

Questions, Comments and Responses

## Double-bounded compressive strength pay factors for determining payment of in-place concrete

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## Q1. Why would the Agency want to have a double-bounded pay factor system?

### A1. My understanding is that material that is overly strong at its 28-day CCS test tends to lead to increased brittleness and cracking later in the life of the concrete. So the desire is to ensure that the concrete is above the minimum acceptance level at its 28-day test but is not overly strong. Historically there have been many lots where the average 28-day CCS is close to 10,000 psi, whereas the lower acceptance limit is only 4,000 psi. So the pay factors will disincentivize overly strong material and reward material is closer to a target design strength of about 4,900 psi.

## Q2. Is anyone using a single (lower) bounded pay factor system?

### A2. Yes, many states are already using a pay factor system to enforce the single (lower) acceptance criteria, but Vermont would be amongst the first to implement a double-bounded system.