

PENNDOT's Updated Certified Concrete Technician Program

What's New for 2007

*Joseph S. Robinson, P.E.
Chief, Quality Assurance East Division*



8th Annual Pennsylvania Concrete Conference
Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2007 - Grantville, PA



Areas of Interest

- What's New
- How the Program Works
- Progress to Date



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New Update to the Program

- Strike Off Letter 424-06-04 issued 11/28/06 outlined interim measures
 - Extension for Tech.s Expiring in '05 or '06
 - Announced New Policy for Program – Pub. 536
 - Defined (2) Levels of Certification
 - Technician-in-Training
 - Certified Concrete Technician



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New Update to the Program

- Strike Off Letter 424-06-04 issued 11/28/06 outlined interim measures
 - Announced New Program Administrator
 - Announced Plans for Courses in '07
 - Defined Point of Contact for the Program
 - Joseph S. Robinson-717-787-4794



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Extension Details

- "Any Technician who held valid certification which expired in '05 or '06 will have their certification extended to March 31, 2007 as the Department did not offer courses for recertification in '05 or '06"
- Does not matter if ACI expired as long as your PENNDOT certification was valid in '05 or '06



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New Program Administrator

- North East Center for Excellence in Pavement Technology (NECEPT)
 - Part of the Pennsylvania Transportation Institute (PTI) at Penn State
 - Point of Contact – Elizabeth Hunter
 - www.superpave@psu.edu
 - NECEPT Website –
 - www.superpave.psu.edu



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New Program Administrator Role

- Keep Database of Certified Technicians
- Schedule Courses for Each Winter
- Notify Technicians When Expiration is Approaching
- Collect Course Registration and Fees
- Print Course Materials



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New Course Locations/Delivery

- Classes Held in Each Engineering District
- Courses held in January, February, and March for 2007
- Taught by Bureau of Construction and Materials' Quality Assurance Divisions' Team Leaders
- Updated Participant's Handbook
- New Course Fee - \$55 per attendee



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New Policy for Technician Program

- Publication 536 -
 - Available through Pub. Sales
 - Available on the Department Website
 - <ftp://ftp.dot.state.pa.us/public/PubsForms/Publications/PUB%20536.pdf>



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New Instructors

- QA Team Leaders
 - Joseph M. Evanko, P.E.
 - David L. Jarvis, P.E.
 - Garth L. Bridenbaugh, P.E.
 - Philip J. Micklitsch, P.E.
 - Christopher J. Cepko, P.E.
 - Stephen J. Grassetti, P.E.
 - John E. Coldren



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How the Program Works

- Technician-In-Training
- Initial Certification
- Certification Renewal



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Technician in Training

- Designed as Method to Bring Technician on Between Certification Cycles and Allow Them to Gain Experience Required for Initial Certification
- Issued By Local District Materials Engineer (DME) or Designee



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Requirements to Become Technician-in-Training

- PENNDOT Certified Technician must provide applicant with (3) days of training and sign the applicant's evaluation form
- Applicant must successfully complete an evaluation of their knowledge and abilities by the local DME or their designee



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Evaluation Requirements

- Demonstrate the ability to run the following:
 - Sampling Fresh Concrete – PTM 601 & AASHTO T141
 - Test for Material Temperature – ASTM C1064 – AASHTO T309
 - Test for Slump of Fresh Concrete – AASHTO T119
 - Test for Air Content of Fresh Concrete – AASHTO152
 - Molding of cylinder specimens – PTM 611
 - Calibrating air meters - Manufacturer's Method & AASHTO T152
 - Calculate a water/cement ratio for a specific truck load



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Evaluation Requirements

- Demonstrate a knowledge of Pub. 408, Section 704 slump specification requirements
- In addition, if the technician is expected to work on a project using lightweight concrete or concrete with slag aggregates, they should also demonstrate the ability to perform the following:
 - Test for Air Content of Fresh Concrete using the Roll-a-meter – AASHTO T196
 - Unit Weight, Yield & Gravimetric Air Content – AASHTO T121



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Technician in Training

- Application - Form 536TT – Available on Department's Website in E-Forms
<ftp://ftp.dot.state.pa.us/public/pdf/eForms/CS-536TT.pdf>
- DME or Designee Signs Form and Returns Original to Applicant – Keeps Copy and Sends Copy to QA Divisions
- Valid for (1) Calendar Year in ALL Districts – NOT renewable.



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District Materials Engineers

■ District 1	Stephen Snyder	814-678-7198
■ District 2	Neal Fannin	814-765-0459
■ District 3	Tom Squires	570-368-4377
■ District 4	Bob McGowan (Acting)	570-963-4083
■ District 5	Keith Fink	610-791-6022
■ District 6	Mike Scarpato	610-205-6780
■ District 8	Doug Frank	717-787-1435
■ District 9	Kevin Gnegy	814-696-7190
■ District 10	Rich Polenik	724-357-2877
■ District 11	Mike McCart	412-429-4820
■ District 12	Tom Boyle	724-439-7154



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Initial Technician Certification

- Certification Period = 5 years
- 3 Components
 1. Complete ACI Field Technician Certification Prior to Attending PENNDOT Course
 2. Gain Experience By One of the Following
 - (1) Year as a Technician in Training
 - (2) Years Working in the Concrete Industry
 3. Complete PENNDOT Technician Course



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Certification Renewal

- Retake the course upon notification from NECEPT
- ACI will NOT be required to be renewed as long as certification is continuously maintained



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2007 Classes

- Started in December 06
- 11 Classes with Completed to Date
– 282 Participants
- 5 Classes this week
- 16 Classes Remaining



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Class Format

- 1 Day Class

- Class Size of 40 max.
- 4.5 Hours of Instruction
- 1.25 Hours for Videos of Testing to Reinforce Techniques
- 1.0 Hour for 40 Question Exam



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Questions ??



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