Australian Standard®

Methods for sampling and testing aggregates

Method 30.2: Preparation of aggregate reference specimens for visual comparison

1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out the method for preparing reference specimens that represent each of the visually distinguishable rock types present in a quarried source for use in AS 1141.30.1.

The reference materials are sampled on the basis of differences in colour, grain size, texture and grade of weathering, i.e. general appearance. Normally a set of reference specimens are prepared when a source is first sampled. Thereafter, additional reference specimens are prepared whenever previously unsampled materials are encountered in subsequent sampling. Reference specimens are not generally prepared for material that is obviously soft, friable or composed of clay.

2 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
1141	Methods for sampling and testing aggregates
1141.30.1	Method 30.1: Coarse aggregate quality by visual comparison
2758	Aggregates and rock for engineering purposes (all parts)

3 PROCEDURE

The procedure for the preparation of reference specimens shall be as follows for each material type:

(a) Determine the test properties of the sample in accordance with the relevant parts of AS 2758 or the job specification. Retain sufficient material from the same sample for the preparation of a reference specimen.

(b) Using the results obtained, classify the material in accordance with the appropriate specification (e.g. AS 2758).

(c) Thoroughly wash and air-dry the material retained for the reference specimen.

(d) Inspect the particles for homogeneity. It is important that all particles be visually similar in a reference specimen. In case of contamination, the reference specimen sample shall be discarded and a new sample obtained and tested.

(e) Place sufficient number of 10 mm nominal size particles for reference specimen material in a jar.

NOTE: A wide-neck screw-type plastic jar has been found suitable for this purpose.

(f) Label the reference specimen jar with an identification label and a classification label. The identification label shall include rock source, type, sample location, name of the organization who prepared the sample, date of sampling and a unique sample reference number.

(g) Prepare as many jars of this particular material type as are required for the number of reference sets.