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**INSPECTION & ACCEPTANCE  
BACKER ROD FOR CONTRACTION JOINTS**

**GENERAL**

Backer rod for contraction joints shall meet the requirements of applicable Iowa Department of Transportation Specifications.

**ACCEPTANCE**

Backer rods for all types of poured sealers will be on the basis of manufacturer and brand name approval. Approved backer rods for cold-pour sealers are listed in Appendix A. Approved backer rods for hot-pour sealers are listed in Appendix B.

**MANUFACTURER AND BRAND NAME APPROVAL**

Manufacturer and brand name approval will be based on test results obtained on samples submitted by the manufacturer to the Office of Materials for testing. Samples submitted for testing shall be at least 2 feet (0.5 m) in length. Changes in the brand product or characteristics will require a new brand approval.

An approval will remain in effect unless withdrawn because of deficient test results on monitor samples.

**MONITOR SAMPLING AND TESTING**

The Office of Materials may sample at the job site, supplier, or source, and test to verify compliance with the specifications. The Office of Materials will notify the appropriate District Materials Office when samples are to be obtained.