Construction Materials Testing Integrity Project (MTIP) (July 2024 update)

Background

As a result of technical audits on our projects, Transport for NSW (Transport) has identified instances of non-compliant practices taking place at construction materials testing laboratories. These practices compromise the integrity of testing results and have the potential to negatively impact asset durability and ultimately the safe operation and quality of our road network.

The Materials Testing Integrity Project (MTIP) is an initiative to implement improvements that strengthen the technical assurance of laboratories undertaking construction material testing on Transport projects.



Actions to date

- 1. Completed comprehensive engagement with Construction Industry Laboratories on the '<u>TfNSW</u> <u>Construction Industry Contractor Scheme</u>', Laboratory Information Management System (LIMs) providers, internal and external stakeholders.
- 2. Published updated requirements for the construction industry contractor's registration scheme pertaining to material testing laboratories.

<u>Registration scheme for Construction Industry Contractors | Transport for NSW</u>, which can be accessed by scanning the QR code below:





- 3. As a mandatory requirement, a LIMs capable of providing meta-data and test-specific data in consistent electronic format for all testing undertaken on Transport projects. The LIMs submission format for data submission can be accessed using the link above.
- 4. Reviewed and recertified pre-qualified laboratories based on meeting the amended <u>registration</u> <u>scheme for Construction Industry Contractors.</u>
- 5. Amended and published 'Quality Specification Q6', which can be accessed through the <u>TfNSW</u> <u>Standards portal.</u>
- 6. Trialled the collection of test data in the specified LIMs submission format with internal TfNSW laboratories and project data on two TfNSW projects involving pre-qualified laboratories to successfully complete a "Proof of Concept" phase.
- 7. Initiated mandatory collection of test data for all TfNSW Projects awarded to pre-qualified laboratories post 1st September 2023.



Next

- Complete development of the operational solution for MTIP. This will extend and scale up the work from the 'proof-of-concept' phase to enable ongoing roll out across the program of projects.
- Continue stakeholder engagement, consultation and feedback and key milestones.
- Continue to analyse trends and anomalies and action items of concern both for projects and at a program level where necessary.
- Support contractors and laboratories in the implementation on projects awarded post 1st September 2023 including the resolution of any technical and process issues.



Envisaged benefits

Policy & Procedure review and improvement

Identifying continuous improvement opportunities, documenting lessons learnt and implementation of best practices (CILs, LIMs, Standards, Non-conformances, trends)

Increased confidence in the integrity of construction materials testing for all stakeholders

Improved asset durability and whole of life costs, improved quality of our road network

Transport has an obligation to its customers, communities, and asset owners to provide safe and reliable infrastructure that performs as intended and provides value for money outcomes. The MTIP is a continuous improvement initiative that aims to deliver a step-change in technical assurance and improve confidence and integrity in construction materials testing for the benefit of Transport, the industry, and broader stakeholders.

If you would like further information, have any queries, or would like to provide feedback please do not hesitate to contact the MTIP project lead:

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