

VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION
CONSTRUCTION & MATERIALS BUREAU
MATERIAL TESTING & CERTIFICATIONS SECTION



NEW PRODUCTS PROGRAM

Guidelines

Program for the review, evaluation, and implementation of unique, proprietary, and patented products within the Vermont Agency of Transportation

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PURPOSE

To promote the use of new and/or innovative products used in the construction and maintenance of VTrans infrastructure that will add value through cost effectiveness, improved quality, and/or increased performance.

1.0 APPLICABILITY

The New Products Program is applicable to products that do not conform to the VTrans' Standard Specifications for Construction. Products conforming to the VTrans' Standard Specifications for Construction will be addressed through the Approved Materials, Products, Producers, & Laboratories program or as applicable.

2.0 PRODUCT SUBMISSION

Products may be submitted by the manufacturers looking to introduce their product to VTrans or by third parties, such as contractors or consultants looking for alternatives to VTrans' Standard Specifications for construction. It will be the responsibility of the submitter to ensure the following:

1. The submittal form is complete and accurate.
2. All relevant documentation is provided.
3. The product being submitted does not conform to VTrans' Standard Specifications for Construction.

3.0 PRODUCT CONSIDERATION PROCESS

Products for consideration will be processed by the Materials Testing & Certifications Section.

3.1 Submittal Review

The VTrans' Material Testing & Certifications Section will perform a preliminary review of the submittal verifying the following:

1. The submittal form is complete and accurate.
2. Required documentation is submitted (i.e. Technical Data Sheets, Safety Data Sheets, Installation Instructions, etc.).
3. The product does not fall under an existing VTrans specification.
4. The products applicability to construction and maintenance of VTrans infrastructure is clear.

3.2 Product Routing

The VTrans' Material Testing & Certifications Section will identify the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to consider the use of the product. Upon identifying SMEs the Material Testing & Certifications Section will coordinate the appropriate review of the product.

3.3 Product Evaluation

SMEs will evaluate products for value. This evaluation will be to determine if the product will add value to VTrans via cost effectiveness, quality improvement, and/or increase of performance.

4.0 Determination

The Materials Testing & Certifications Section will document the SMEs determination and provide a formal response to the submitter. There will generally be two outcomes:

1. Value added. Products where it is determined there is value added will be implemented for use by VTrans.
2. No value added. Products where it is determined there is no value added will not be implemented for use by VTrans.

5.0 Implementation

The Material Testing & Certifications Section will facilitate the implementation of new products where the Agency has determined the product will add value. The Material Testing & Certifications will coordinate with applicable SMEs to facilitate implementation as applicable. Implementation will generally include one of the following options:

1. Standard Specification. Development of a standard specification to be available to design teams for use as needed.
2. Special Specification. Development of a special specification for single use on a predetermined project. Intended for general evaluation by Agency SMEs.
3. Experimental Feature. Development of a research plan in accordance with FHWA's Experimental Feature Program to formally evaluate the product.
4. Public Interest Finding. Implementation via the public interest finding process.