

SECTION 310 - PREPARATION OF GRANULAR PAVEMENTS FOR BITUMINOUS SURFACING

310.01 DESCRIPTION

This section covers the requirements for preparation of unbound granular pavements, including in situ cementitious and bituminous stabilised pavements, for sprayed bituminous surfacing or asphalt surfacing.

310.02 PAVEMENT PREPARATION

The Contractor shall prepare for bituminous surfacing the lengths, widths and areas specified or shown on the drawings for bituminous surfacing plus an additional 0.3 m on sides where there is no concrete edging. The surface of the shoulders and verges shall be matched to the finished surface of the prepared pavement.

The pavement shall be prepared to produce a surface that is:

- (a) constructed to meet specified shape and level requirements;
- (b) homogenous and consistent with the material in the pavement base layer;
- (c) uniform in texture;
- (d) free of tearing and scabbing;
- (e) free of lamination on top of or within 75 mm of the finished surface;
- (f) level with adjacent sealed areas and edgings at the joints;
- (g) a hard dense and tight surface capable of being swept with a rotary road broom or similar;
- (h) free of loose and foreign materials;
- (i) dried back to the moisture content as specified in Clause 310.03.

Any imperfections as listed above shall be corrected in a manner approved by the Superintendent.

In preparing the pavement surface the Contractor shall avoid construction practices that produce a slurry of fine material. The addition of fine material to the surface is not permitted.

The total area of the work shall be presented to the Superintendent for acceptance for surfacing as one lot.

310.03 DRYING BACK OF PAVEMENT BASE PRIOR TO BITUMINOUS SURFACING

The uppermost pavement layer after preparation of the surface and prior to priming or primersealing shall be dried back in moisture content to an extent that the mean Moisture Ratio as determined from six randomly selected sites is less than 60% of the optimum moisture content based on Modified compactive effort, with an individual result not exceeding 70%.

The mean Moisture Ratio shall be determined in accordance with VicRoads Test Method - Moisture Ratio determination for assessment of dry-back of granular pavement materials, using nuclear gauge, as listed in Section 175.

The maximum lot size to be presented for testing under this provision shall be 4000 m², and testing shall be undertaken no more than 24 hours before priming or primersealing. Should the mean Moisture Ratio be more than 60% and less than 65% and providing that no individual result is more than 70%, the lot may be accepted by the Superintendent subject to Ball Penetration testing in accordance with Austroads test method AG:PT/T251 being undertaken at six randomly selected sites. No individual result from such Ball Penetration testing shall be more than 3 mm.

Where in the opinion of the Superintendent, the pavement moisture content has increased during the period between dry back testing and the time of proposed bituminous surfacing, the Superintendent may require retesting for Moisture Ratio and Ball Penetration testing.

310.04 MAINTENANCE PRIOR TO BITUMINOUS SURFACING

Following the acceptance of the prepared surface and until bituminous surfacing is completed, the Contractor shall maintain the pavement in the specified condition until surfacing works are completed. Should the pavement condition deteriorate before surfacing works are completed, the Contractor shall re-prepare the pavement and re-present the pavement for acceptance.