

# **NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS**

## **IGNITION OVEN – AASHTO T 308**

### **Acceptance Testing for Asphalt Content**

**Effective Date:** Applicable to all contracts let on or after June 24, 2026

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is implementing a change to asphalt mixture acceptance testing requirements.

Beginning with all contracts let on or after **June 24, 2026, AASHTO T 308 (Ignition Oven Method)** will be **required for acceptance testing** of asphalt content.

### **Key Clarifications**

- AASHTO T 308 will be the sole method used by the Department and Contractors for acceptance determination of asphalt content.
- Nuclear asphalt content gauges may continue to be used by Contractors for quality control purposes only.
- Results obtained from nuclear gauges will not be used for acceptance or dispute resolution.

This change is intended to improve consistency, accuracy, and statewide uniformity in asphalt content acceptance testing.

Contractors are encouraged to review laboratory capabilities and ensure compliance with AASHTO T 308 requirements prior to the effective letting date.

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to the **Materials Division**.

For more information contact the Department's Materials Division

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