification of the referenced bituminous distributor truck.

If you have any questions regarding this information, or if we may be of further assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Position Held)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Position Held)

(Sealed, Signed, and Dated)

Attachment

Attachment #1 – Example of letter from the independent testing laboratory to the owner of the distributor truck

*(Name of Approved Independent Laboratory)*  
**TRANSVERSE DISTRIBUTOR TRUCK SPREAD RATE**  
 Arizona Test Method 411

DISTRIBUTOR TRUCK OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_ TESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TRUCK #: \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE PLATE #: \_\_\_\_\_ VIN #: \_\_\_\_\_ SPRAY WIDTH: \_\_\_\_\_ FT.

TEST FACILITY: \_\_\_\_\_ JOB #: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF BITUMINOUS MATERIAL USED: \_\_\_\_\_ TEMP.: \_\_\_\_\_ TEST RESULT: PASS: X FAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PAD #	WT. PAD + BIT. MATL.	PAD TARE	WT. BIT. MATL.	* SPREAD RATE	PAD OUT	REMARKS	PAD #	WT. PAD + BIT. MATL.	PAD TARE	WT. BIT. MATL.	* SPREAD RATE	PAD OUT	REMARKS
1		8.9	0.0	0.000		OMIT	26	21.0	8.8	12.3	0.132		
2	21.7	8.8	12.8	0.137			27	20.8	8.9	12.0	0.128		
3	21.9	8.9	13.0	0.139			28	20.6	8.8	11.8	0.126		
4	22.0	8.7	13.3	0.142			29	20.9	8.9	12.1	0.129		
5	22.2	8.8	13.3	0.142			30	21.0	8.8	12.3	0.132		
6	21.9	8.8	13.1	0.140			31	20.3	8.9	11.4	0.122		
7	21.5	8.9	12.7	0.136			32	21.2	8.8	12.4	0.133		
8	21.6	8.8	12.8	0.137			33	21.9	8.8	13.2	0.141		
9	21.0	8.8	12.1	0.129			34	21.6	8.8	12.8	0.137		
10	21.7	8.8	12.9	0.138			35	21.8	8.8	13.0	0.139		
11	22.3	8.9	13.4	0.143			36	21.2	8.8	12.4	0.133		
12	20.5	8.9	11.6	0.124			37	21.1	8.8	12.3	0.132		
13	22.0	8.9	13.1	0.140			38	20.0	8.8	11.2	0.120		
14	21.7	8.9	12.8	0.137			39	20.2	8.9	11.3	0.121		
15	21.1	8.9	12.2	0.131			40	21.9	8.8	13.1	0.140		
16	19.6	8.8	10.9	0.117	X		41	21.5	8.8	12.7	0.136		
17	20.9	8.9	12.1	0.129			42	21.8	8.8	13.0	0.139		
18	20.8	8.9	11.9	0.127			43	21.0	8.8	12.2	0.131		
19	20.3	8.9	11.4	0.122			44	21.1	8.8	12.2	0.131		
20	20.9	8.8	12.1	0.129			45	21.7	8.9	12.8	0.137		
21	21.0	8.9	12.2	0.131			46	21.6	8.8	12.8	0.137		
22	20.9	8.8	12.1	0.129			47	22.3	8.8	13.5	0.144		
23	21.2	8.8	12.4	0.133			48	23.0	8.8	14.2	0.152	X	
24	20.7	8.8	11.9	0.127			49	21.5	8.8	12.6	0.135		
25	20.7	8.8	11.9	0.127			50	19.9	8.9	11.0	0.118	X	
* SPREAD RATE = GALLONS PER SQ. YD.							51		8.8	0.0	0.000		OMIT

TOTAL NUMBER OF PADS OUTSIDE ACCEPTABLE RANGE: 3

AVG. PAD TARE: 8.8

AVG. SPREAD RATE: 0.133 GALS./SQ. YD.

TOTAL SPREAD: 6.5 GALS.

ACCEPTABLE RANGE: UPPER: 0.146 LOWER: 0.120

SPECIFICATION LIMITS: Average Spread Rate  $\pm 10\%$  or  $\pm 0.02$  Gallons per Sq. Yd.,  
 whichever is less, per Subsection 404-3.02(A)

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

Tested By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Testing Facility: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(Sealed, Signed, Dated)

## Attachment #2 – Example of Test Results

# Certificate of Test

RE: Bituminous Distributor Truck Transverse Spread Rate  
(Arizona Test Method 411)

Name of Approved Independent  
Laboratory Performing Testing: \_\_\_\_\_

Test Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Distributor Truck Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Truck Make: \_\_\_\_\_ VIN Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Truck Number: \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Certificate Issuance: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Certificate Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that the distributor truck identified above complies with the requirements of Arizona Test Method 411 and Subsection 404-3.02(A) of the ADOT Specifications.

(Region Name) Regional Materials Engineer: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

**A.D.O.T.**  
**BITUMINOUS DISTRIBUTOR**  
**TRUCK CERTIFICATION**

TRUCK LICENSE  
PLATE NUMBER

DATE TESTED

TESTED BY

44-0420 R02/13

(Sticker shown above is larger than actual size)

Sticker has silver lettering on a red background)

Attachment #4 – Blank ADOT Bituminous Distributor Truck Certification Sticker