

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

MATERIALS PROCEDURE

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Procedure For Determining The Random  
Location Of Compaction Tests

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- 1.0 Purpose
- 1.1 This procedure provides methods for determining the random locations for compaction tests.
- 2.0 Scope
- 2.1 This procedure is applicable for locating all compaction tests.
- 3.0 Equipment
- 3.1 Measuring tape, approximately 50 feet (15 m)
- 4.0 Procedure
- 4.1 Compaction test site locations are to be randomly located along the roadway centerline (length) and offset (width) randomly from this reference line. Some test site locations, such as pipe backfill, require random selection of lifts for the tests and a random determination of the side of the pipe backfill to test.
- 4.2 Selection of random numbers
- 4.2.1 Determine the number of test sites which will be required for the lot or test section.

- 4.2.2 The table of random numbers (Table I attached) or a calculator, which will generate random numbers, can be used.
- 4.2.3 The table of random numbers contains 5 sections with 2 columns of numbers in each section.
  - 4.2.3.1 The first column of numbers in each section is for determining the test site along the centerline. The second column of numbers is for determining the distance from the centerline (offset). Either column of numbers can be used for selecting lifts to be tested.
  - 4.2.3.2 To use the table, select a random point on the table by tossing a pencil upon the page or blindly pointing out a location with the finger. The selection of random numbers will consist of a pair of random numbers. Once the point is located, select the number in the first column for the length and the corresponding number in the right column for the width. When more than one pair of random numbers is needed, continue selecting the pairs of numbers down the page. If the bottom of the page is reached, go to the top of the next section to the right or to the top of the first section on the left side of the page if the bottom of the right most section of the page is reached. When selecting lifts to be tested, only single random numbers are needed and can be obtained from any of the columns of numbers.
  - 4.2.3.3 To use a calculator, which will generate random numbers, select all numbers needed for a test site before selecting numbers for additional test sites.
- 4.3 Location of test sites
  - 4.3.1 There are many variations in the required number of tests and the physical dimensions of the area to be tested.
  - 4.3.2 Random location of tests on a single lift that is rectangular in shape (Example 1 attached)

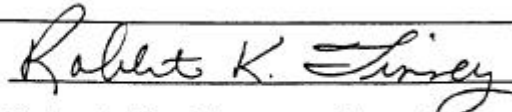
- 4.3.2.1 Generally the Materials Procedure used for testing a material and/or Specifications requires a lot, portion of a lot, or a test section to determine the maximum density of a material to be divided into equal sublots or subsections when more than one test is required.
- 4.3.2.2 Divide the length of the area along the centerline by the number of tests to determine the length of each subplot or subsection.
- 4.3.2.3 From the beginning station number, add the length of the subsection or subplot to the station number to determine the station number for the beginning of the next subplot or subsection. Next add the length of the subsection or subplot to this station number to determine the station number at the beginning of the next subsection or subplot. Continue this procedure until the beginning station numbers for all subsections or sublots have been calculated.
- 4.3.2.4 Select the random numbers according to 4.2 through 4.2.3.3.
- 4.3.2.5 Multiply the length of the subsections or sublots by the random numbers selected for the length.
- 4.3.2.6 Add the values to the corresponding station numbers for the beginning of each subsection or subplot. The station numbers locate the test sites along centerline.
- 4.3.2.7 Next multiply the width of the test section or lot by the random numbers selected for the offset.
- 4.3.2.8 Determine the offset distance of the lot or test section from the centerline when the centerline is not within the area to be tested. This will usually be a constant value. Always calculate the offset by working from the side nearest the centerline. Add each of the values calculated in 4.4.2.7 to the constant value. The values establish the offset distance of each test site from the centerline. Designate rather the offset is left or right of centerline.

When the centerline is contained within the area to be tested, the offset can be calculated from the left or right side of the test area and test location designated in relation to centerline.

- 4.3.3 Random location of test sites on a single lift that is irregular in shape (Example 2 attached).
  - 4.3.3.1 Determine the dimensions of the area to be tested.
  - 4.3.3.2 Determine the minimum dimensions of a rectangle that will contain the area to be tested and has two sides parallel to centerline.
  - 4.3.3.3 Divide the rectangle into the desired number of subsections or sublots and randomly locate the test sites locations as in sections 4.3.2 - 4.3.2.8 above. If a test site location falls outside the area to be tested, obtain a new set of random numbers for the test site and recalculate the test site location. Continue this procedure until the test site falls within the area to be tested.
- 4.3.4 Random selection of lifts to be tested (Example 3 attached).
  - 4.3.4.1 When testing certain materials, especially backfill material, where an area to be backfilled will constitute a lot of material to be tested, a random selection of lifts to be tested is required.
  - 4.3.4.2 Determine the projected number of lifts to be contained in the lot. Divide the number of lifts by the number of tests in the lot. If the value is not an even number, assign an additional lift to the first subplot and continue to assign a lift to each consecutive subplot until all remaining lifts have been assigned to a subplot.
  - 4.3.4.3 By starting with the bottom lift, number the lifts in the lot.

