



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Transportation

Construction Section

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May 7, 2025

Certified Asphalt Technician 1 (CAT 1)

Certified Mix Design Technician (CMDT)

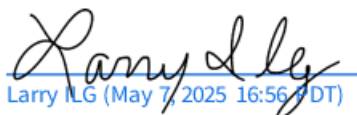
Subject: ODOT TM 323 Determination of Calibration Factors for Determining the Asphalt Cement Content of Asphalt Concrete Pavement by the Ignition Method

A recent scan of multiple projects and multiple mix designs in DocExpress revealed that none of the reviewed ignition calibrations meet the standards of TM 323. Each blank sample indicated that the batching plan or practice used by the CMDT did not meet the tolerance requirements of Section 6.4 of the test procedure.

Your signature on form 734-2327 indicates the test results comply with the test procedure. As a CAT 1, when you recognize the blank sample does not meet the requirements of Section 6.4, you should realize you will not be able to sign Form 734-2327. When the blank sample fails to meet the required tolerances, the CAT 1 should discard all remaining or completed work. The CMDT should be contacted and informed of the failing blank sample and the need for the delivery of a new set of samples for the proper calibration procedure.

Please note this letter targets all CAT 1 and CMDT technicians in Oregon, as the scan mentioned above indicates a systematic problem across the state. The intent is to remind all CAT 1s of the requirements of TM 323. The purpose of reaching all CMDTs is to raise their awareness that rework will be required if batching practices are not carefully followed. If all work together, the impact on projects and certifications will diminish if this systematic error is corrected.

Sincerely,


Larry Ilg (May 7, 2025 16:56 PDT)

Larry Ilg, P.E.

Oregon Department of Transportation

State Quality Assurance Engineer