

SECTION 321

The asphalt concrete produced shall conform to the requirements of the production tolerances established in Section [321.10](#). When the asphalt concrete does not conform to the production tolerances, it shall be reported to the Engineer, and corrective quality control measures shall be implemented, or production shall cease immediately at no additional cost to the contracting Agency.

Requests for referee testing as described in Section [321.11](#) will only be considered based on quality control test results performed by a laboratory accredited by the AASHTO Accreditation Program (AAP) for the tests being performed or a laboratory listed in the current ADOT Directory of Approved Materials Testing Laboratories for the set of tests in question. The laboratory shall use properly certified technicians in accordance with ASTM [D3666](#), Section 7 (Personnel Qualifications).

321.10 ACCEPTANCE:

321.10.1 Acceptance Criteria: Asphalt concrete will be divided into lots for the purpose of acceptance. A lot shall be one day's production. Each lot shall be divided into sublots of 500 ton or fraction thereof. Tests used to determine acceptance will be performed by a laboratory accredited by the AASHTO Accreditation Program (AAP) for the tests being performed. The contracting agency shall provide an appropriately accredited laboratory or laboratories to perform the acceptance testing. Laboratories shall use properly certified technicians in accordance with ASTM [D3666](#), Section 7 (Personnel Qualifications). The acceptance laboratory will take representative samples of the asphalt concrete from each subplot to allow for testing of gradation, binder content, air voids, pavement thickness, and compaction of base and surface courses. Acceptance of each subplot will be based on the test data from the sample(s) from that subplot. All acceptance samples shall be taken using random locations or times designated by the Engineer in accordance with ASTM [D3665](#).

For permit work, testing that does not strictly adhere to the sampling and testing methodology and requirements outlined in this section shall be disregarded and not considered in any acceptance determination. All required retesting shall be at the expense of the permittee.

321.10.2 Gradation, Binder Content and Air Voids: The acceptance laboratory will take a sample of the asphalt concrete in accordance with the requirements of Section 2 or 4 of Arizona Test Methods 104 or AASHTO T-168 from each subplot. The minimum weight of the sample shall be 45 pounds. Asphalt binder content and gradation shall be determined in accordance with AASHTO T-308 using the ignition furnace for each subplot. The acceptance laboratory is responsible for obtaining the necessary materials and performing an ignition furnace calibration as outlined in AASHTO T-308 for each asphalt concrete mixture utilized on the project. The correction factor used for each test shall be clearly indicated on the report. Reports that do not include the correction factor, performed as stated in the previous sentences, shall be considered invalid and not allowed to be used for acceptance. The bulk density for Marshall Mix designs shall be tested in accordance with AASHTO T-245. The bulk density for Gyratory mix designs shall be determined in accordance with AASHTO T-312. The maximum theoretical density shall be determined in accordance with the requirements of AASHTO T-209 including fan drying per AASHTO T-209 Section 15. Effective voids of the laboratory compacted specimens will be determined at a minimum of once per lot in accordance with the requirements of AASHTO T-269. Should the testing for effective air voids not meet the "Full Payment" or "No Corrective Action" requirements of Table [321-5](#), additional testing for laboratory air voids on the remaining sublots will be performed as necessary to determine the extent of the deficiency. Acceptance testing results will be furnished to the contractor and the supplier within five working days of receipt of samples by the acceptance laboratory.

During production, the allowable deviations from the mix design gradation targets are listed in the tables below. The allowable production tolerances may fall outside of the mix design gradation bands.

GRADATION ACCEPTANCE LIMITS FOR MARSHALL MIXES				
Sieve Size	3/8 inch Mix	1/2 inch Mix	3/4 inch Mix	Base Mix
1 inch	---	---	---	±7%
3/4 inch	---	---	±7%	±6%
1/2 inch	---	±7%	---	---
3/8 inch	±7%	±6%	±6%	±6%
No. 8	±6%	±6%	±6%	±6%
No. 40	±4%	±4%	±4%	±4%

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Limits of In-place Air Voids	Less than 3% or Greater than 10.0%	\$15.00
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Within 15 working days, the Engineer will determine whether or not to accept the contractor's proposed Engineering Analysis.

