

Consultant Inspection

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Consultant Inspection

- What is consultant inspection?
 - Very similar to providing design professional services, but for providing construction and/or materials testing and inspection services.
 - Project specific or combination of projects
- Why consultant inspection?
 - Short staffing vs heavy workloads

Consultant Inspection

- How are consultant inspectors selected?

Qualifications Based Selection QBS Process

- On-Call Consultant List for Construction Materials Testing & Inspection
- Consultant Solicitation (RFQ) and Selection Process
- Criteria considered include:
 - Understanding of the Problem & Innovation
 - Qualification of Personnel
 - Familiarity/Capability
 - Past Performance
 - Firm Experience
 - Accessibility of Firm & Staff

Consultant Inspection

- Where is consultant inspection utilized?
 - Fill the role of construction inspector
 - Roadway/bridge inspection
 - On-site concrete testing
 - Routine documentation via AWP or Mobile Inspector
 - Contract administration (estimates, change orders, etc.)
 - Fill the role of materials inspector
 - Bituminous plant inspection
 - Precast/prestress facility inspection
 - Fill the role of resident engineer
 - Oversee project and consultant inspection team
 - Contract administration (estimates, change orders, etc.)

Consultant Inspection

- What does consultant inspection look like?
 - How it looks the same...
 - same inspection expectations
 - same specifications & standards
 - same inspection priorities
 - same PPE requirements
 - same on-site presence
 - same contractor requirements
 - same on-site communication
 - same contract documentation

Consultant inspectors are providing inspection on behalf of MoDOT staff, so in this regard it should look the same.

Consultant Inspection

- What does consultant inspection look like?
 - Same approach to equipment:
 - MoDOT provides equipment = Consultant provides equipment
(examples: air pot, slump cone for concrete testing, nuclear gauge for soil density)
 - Contractor provides equipment = Contractor provides equipment
(example: bituminous plant inspection testing equipment)

Consultant Inspection

- What does consultant inspection look like?
 - How it looks different...
 - company vehicles in lieu of MoDOT vehicles
 - new faces, company logos, etc.

Consultant Inspection

- Intent vs Reality

- Intent

- To inspect in accordance with MoDOT specifications to ensure safety and longevity to Missouri's Highway system.
 - Consultants should be perceived as a MoDOT Inspector. They are applying the same testing methods and assuring the same results per specifications.
 - MoDOT and Consultants shall communicate and report daily or as needed to ensure processes are being followed.
 - Consultants have the authority to make decisions that adhere to MoDOT specifications on behalf of MoDOT and escalate any nonconformances to higher levels as needed.
 - Decisions are to be resolved at the lowest possible level.

Consultant Inspection

- Intent vs Reality
 - Reality
 - There will be a learning curve for MoDOT and Consultants.
 - Consultants will need time to learn each project, understand each contractor's communication channel and follow MoDOT's expectations of inspections.
 - Working with newly certified Consultants could make the learning process slower.
 - Sometimes communication will not be immediate from lack of understanding what items need to be addressed.

Consultant Inspection

Making Bituminous Plant Inspection Successful

- Communication
 - Plant Inspection Documentation
 - Daily Plant Report for each day's production.
 - Stating start-up/shut-down times, any plant issues that occurred, QC and QA test results favorable or not, sample times, etc.
 - MoDOT's AWP spreadsheet filled out after testing has been completed.
 - Specify these are deliverables at the end of each shift and expected timeframe for completion. Include who is to receive information.

Consultant Inspection

Making Bituminous Plant Inspection Successful

- Communication
 - Verbal communication
 - Communication is key between the roadway and the plant. It's good practice to reach out to other inspectors before, during and after production.
 - MoDOT will have a representative who oversees consultant projects. This person should be in contact with the consultant throughout the project to ensure the project is running smoothly. This includes being available for evening phone calls, if needed. Not all project specifications allow operations during normal business hours.

Consultant Inspection

Making Bituminous Plant Inspection Successful

- Communication
 - Establish clear expectations
 - MoDOT shall have in writing expectations for the consultants so that little to nothing gets missed.
 - Establish clear priorities
 - Emphasize any particular areas or items of inspection that demand more attention or that are higher priority.
 - Clarify any areas of concern that should be elevated as well as who should be informed.
 - Encourage questions and transparency
 - Consultants need to feel that it's okay to ask questions and discuss concerns.

Consultant Inspection

Closing Thoughts...

- **Do foster constructive relationships with each other.**
 - Ultimately, we are all there for one purpose. We want to provide a good product. No matter if you are a contractor, consultant or MoDOT, we all need to work well with each other and learn from one another. That will help us all be successful and deliver a superior product.

Questions?