- 4.3.4.4 Select a single random number for each test site.
- 4.3.4.5 Multiply each random number by the number of lifts in each subplot and round the values to whole numbers. Each value designates which lift in each subplot that will be tested.
- 4.3.5 Once the lifts to be tested have been selected, the random location of the test site on the lift can be determined.
- 4.3.6 Random selection of the side of backfill for pipe culverts.
  - 4.3.6.1 When a lot of pipe backfill is being tested, tests should be performed on both sides of the pipe. The side to be tested can be randomly selected by using the random numbers selected for the location of the tests along the pipe. If the random number is less than 0.500, the test is on the left side and greater than 0.500 on the right side of the pipe.

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RKT:Sra

Attachments

TABLE 1  
RANDOM NUMBERS

.858	.082	.886	.125	.263	.176	.551	.711	.355	.698
.576	.417	.242	.316	.960	.819	.444	.323	.331	.179
.687	.288	.835	.636	.596	.174	.866	.685	.066	.170
.068	.391	.739	.002	.159	.423	.629	.631	.979	.399
.140	.324	.215	.358	.663	.193	.215	.667	.627	.595
.574	.601	.623	.855	.339	.486	.065	.627	.458	.137
.966	.529	.757	.308	.025	.836	.200	.055	.510	.656
.608	.910	.944	.281	.539	.371	.217	.882	.324	.284
.215	.355	.645	.460	.719	.057	.237	.146	.135	.903
.761	.883	.771	.388	.928	.654	.815	.570	.539	.600
.869	.222	.115	.447	.658	.989	.921	.924	.560	.447
.562	.036	.302	.673	.911	.512	.972	.576	.838	.014
.481	.791	.454	.731	.770	.500	.980	.183	.385	.012
.599	.966	.356	.183	.797	.503	.180	.657	.077	.165
.464	.747	.299	.530	.675	.646	.385	.109	.780	.699
.675	.654	.221	.777	.172	.738	.324	.669	.079	.587
.279	.707	.372	.486	.340	.680	.928	.397	.337	.564
.338	.917	.942	.985	.838	.805	.278	.898	.906	.939
.316	.935	.403	.629	.130	.575	.195	.887	.142	.488
.011	.283	.762	.988	.102	.068	.902	.850	.569	.977
.683	.441	.572	.486	.732	.721	.275	.023	.088	.402
.493	.155	.530	.125	.841	.171	.794	.850	.797	.367
.059	.502	.963	.055	.128	.655	.043	.293	.792	.739
.996	.729	.370	.139	.306	.858	.183	.464	.457	.863
.240	.972	.495	.696	.350	.642	.188	.135	.470	.765

EXAMPLE I  
 ENGLISH

Length of test section = 100 ft  
 Width of section = 10 ft  
 Number of tests required = 5  
 5 equal subsections  $100/5 = 20$   
 ft  
 Test section starts at station  
 5+46

Station number at the beginning  
 of each subsection

1. 5+46
2.  $5+46 + 20 = 5+66$
3.  $5+66 + 20 = 5+86$
4.  $5+86 + 20 = 6+06$
5.  $6+06 + 20 = 6+26$

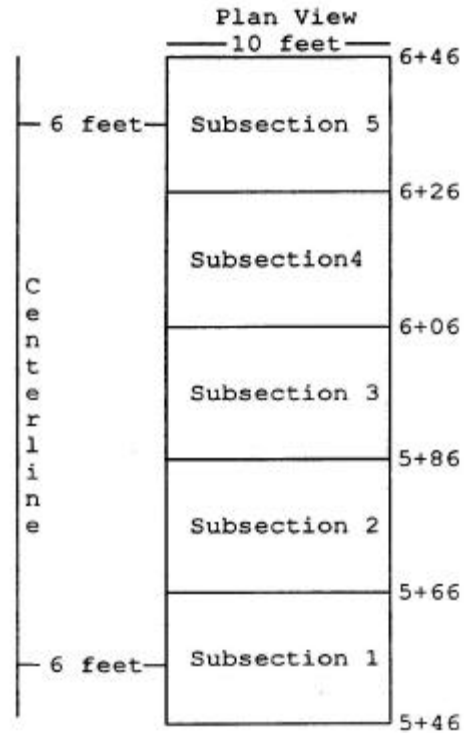
	Random Numbers	
	Length	Width
1.	.869	.222
2.	.562	.036
3.	.481	.791
4.	.599	.966
5.	.464	.747

Multiply the length of each  
 subsection by the random  
 numbers for the length.

1.  $20 \times .869 = 17$
2.  $20 \times .562 = 11$
3.  $20 \times .481 = 10$
4.  $20 \times .599 = 12$
5.  $20 \times .464 = 9$

Add the values to the beginning  
 station numbers of each  
 subsection to determine the  
 station number for each test.

1.  $5+46 + 17 = 5+63$
2.  $5+66 + 11 = 5+77$
3.  $5+86 + 10 = 5+96$
4.  $6+06 + 12 = 6+18$
5.  $6+26 + 9 = 6+35$



Multiply the width of each subsection by  
 the random numbers for the width.

