

## OBJECTIVE

- The chief objective is to create a controlled environment that mimics as close as possible the conditions expected in the field in order to verify the soundness of **DURAMENT RS** for practical use.
- The practice of performing bench tests in general is to cultivate habits of accurate observation and clear description of the results. It must be noted however, that uniform and satisfactory results can be acquired only after considerable practice.

## A TEST BENCH HAS FOUR COMPONENTS

1. **Input:** The entrance criteria or deliverables needed to perform work.
2. **Procedures to do:** The tasks or processes that will transform the input into the output.
3. **Procedures to check:** The processes that determine that the output meets the standards.
4. **Output:** The exit criteria or deliverables produced from the workbench.

## INPUTS

### Material Listing:

1. One (1) **DURAMENT RS** Sample (contains 27.5 grams **DURAMENT RS** and 110 grams water)
2. General Purpose Portland Cement - 832 grams
3. Earth material (non-plastic soil) - 20 kilograms
4. Fresh water

## EQUIPMENT LISTING

1. Electric Cement Mixer
2. Steel cylinder - 4" W x 12" L (10cm x 30cm) cut thru centre line ( one side only)
  - 4 x Adjustable Band Brackets (see picture)
  - 1 x 1'4" round steel plate that is 1/8" in diameter larger than the 4" cylinder (attached to bottom)
  - 1 x 1'4" round steel plate is 1/8" in diameter smaller than the 4" cylinder (to fit inside compress)
3. Compressive Device: Hydraulic Shop Press ( >+12 tonne )
4. Digital bench scale (with zero function)
5. Digital Hydrometer
6. Sieve (to desired aggregate minus; i.e.: 1/4" minus)
7. 20 litre plastic bucket (5 gallon plastic bucket)
8. small glass container - .5 litre volume
9. 1 x plastic container - 1 litre volume

## SAFETY

1. See MSDS for **DURAMENT RS** and General Purpose Portland Cement



## PROCEDURE

### Material Preparations:

1. Ensure work area is safe and clear of debris.
2. Prepare materials

#### • DURAMENT RS

- agitate **DURAMENT** Sample to ensure that no solids have settled to bottom of sample container
- set aside for later use

#### • Portland Cement

- place the empty 1 litre plastic container on the digital scale and press the “zero” function
- add to plastic container by weight 832 grams of General Purpose Portland Cement
- set aside for later use

#### • Earth Material

- It is preferable that soils used be in their natural or moist state. This will ensure that test results closely resemble what can be expected in the field.
- place the empty 20 litre bucket on the digital scale and press the “zero” function
- add to the bucket 20 kilograms of the earth material to be stabilized. Sieve to desired size 1/4” to 1/2” minus is preferred for bench test as large stones impede compaction within cylinder at 5% OMC
- set aside for later use

#### • Water

- add fresh water to the 1 litre plastic container
- set aside for later use

### Equipment Preparations:

#### • Electric Cement Mixer

- observe all safety requirements when using cement mixer
- ensure drum is clean, and lightly moist to minimize material from sticking



- Steel Cylinder
  - the cylinder is cut thru the centre line down the length to allow the test sample to release
  - using duct tape, attach to bottom of cylinder a round steel plate that is 1/8" in diameter larger than the 4" cylinder to hold material inside and to keep it from falling out the bottom
  - band the cylinder with 4 x stainless steel (or equivalent) bands and tighten
  - lightly moisten the interior to aid the ensure the mixture does not stick to walls
- Compressive Device: Hydraulic Shop Press (>+12 tonne )
  - have the press standing ready to accept the cylinder by;
    - ensuring it is level and plumb
    - heights are adjusted to receive the cylinder



### Mixing Procedures:

- pour the 20 kg bucket of soil into the cement mixer
- apply electrical power to the mixer
- add the Portland cement
- check moisture content periodically
  - add fresh water as needed until moisture content reaches 5% (OMC)
  - hand test - mixture should form to hand and hold shape when squeezed, feel cool but not leave hand wet
- empty the entire **DURAMENT** Sample into the mixture
- allow to mix for 1 minute



### Compression Procedures:

- observe all safety requirements when working with items under extreme pressure
  - turn mixer off and un-plug from electrical outlet
  - reach into drum and fill the cylinder with the mixture
  - place cylinder into the compressive device
  - place the smaller round steel plate on top of the cylinder
  - lower compressive device to centre of the steel plate
  - begin to apply compressive pressure
  - compaction marks the sign of success - apply as much compression as possible to simulate 20 tonne pad foot roller and 20 tonne pneumatic roller
  - once maximum pressure is reached, release pressure, fill cylinder to top with more of the mixture and re-apply pressure
  - after full compression is reached, release pressure, remove cylinder from compression device and remove bottom plate to expose bottom
  - allow cylinder to set for 24hrs - then remove sample from cylinder
- place excess mixture that is remaining in cement mixture into the 20 litre plastic bucket and allow to set as is (un-compressed) for 24 hrs. Next day, flip bucket onto ground and tap out and observe difference between compacted sample and non-compacted sample



# CONTACT US



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