



**DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS  
FOR  
FIBER REINFORCEMENT FOR STRUCTURAL CONCRETE**

**Effective Date  
January 21, 2026**

**THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS, SERIES 2023, ARE AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONS. THESE ARE DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS AND THEY SHALL PREVAIL OVER THOSE PUBLISHED IN THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS.**

**23083.01 DESCRIPTION.**

- A.** Fiber reinforcement shall be incorporated in the locations and quantities of concrete designated in the contract documents. Work types for structures which may be designated for incorporation of fiber reinforcement could include bridge substructures, bridge decks, bridge deck overlays, structural repairs, or other applications.
- B.** Use approved products and proportions of synthetic macro fiber and incorporate into the concrete mix in accordance with these developmental specifications. The purpose of the fiber reinforcement is to mitigate risk and effects of cracking and improve the durability of the concrete.
- C.** Apply [Section 2403](#) of the Standard Specifications, subject to the modifications herein. When relevant to the work type, also apply [Sections 2412](#) or [2413](#) of the Standard Specifications, subject to the modifications herein.
- D.** The contract documents may designate incorporation of fiber reinforcement into concrete mixes governed under other developmental specifications. Examples could include High Performance Concrete for Structures, or Structural Concrete (4500 psi or Greater). Meet the provisions of applied developmental specifications concurrently. The provisions for concrete slump specified in DS-23083.02, A, 3, shall prevail over provisions for concrete slump specified in other applied developmental specifications.

**23083.02 MATERIALS.**

**A. General.**

- 1.** Fibers shall be incorporated as an admixture to the concrete mix. Adjustments to the base volumetric proportions of mix constituents are not required to compensate for the volumetric proportion of fiber admixture.
- 2.** Select a concrete mix which satisfies all applicable requirements and achieves appropriate workability upon incorporation of fibers at the required dosage rate.

3. Material properties of the fiber reinforced concrete (FRC) shall comply with the material properties for concrete specified elsewhere in the contract documents, except the following relaxations are permissible for FRC slump:
  - a. **Bridge Decks.**  
When mid-range water reducer is used with Class C or Class HPC-D mix, target slump may be increased to 5 inches, allowing a maximum of 6 inches as a tolerance. Commence testing for slump within 0 to 4 minutes after the FRC is discharged.
  - b. **Bridge Deck Overlays.**  
When mid-range water reducer is used with Class HPC-O mix, target slump may be increased to 5 inches, allowing a maximum of 6 inches as a tolerance. Commence testing for slump within 0 to 4 minutes after the FRC is discharged.

**B. Fiber.**

1. **General.**  
Fiber reinforcement shall consist of macro fibers.
2. **Macro Fiber.**
  - a. Use product approved in accordance with [Materials I.M. 491.27 Appendix B](#).
  - b. Dose macro fiber at a minimum rate of 4 pounds per cubic yard of concrete.

**C. Documentation and Acceptance of Fiber Reinforced Concrete.**

1. FRC shall comply with ASTM C1116, Type III. Furnish documentary evidence by the fiber manufacturer demonstrating satisfactory performance history and compliance with ASTM C1116, Type III for fiber product(s) used.
2. A trial batch and test placement will be required in accordance with DS-23083.03, A. Acceptance of the FRC mix shall be contingent on successful completion of the trial batch and test placement. At a minimum, the trial batch and test placement must demonstrate all the following:
  - Compliance with the contract documents and specified material properties.
  - Acceptable workability.
  - Batching and finishing processes representative of the proposed means and methods of construction for production work.
  - No detrimental effects associated with mix inconsistency, mix segregation, bleeding, or balling of fibers.

**23083.03 CONSTRUCTION.**

**A. Trial Batch and Test Placement.**

1. **General.**
  - a. Provide the Engineer notice, mix proportions, and scheduled date at least 7 calendar days prior to trial batch and test placement. Do not proceed with trial batch and test placement without authorization of the Engineer.
  - b. Conduct trial batch and test placement at least 7 calendar days prior to planned placement of production FRC.
  - c. Do not place production FRC until the trial batch and test placement have been accepted by the Engineer. Trial batches or test placements which fail to meet acceptance criteria must be repeated at no additional cost to the Contracting Authority, following appropriate material and/or procedure modifications by the Contractor.
  - d. After acceptance of the trial batch and test placement, any contractor-initiated changes to the mix design, fiber product or dosage, mix batching process, and/or methods of installation shall constitute basis for requiring a new trial batch and test placement at no additional cost to the Contracting Authority.

- e. The Engineer may waive the trial batch and test placement on the basis of past successful placement of the same combination of mix design, fiber product and dosage, mix batching process (including key personnel), and installation process (including key personnel).