321.11 REFEREE:

If the Contractor has reason to question the validity of any of the acceptance test results, the Contractor may request that the Engineer consider referee test for final acceptance. Any request for referee testing must describe the contractor's reasons for questioning the validity of the original acceptance test results and must clearly describe which set of acceptance tests are in question. The engineer may either accept or reject the request for referee testing. When referee testing is accepted the Contractor (at the Contractors own expense) will engage an independent laboratory accredited by the AAP or a laboratory listed in the current ADOT Directory of Approved Materials Testing Laboratories as appropriate the acceptance tests that are being questioned. The independent referee laboratory shall use properly certified technicians in accordance with ASTM [D3666](#), Section 7 (Personnel Qualifications). For the set of test results in question the referee laboratory shall perform a new set of acceptance tests (as required by Section [321.10](#) representing the area for the set of tests in question). The referee tests will replace the original acceptance tests that were in question.

For permit work, the permittee, whose results necessitate referee testing, shall bear all expenses in the additional testing (i.e., secondary and the referee testing) if the original results are not substantiated by the referee testing procedure outlined in this section. Additionally, any testing performed that does not strictly adhere to the sampling and testing methodology and requirements in Section [321.10](#) shall be disregarded and not allowed in any acceptance determination. Disregarded tests will be re-performed at the expense of the permittee.

These tests may include asphalt binder content, aggregate gradation, Marshall or Gyratory unit weight, maximum theoretical unit weight, laboratory air voids and in-place air voids (compaction). **All referee testing shall conform to Section 321.10.** Samples for referee testing shall come from representative samples obtained from the completed pavement, as directed by the Engineer.

The number of samples taken will be the same as specified in Section [321.10](#). The independent laboratory shall compile the test results and transmit them to both the Engineer and the contractor. The independent laboratory shall include a report sealed and signed by an Engineer registered in the State of Arizona, who is experienced in asphalt concrete testing and mix design development. The signed report shall give an opinion that the material evaluated does or does not comply with project specifications, shall clearly describe any deficiencies, and the results will be binding between all parties.

321.12 MEASUREMENT:

Asphalt concrete pavement will be measured by the ton, or by the square yard, for the mixture actually used as allowed above, which shall include the required quantities of mineral aggregates, asphalt binder, and mineral admixture. Measurement shall include any tonnage used to construct intersections, roadways, streets, or other miscellaneous surfaces indicated on the plans or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement for safety edge preparation only applies to overlays of existing pavements that require the construction of a safety edge when none exists. Safety edge preparation will be measured by the linear foot. Safety edge preparation will not be measured when a safety edge is part of new pavement construction, pavement widening, or when overlaying an existing pavement that contains a safety edge. The asphalt concrete pavement measurement shall include the tonnage used to construct safety edges or the square yard measurement for asphalt concrete pavement will be increased by the horizontal extension of the safety edge beyond the roadway pavement edge.

321.13 PAYMENT:

The asphalt concrete measured as provided above will be paid for at the contract price per ton or square yard, as adjusted per Section [321.10](#), which price shall be full compensation for the item complete, as herein described and specified.

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Owner may choose to prepare the calibration samples for use by the contractor. Under the observation of the Engineer, the contractor shall determine the ARB content by means of the nuclear asphalt content gauge a minimum of four times per full shift. The Engineer shall determine the times that the samples are taken. The contractor's technicians performing the testing, including the calibration of the nuclear gauge, shall meet the technician requirements given in the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) System for the Evaluation of Testing Laboratories. The requirements may be obtained from ADOT Materials Group, 1221 North 21st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009.

Production of ARAC shall cease immediately and the plant and/or the nuclear asphalt content gauges re-calibrated if any single test result varies by an amount greater than $\pm 0.60\%$, or the average of three consecutive test results varies by an amount greater than $\pm 0.40\%$, from the mix design target. Material that has already been produced may be used on the project if the single test value representative of that material varies by an amount from $\pm 0.61\%$ to $\pm 0.75\%$, inclusive, from the mix design target. Material that has already been produced may not be used on the project if the single test value representative of that material varies by an amount greater than $\pm 0.75\%$ from the mix design target unless, by retesting, the material is found to be acceptable.

When there is cause to question the ARB content being obtained via nuclear asphalt content gauge, or if approved by the Engineer, the ARB content may be determined using inventory data provided by the supplier as detailed in the following paragraphs. This will only apply for plants providing ARAC exclusively for the subject project or if an asphalt cement tank is dedicated for the shift of ARAC production.

