

Independent Assurance(IA) Audits

2022 Update

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Independent Assurance(IA) Audit Team Leader



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Independent Assurance Audit Purpose

The Statewide Independent Assurance Auditing Program conducts unbiased and independent evaluation of the acceptance sampling and testing program to determine compliance with Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements.

Independent Assurance Audit Purpose

Technicians employed by MDOT SHA, county agencies, municipalities, and consultant firms, who perform acceptance testing for federally funded projects are required to be certified in accordance with FHWA regulations (CFR 637) and Maryland Standard Specification Section 900.02.

Independent Assurance Audit Purpose

- ▶ This is accomplished by conducting systematic and random audits.
- ▶ These audits verify equipment accuracy, technician sampling, and testing procedures.
- ▶ These audits aid in the continued certification of MARTCP Technicians across the state and neighboring areas.

Personnel Changes

IA Team Leader

Steve Hall

Email: shall@mdot.maryland.gov

Or iaateam@mdot.maryland.gov

Phone number:
410-371-0015

Statewide/Covers Districts 6 and 7



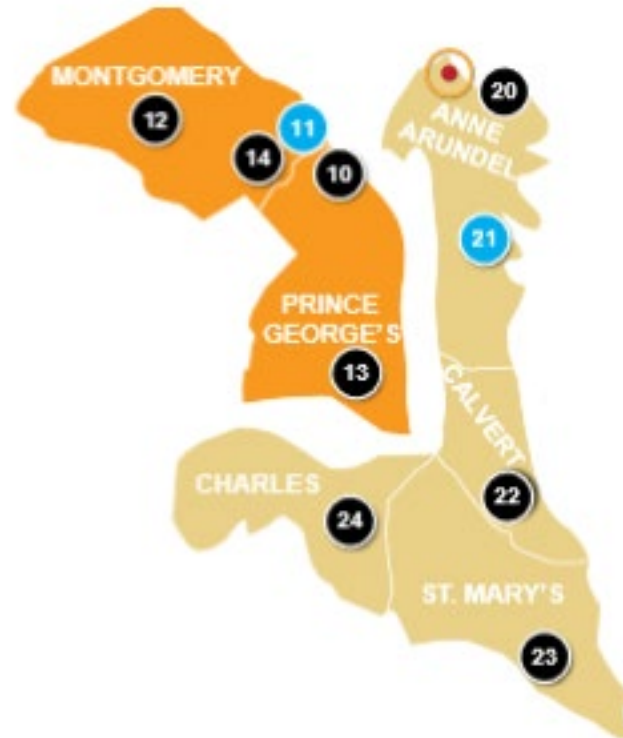
Personnel Changes

IA Auditor Area of Coverage

Frank Thompson, IAA Technician

Email: iaateam@mdot.maryland.gov

Covers Districts 3,5, and
Washington D.C



Personnel Changes

IA Auditor Area of Coverage

Mike Zulkowski, IAA Technician

Email: iaateam@mdot.maryland.gov

Covers Districts 2,4, and
Baltimore City



Personnel Changes

IA Auditor Area of Coverage

Changes will take place for the areas of coverage over the next few months. Check the MARTCP Training/Testing information online for updates at:

<https://www.roads.maryland.gov/omt/CertBook.pdf>

Important Changes to IA Process

- ▶ Contacting the IA Team, please use iaateam@mdot.maryland.gov. This is a catch all email address for the IA Team. For tracking purposes, we are asking that you do not email the individual IA Audit Technicians for IA Audits.
- ▶ Used to request an IA Audit.
- ▶ IA Receipts, once approved by the IAA Team Leader, are emailed from this email address. Receipts no longer come from the individual IA Audit Technician.

Important Changes to IA Process

IA Audit Requests

- ▶ When sending an email requesting an IA to iaateam@mdot.maryland.gov include:
 - ▶ Your name.
 - ▶ Telephone number.
 - ▶ Project number/work location.
 - ▶ Type of audit requested (HMA, Soils, Concrete, or HMA Plant).
 - ▶ Copy of your current MARTCP Card.
- ▶ Failure to do so will result in a delay of getting the IA completed.
- ▶ Once received, the information will be sent to the IA Auditor in your District, who will contact you for further arrangements.

Important Changes to IA Process

IA Audit Requests

- ▶ You must renew your certification prior to expiring. It is the technician's responsibility to contact the IA Team to schedule their audit.
- ▶ If it is your final year of certification, the IA Audit will be performed in the calendar year of your expiration. For example, a June 30th, 2023, expiration will be performed in the 2023 calendar year between January 1st up to the date of expiration.
- ▶ If you expire early in the year, in January or February, contact the IA Team in December (prior to expiration) to schedule your IA Audit.
- ▶ If you expire, without the third and final IA Audit, you will return to class.

Important Changes to IA Process

Regional Audit

- ▶ Regional audits were started to prevent technicians who are not on Federal Aid or MDOT SHA projects from losing their certifications because they were not receiving their audits as required.
- ▶ If you are on a Federal Aid or MDOT SHA project, you are expected to be audited on the project.
- ▶ Regional Audits are planned through out the year.

Important Changes to IA Process

HMA Field Virtual Audit

- ▶ The HMA Field Virtual audit is offered through Microsoft Teams. This consists of a 45-minute presentation followed by a 20-question quiz.
- ▶ Participants must have a score of 75% or higher to achieve a satisfactory audit result.
- ▶ January, February, June, and December it is offered twice a month. The remaining months of the year, the audit is scheduled for the third Wednesday of that month.
- ▶ Two of the three audits, must be obtained in the field. Only one of the three audits, may be obtained in the Regional Audit or Virtual Audit.

Important Changes to IA Process

Concrete Air Meter calibration

Specifications can be found at:

<https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/sscm.aspx?PageId=853&lid=SSP>

AASHTO R18 is specified in this specification (2021 Specifications, section 111.03).

Important Changes to IA Process

Concrete Air Meter calibration

- ▶ **As per AASHTO R18 for the T152 Air Content, Pressure Method the unit (Air Meter) must be calibrated every 3 months.**
- ▶ Calibration, per the specifications or Invitation for Bid must be done by an approved MDOT State Highway Administration approved testing agency. If the agency is Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory (CCRL) accredited they may calibrate the air meter.
- ▶ IA Auditor will request to see the calibration information on the Air Meter. **If not current, an unsatisfactory IA will be issued until the meter is recalibrated and in compliance with the specifications.**

Important Changes to IA Process

AASHTO R18 Specification on the T152 Calibration Frequency

Table A1.6—Portland Cement Concrete Testing Equipment

| Equipment | Test Method (AASHTO/ASTM) | Requirement | Max. Interval (month) |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Unit Weight Measures | T 121/C 138 | Standardize | 12 |
| Air Meters (pressure type) | T 152/C 231 | Standardize | 3* |
| Air Meters (volumetric type) | C 173 | Standardize | 12* |
| Air Meters (volumetric type) | T 196 | Standardize | 36* |
| Capping Material | | Check Strength | 3 |
| Slump Cones | T 119/C 143 | Check Critical Dimensions | 12 |
| Metallic Reusable Molds | T 22, T 23/C 31, C 39 | Check Critical Dimensions | 12 |
| Single Use Molds | T 22, T 23/C 31, C 39 | Check Dimensions of Each Shipment | — |
| Recording Thermometer | C 31, C 39 | Standardize | 6 |

* The individual test methods specify conditions that require restandardization, such as changes in elevation and rough handling.

Questions?