1.  $10 \times .222 = 2$
2.  $10 \times .036 = 0$
3.  $10 \times .791 = 8$
4.  $10 \times .966 = 10$
5.  $10 \times .747 = 7$

Add the values to the constant distance  
 the test section is from the centerline  
 and label the values as right of  
 centerline .

1.  $6 + 2 = 8$  ft right of centerline
2.  $6 + 0 = 0$  ft right of centerline
3.  $6 + 8 = 14$  ft right of centerline
4.  $6 + 10 = 16$  ft right of centerline
5.  $6 + 7 = 13$  ft right of centerline

EXAMPLE I  
 METRIC

Length of test section = 30.00 m  
 Width of section = 3.00 m  
 Number of tests required = 5  
 5 equal subsections  $30/5 = 6$  m  
 Test section starts at station 15+340

Station number at the beginning of each subsection

1. 15+340
2.  $15+340 + 6 = 15+346$
3.  $15+346 + 6 = 15+352$
4.  $15+352 + 6 = 15+358$
5.  $15+358 + 6 = 15+364$

Random Numbers

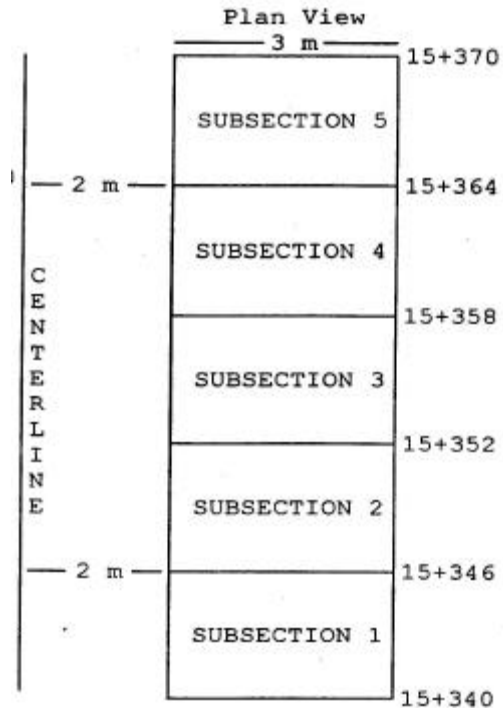
	Length	Width
1.	.869	.222
2.	.562	.036
3.	.481	.791
4.	.599	.966
5.	.464	.747

Multiply the length of each subsection by the random numbers for the length.

1.  $6.00 \times .869 = 5.2$
2.  $6.00 \times .562 = 3.4$
3.  $6.00 \times .481 = 2.9$
4.  $6.00 \times .599 = 3.6$
5.  $6.00 \times .464 = 2.8$

Add the values to the beginning station numbers of each subsection to determine the station number for each test site.

1.  $15+340 + 5.2 = 15+345.2$
2.  $15+346 + 3.4 = 15+349.4$
3.  $15+352 + 2.9 = 15+354.9$
4.  $15+358 + 3.6 = 15+361.6$
5.  $15+364 + 2.8 = 15+366.8$



Multiply the width of the test section by the random numbers for the width.

1.  $3.00 \times .222 = 0.7$
2.  $3.00 \times .036 = 0.1$
3.  $3.00 \times .791 = 2.4$
4.  $3.00 \times .966 = 2.9$
5.  $3.00 \times .747 = 2.2$

Add the values to the constant distance the test section is from the centerline and label the values as right of centerline.

1.  $2.00 + 0.7 = 2.7$  m rt of centerline
2.  $2.00 + 0.1 = 2.1$  m rt of centerline
3.  $2.00 + 2.4 = 4.4$  m rt of centerline
4.  $2.00 + 2.9 = 4.9$  m rt of centerline
5.  $2.00 + 2.2 = 4.4$  m rt of centerline







EXAMPLE 3

21 lifts of material are required to backfill the pipe.

All of the backfill material is included in 1 lot. There are 5 tests required with 1 test in each subplot.

Divide the number of lifts by the number of sublots to determine the number of lifts in each subplot (21/5 = lifts with 1 lift left over). This includes the lift in subplot number 1.

Sublot Number 1	Lifts 1 - 5
Sublot Number 2	Lifts 6 - 9
Sublot Number 3	Lifts 10 - 13
Sublot Number 4	Lifts 14 - 17
Sublot Number 5	Lifts 18 - 21

Random numbers

1. .599
2. .464
3. .675
4. .279
5. .338

Multiply the number of lifts in the subplot by the random numbers. The values determine which lift in each subplot to test.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. 5 x .599 = 3 | Test lift 3 in subplot number 1, Lift number 3  |
| 2. 4 x .464 = 2 | Test lift 2 in subplot number 2, Lift number 7  |
| 3. 4 x .675 = 3 | Test lift 3 in subplot number 3, Lift number 12 |
| 4. 4 x .279 = 1 | Test lift 1 in subplot number 4, Lift number 14 |
| 5. 4 x .338 = 1 | Test lift 1 in subplot number 5, Lift number 18 |

CROSS SECTION OF  
 PIPE BACKFILL