The determination of the actual ARB content by inventory methods may include weighing of asphalt cement deliveries, invoice quantities, volumetric tank measurements using a calibrated rod (tank stickings) corrected for temperature, computerized mass-flow meter, and accounting for wasted materials. If a computerized mass-flow meter is used, documentation of its calibration shall be submitted to the Engineer prior to ARAC production. At any time during ARAC production, the Engineer may require that a new calibration of the mass-flow meter be performed.

If there is a difference of greater than 0.2% ARB between the ARB content measured by nuclear asphalt content gauge testing and the actual ARB content as determined by inventory, the contractor may request that the ARB content be determined by inventory. The contractor must make such a request in writing within two working days after receiving the test results for the first day of ARAC production.

325.9.2.2 End Product Sampling and Testing

325.9.2.2.1 Mineral Aggregate Gradation and Binder Content: The acceptance laboratory will take a sample of the asphalt concrete in accordance with the requirements of Section 2 or 4 of Arizona Test Methods 104 or AASHTO T-168 from each subplot. The minimum weight of the sample shall be 45 pounds. Asphalt binder content and gradation shall be determined in accordance with AASHTO T-308 using the ignition furnace for each subplot. The acceptance laboratory is responsible for obtaining the necessary materials and performing an ignition furnace calibration as outlined in AASHTO T-308 for each asphalt concrete mixture utilized on the project. The correction factor used for each test shall be clearly indicated on the report. Reports that do not include the correction factor, performed as stated in the previous sentences, shall be considered invalid and not allowed to be used for acceptance.

During production, the allowable deviations from the mix design gradation targets are listed in Table [325-1](#) above. The allowable production tolerances may fall outside of the mix design gradation bands.

If the results from a single acceptance sample fall outside of the acceptance limits in Table [325-1](#) a second sample shall be taken and if the second acceptance sample is also outside of the acceptance limits in Table [325-1](#) the Contractor shall cease production of asphalt concrete. Production shall not begin again until calibration test results verify that adjustments made to materials or proportions yield a gradation that falls within acceptance limits in Table [325-1](#).

If the asphalt binder content is within $\pm 0.60\%$ of the mix design target value, the asphalt concrete will be paid for at the contract unit price. If the asphalt binder content deviates by more than $\pm 0.60\%$ from the mix design target value, the deficient area will be evaluated within the subplot by coring at maximum intervals of 100 feet from the deficient sample. The asphalt content of the original deficient sample will be averaged with the asphalt binder content of the cores taken for re-evaluation to determine compliance with the acceptance requirements. If the resulting average of the asphalt binder content deviates by more than $\pm 0.60\%$ from the mix design target value, then Table [325-2](#) shall apply to the subplot. Additional cores may be required to define the limits of the deficient area, and shall not be used for re-evaluating acceptance.

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TABLE 325-4		
ENGINEERING ANALYSIS PENALTIES for REMOVAL* LOTS/SUBLOTS LEFT IN-PLACE		
Acceptance Criteria	Acceptance Limits	Penalty When Contracting Agency is the Owner (\$/Ton)
Laboratory Air Voids (Measured at 75 blows)	Deviation from Target Greater Than $\pm 4.0\%$	\$3.75

Within 15 working days, the Engineer will determine whether or not to accept the contractor's proposed Engineering Analysis.

325.10 REFEREE:

In the event the contractor elects to question the acceptance test results for laboratory air voids, the Contractor may make a written request for additional testing of the affected material. Any request for referee testing must describe the contractor's reasons for questioning the validity of the original acceptance results and must clearly describe which set of acceptance tests are in question. The Contractor will engage an independent laboratory (at the Contractor's own expense) who is accredited by AAP in all of the acceptance test methods. The independent laboratory shall be acceptable to the Engineer and shall perform a new set of acceptance tests as required by Section [325.9.2.3](#) representing the area or set of tests in question. The results of these determinations will be binding on both the contractor and the agency.

These tests will include Marshall unit weight, maximum theoretical unit weight, [binder](#), and laboratory air voids. Samples for referee testing shall come from representative samples obtained from the completed pavement, as directed by the Engineer. [All referee testing shall conform to Section 325.9.](#)

The number of samples taken will be the same as specified in Section [325.9.2.3](#). The independent laboratory shall compile the test results and transmit them to both the Engineer and the contractor. The independent laboratory shall include a report signed by an Engineer registered in the State of Arizona, who is experienced in asphalt concrete testing and mix design development. The signed report shall give an opinion that the material evaluated either does or does not comply with project specifications, shall clearly describe any deficiencies, and the results will be binding between all parties.