## 2. Trial Batch.

- a. Identify dedicated batching personnel for FRC.
- b. Establish and demonstrate the sequence of constituent material introduction during the trial batch. Ensure the fiber manufacturer's technical representative is available for advice and guidance regarding fiber inclusion into the mix, as needed.
- c. Batch the trial batch concrete for slump within 1 inch of the maximum slump permitted, air content of ~~6% +/- 1%~~ intended target for the production placement  $\pm 2\%$ , and w/c ratio typical of the production FRC to be placed. Include any other admixtures proposed for use in the production FRC, including but not limited to water reducers, viscosity modifiers and set retarders as applicable, at their respective intended production dosage rates.
- d. Sample and test the trial batch placement for the following:
  - [Materials I.M. 340](#) – Unit Weight of Plastic Concrete.
  - [Materials I.M. 318](#) – Air Content of Plastic Concrete.
  - [Materials I.M. 317](#) – Slump of Plastic Concrete
  - Visual Stability of Plastic Concrete – Following slump test performed in accordance with [Materials I.M. 317](#), leave slumped concrete undisturbed on the test board for 3 minutes and observe for mortar ring or bleed water at the base of the concrete. Report presence, description, and size of any mortar ring and/or bleed water halo.
- e. Trial batch volume shall be in accordance with the following:
  - **Bridge Decks and Deck Overlays:** 6 cubic yards, minimum.
  - **Non-Deck Applications;** 3 cubic yards, minimum.

## 3. Test Placement.

### a. General.

- 1) Utilize the trial batch concrete to conduct a test placement. Subject to the requirements herein, the test placement may not require use of the full volume of trial batch concrete.
- 2) Test placement shall be made within side/edge forms, on sufficiently rigid subbase, to allow representative demonstration of the placement and finishing methods proposed for production work. Use a durable, impermeable separation barrier between the subbase and test placement.
- 3) Place, consolidate and finish the concrete within the test placement using methods that are representative of the methods to be used with the production concrete. For production methods deemed impractical to duplicate during the test pour (e.g. pump placement, self-propelled machine finishing), substitute methods may be used subject to the Engineer's approval, provided the substitute methods allow full evaluation of any/all mix properties that may affect the actual production methods. Evaluate workability, finishability, and general suitability of the mix for production use.
- 4) Following completion of the test placement, deposit any remaining trial batch concrete to an open container or other accessible location to allow further inspection for potential mix inconsistency, mix segregation, bleeding, balling of fibers, or other detrimental properties. Do not obscure or dispose of the trial batch or test placement concrete until a minimum time of 2 hours has elapsed after completion of the test placement, or until authorized by the Engineer, whichever comes first.

### b. Test Placement for Bridge Decks and Deck Overlays.

- 1) Simulate the general placement conditions for production concrete. Conduct the test placement in open air, during weather generally consistent with the anticipated conditions during production placement.
- 2) Following trial batching, suspend the test placement for a period of time approximately equal to the anticipated delivery time for production concrete. During this suspension, maintain the concrete in a state of agitation generally representative

of the anticipated delivery conditions for production concrete.

- 3) The area of the test placement shall be a minimum of 200 square feet. The least horizontal dimension of the test placement shall be a minimum of 12 feet. Nominal thickness of the test placement shall match as close as practical the nominal thickness of the production concrete, except nominal thickness of the test placement need not exceed 9 inches.
- 4) Test placements for bridge decks shall include reinforcing steel, oriented in two mats of two layers each (longitudinal and transverse). Reinforcing steel shall have similar size, spacing, top clearance to top mat and bottom clearance to bottom mat, as shown in the contract documents for the production work. No reinforcing steel is required for test placements for bridge deck overlays.

**c. Test Placement for Non-Deck Applications.**

Deposit the trial batch concrete into formwork with minimum dimensions of at least 3 feet length by 3 feet width by 3 feet depth. Alternate formwork dimensions may be permitted, subject to approval by the Engineer.

**B. Production FRC.**

**1. Batching.**

- a. Production batching methods, equipment, sequence and personnel shall match those used for the approved trial batch.
- b. Introduce fibers into the mix in accordance with the fiber manufacturer's recommendations, unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.
- c. Mix FRC in accordance with the Standard Specifications applicable for concrete, unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.
- d. Ensure uniform distribution and random orientation of fibers throughout the concrete.

**2. Placing, Consolidating, Finishing and Curing.**

Comply with provisions for concrete specified in [Sections 2403](#), [2412](#), and [2413](#) of the Standard Specifications, as well as other applied developmental specifications, as applicable to the contract and the work type.

**23083.04 METHOD OF MEASUREMENT.**

**A. Fiber Reinforcement for Structural Concrete.**

1. Fiber reinforcement for structural concrete shall be measured and paid separate from the concrete the fiber reinforcement is incorporated in. Measurement and payment for the concrete shall be as specified elsewhere in the contract documents.
2. The unit of measurement for Fiber Reinforcement for Structural Concrete shall match the unit of measurement applicable to the concrete the fiber reinforcement is incorporated in (ex. per square yard or per cubic yard).
3. The quantity of Fiber Reinforcement for Structural Concrete will be the quantity shown in the contract documents. The quantity of Fiber Reinforcement for Structural Concrete shall match the quantity of the concrete the fiber reinforcement is incorporated in.

**B. Trial Batch and Test Placement.**

Trial Batch and Test Placement is a combined lump sum item.

**23083.05 BASIS OF PAYMENT.**

**A. Fiber Reinforcement for Structural Concrete.**

Payment will be at the contract unit price for Fiber Reinforcement for Structural Concrete.

Payment includes all cost of furnishing and incorporating fiber reinforcement, at the specified

dosage rate, per applicable unit of concrete.

**B. Trial Batch and Test Placement.**

Payment will be at the lump sum contract unit price for the combined bid item Trial Batch and Test Placement. Payment includes full compensation for Trial Batch and Test Placement, inclusive of all materials and labor for furnishing, forming, placing, finishing, and evaluating.