

**METHODS OF SAMPLING AND TESTING  
MT 328-06  
METHOD OF ESTABLISHING FIELD TARGET DENSITY FOR PLANT MIX SURFACING  
DENSITY CONTROL**

**Revised Edition – April 2006**

**Changed Sec 3.3** – When two field maximum specific gravities have been determined using MT 321, average the results. Use the average for the field target Rice Gravity density. This target will be effective retroactive to the start of plant mix production on the project.

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**1 Scope:**

- 1.1 This method is the procedure for establishing the field target density for compaction control of bituminous mixtures.

**2 Referenced Documents:**

**2.1 *MT Materials Manual:***

MT 321 Procedure for Determining Maximum Specific Gravity of Bituminous Paving Mixtures – “Rice Method”

**3 Procedure:**

- 3.1 Determine the maximum specific gravity of un-compacted bituminous paving mixtures as per MT 321-“Rice Method”.
- 3.2 At the start of plant mix production use the maximum specific gravity provided in the mix design as the target for compaction control.
- 3.3 When two field maximum specific gravities have been determined using MT 321, average the results. Use the average for the field target Rice Gravity density. This target will be effective retroactive to the start of plant mix production on the project.
- 3.4 When four (4) field Rice Gravities are completed, average the four test values. If a change of 0.5 pound per cubic foot (8.0 kg per cubic meter) or greater is calculated change to the new average density. This change will become effective at the time the last sample was obtained.
- 3.5 As each additional field Rice Gravity is completed, the results will be added to the results of the previous three gravities and averaged. If a change of 0.5 pound per cubic foot (8.0 kg per cubic meter) or greater is calculated from the last field target density, change to the new average Rice Gravity. This change will become effective at the time the last test was sampled.