325.11 MEASUREMENT:

ARAC shall be measured by the ton, for the mixture actually used, which shall include the required quantities of mineral aggregates, filler material, asphalt-rubber binder and admixture.

Application of lime water shall be measured by the square yard. The measured area shall be the area of ARAC pavement to which the lime water is applied. The measured area shall only be counted one time regardless of the number of applications applied to the ARAC pavement section.

Except as otherwise specified, no separate measurement will be made for work required for the construction of safety edges or for the grading and compaction for shoulder adjustment to match the new pavement surface elevation. The cost of this work shall be included in the price paid for ARAC or other related pay items. Engineer requested imported material for shoulder adjustment is not included in the price paid for the ARAC.

Measurement for safety edge preparation only applies to overlays of existing pavements that require the construction of a safety edge when none exists. Safety edge preparation will be measured by the linear foot. Safety edge preparation will not be measured when a safety edge is part of new pavement construction, pavement widening, or when overlaying an existing pavement that contains a safety edge.

325.12 PAYMENT:

Payment for asphalt milling will be as specified in Section [317](#).

Removal of raised pavement markers, pavement repairs, and surface pavement replacements required prior to roadway

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laydown machine shall not exceed 335 degrees F, unless the binder supplier has affirmed a higher temperature range in writing. In the event that the asphalt binder coat bleeds through the fabric causing construction problems before the overlay is placed, the affected areas shall be sanded with a sand blotter in compliance with Section [333](#). Excess sand shall be removed before beginning the paving operation. In the event of rainfall prior to the placement of the asphaltic concrete, the fabric shall be allowed to dry before the asphalt concrete is placed.

Turning of the paving machine or of other vehicles on the fabric shall be gradual and kept to a minimum to avoid damage to the fabric. Should equipment tires stick to the fabric during pavement operations, small quantities of paving asphalt concrete shall be broadcast on the fabric to prevent pick-up. Decrease of binder rate in order to minimize pick-up on tires is not allowed.

326.8.8 Thickened Edge: Shall be constructed in accordance with Section 321.8.8

326.8.9 Safety Edge: Shall be constructed in accordance with Section 321.8.9

326.8.10 Protection for Asphalt Base Course: Arterial roadway traffic shall not be allowed on a new asphalt base course that is less than five inches (5") in thickness without the written consent of the Engineer.

326.9 QUALITY CONTROL:

It is the contractor's responsibility to perform Quality Control monitoring and/or testing during asphalt concrete production to achieve the required compaction and to perform Quality Control monitoring and/or testing during asphalt concrete production to achieve the required mix properties. The Engineer may obtain samples of any portion of any material at any point of the operations for his own use. Also, the Engineer may order the use of any drying, proportioning and mixing equipment or the handling of any material discontinued which, in his/her opinion, fails to produce a satisfactory mixture.

The asphalt concrete produced shall conform to the requirements of the production tolerances established in Section [326.10](#). When the asphalt concrete does not conform to the production tolerances, it shall be reported to the Engineer, and corrective quality control measures shall be implemented, or production shall cease immediately at no additional cost to the contracting Agency.

Requests for referee testing as described in Section [326.11](#) will only be considered based on quality control test results performed by a laboratory accredited by the AASHTO Accreditation Program (AAP) for the tests being performed or a laboratory listed in the current ADOT Directory of Approved Materials Testing Laboratories for the set of tests in question. The laboratory shall use properly certified technicians in accordance with ASTM [D3666](#), Section 7 (Personnel Qualifications).

326.10 ACCEPTANCE:

326.10.1 Acceptance Criteria: Asphalt concrete will be divided into lots for the purpose of acceptance. A lot shall be one day's production. Each lot shall be divided into sublots of 500 ton or fraction thereof. Tests used to determine acceptance will be performed by a laboratory accredited by the AASHTO Accreditation Program (AAP) for the tests being performed. The contracting agency shall provide an appropriately accredited laboratory or laboratories to perform the acceptance testing. Laboratories shall use properly certified technicians in accordance with ASTM [D3666](#), Section 7 (Personnel Qualifications). The acceptance laboratory will take representative samples of the asphalt concrete from each sublot to allow for testing of gradation, binder content, air voids, pavement thickness, and compaction of base and surface courses. Acceptance of each sublot will be based on the test data from the sample(s) from that sublot. All acceptance samples shall be taken using random locations or times designated by the Engineer in accordance with ASTM [D3665](#).

