

MDOT - Office of Aeronautics

Consultant Guidance for Construction Specifications and Modification of Standards:

- (Q1). When do block grant projects need to include all FAA specs?
(A1). All projects being bid after December 31, 2015, will require FAA specs according to AC 150/5370-10G or current. Please take this into consideration when finalizing your 5 year plan.
- (Q2) Can we use the MDOT letting system in 2016?
(A2) MDOT lettings can be done through December 31, 2015. Aeronautics has submitted a Modification of Standard (MOS) for the General Provisions to FAA on 7/8/15 in order to utilize the MDOT letting process next season. We will contact you when the updated General Provisions are approved. Until we receive approval back from FAA, please estimate costs and set up consultant contracts to include local lettings. Please coordinate with your MDOT Project Manager to be sure your project includes all of the standard requirements and has been reviewed before it is posted for bids.
- (Q3) Are MDOT specs being created that will meet FAA's new requirements?
(A3) At this time, MDOT is pursuing approval by FAA to use MDOT's bidding system including updating the pay items and an approved General Provisions for 2016. In the future, MDOT will decide which specs would be the most beneficial to modify and maintain long term. We anticipate updating the State Standard for the P-411 Bituminous spec but it would probably not be ready until after the 2016 construction season.
- (Q4) If a MOS was approved on one project does it have to be submitted again?
(A4) Yes, each time a construction specification is used the airport must resubmit the MOS to FAA for approval. MDOT is compiling a list of approved MOS that may be helpful in establishing uniformity for everyone's use. We are hoping to have the list available online to use in project development in the near future. As discussed in (A3) above, we are hoping to have a limited number of Statewide Standards approved according to 150/5100-13 and these would not need an approval with every project. In the meantime, please contact your MDOT Project Manager to discuss.
- (Q5) What is the MOS process, who fills out what, who submits what to whom?
(A5) For a construction specification type MOS, the form, available at http://www.faa.gov/airports/great_lakes/engineering/, must be signed and submitted by the airport sponsor with a tracked changes type format specification attached. For nonprimary airports, the MOS documentation should be submitted to the MDOT Project Manager first and they will forward it onto the ADO Program Manager for FAA approval. For primary airports, the MOS documentation should be submitted directly to the ADO Program Manager with a copy to the MDOT Project Manager for FAA approval.
- (Q6) Is AERO going to MDOT let the projects prior to the MOS approvals from the ADO, or are we going to let the process go on concurrently? What happens if the letting is over before the ADO replies/reviews?
(A6) At this point, we will continue to let the projects concurrently with the submittal of the MOS to FAA. Every effort should be attempted to submit the MOS ASAP so this does not become a problem. We will not award a project prior to having FAA approval of the MOS and if there are major changes needed to the specifications bid, the project will need to be re-bid at the airports expense.

- (Q7) Do design type MOS's (not specification related) need to be documented for long term use?
- (A7) Yes, once a design type MOS is approved by FAA we need to make sure to include the MOS on the As-built ALP at the end of the project. A design type example would be an FAA conditional MOS approval for a runway grade or an approval for a taxiway runway separation.
- (Q8) Are any additional discussions planned between MDOT, the consultants and airports to discuss the impact the transition to FAA specs has had and what to anticipate in the future?
- (A8) A roundtable discussion is planned for the fall conference. It will be held Thursday, September 17, 2015 from 9:00 – 10:45 am. Please see your MAAE mailer for more details, if you would like to attend.