326.10.2 Gradation, Binder Content and Air Voids: The acceptance laboratory will take a sample of the asphalt concrete in accordance with the requirements of Section 2 or 4 of Arizona Test Methods 104 or AASHTO T-168 from each sublot. The minimum weight of the sample shall be 45 pounds. Asphalt binder content and gradation shall be determined in accordance with AASHTO T-308 using the ignition furnace for each sublot. The acceptance laboratory is responsible for obtaining the necessary materials and performing an ignition furnace calibration as outlined in AASHTO T-308 for each asphalt concrete mixture utilized on the project. The correction factor used for each test shall be clearly indicated on the report. Reports that do not include the correction factor, performed as stated in the previous sentences, shall be considered invalid and not allowed to be used for acceptance. The bulk density for Marshall Mix designs shall be tested in accordance

Limits of In-place Air Voids	Less than 2.7% or Greater than 4.0% from Target	\$15.00
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Within 15 working days, the Engineer will determine whether or not to accept the contractor's proposed Engineering Analysis.

326.11 REFEREE:

If the Contractor has reason to question the validity of any of the acceptance test results, the Contractor may request that the Engineer consider referee test for final acceptance. Any request for referee testing must describe the contractor's reasons for questioning the validity of the original acceptance test results and must clearly describe which set of acceptance tests are in question. The engineer may either accept or reject the request for referee testing. When referee testing is accepted the Contractor (at the Contractors own expense) will engage an independent laboratory accredited by the AAP or a laboratory listed in the current ADOT Directory of Approved Materials Testing Laboratories as appropriate the acceptance tests that are being questioned. The independent referee laboratory shall use properly certified technicians in accordance with ASTM [D3666](#), Section 7 (Personnel Qualifications). For the set of test results in question the referee laboratory shall perform a new set of acceptance tests (as required by Section [326.10](#) representing the area for the set of tests in question). The referee tests will replace the original acceptance tests that were in question.

These tests may include asphalt binder content, aggregate gradation, Marshall or Gyratory unit weight, maximum theoretical unit weight, laboratory air voids and in-place air voids (compaction). All referee testing shall conform to Section 326.10. Samples for referee testing shall come from representative samples obtained from the completed pavement, as directed by the Engineer.

The number of samples taken will be the same as specified in Section [326.10](#). The independent laboratory shall compile the test results and transmit them to both the Engineer and the contractor. The independent laboratory shall include a report sealed and signed by an Engineer registered in the State of Arizona, who is experienced in asphalt concrete testing and mix design development. The signed report shall give an opinion that the material evaluated does or does not comply with project specifications, shall clearly describe any deficiencies, and the results will be binding between all parties.

326.12 MEASUREMENT:

Asphalt concrete pavement will be measured by the ton, or by the square yard, for the mixture actually used as allowed above, which shall include the required quantities of mineral aggregates, asphalt binder, and mineral admixture. Measurement shall include any tonnage used to construct intersections, roadways, streets, or other miscellaneous surfaces indicated on the plans or as directed by the Engineer.

Measurement for safety edge preparation only applies to overlays of existing pavements that require the construction of a safety edge when none exists. Safety edge preparation will be measured by the linear foot. Safety edge preparation will not be measured when a safety edge is part of new pavement construction, pavement widening, or when overlaying an existing pavement that contains a safety edge. The asphalt concrete pavement measurement shall include the tonnage used to construct safety edges or the square yard measurement for asphalt concrete pavement will be increased by the horizontal extension of the safety edge beyond the roadway pavement edge.

326.13 PAYMENT:

The asphalt concrete measured as provided above will be paid for at the contract price per ton or square yard, as adjusted per Section [326.10](#), which price shall be full compensation for the item complete, as herein described and specified.

Payment for tack coat will be by the ton diluted, based on the rate of application, as directed by the Engineer.

No payment will be made for any overrun in quantity of asphalt concrete in excess of 10 percent for newly constructed pavement having a total thickness equal to or greater than 2.5 inches. The overrun quantity is excess tonnage above the tonnage calculated based on actual field measurement of area covered, design thickness, and the mix design unit weight. The calculations for overrun will be by individual pay item. To compensate or adjust for a