

Cetanz Technical Committee Advisory Memo April 2025

We have had a few members come to us asking for clarifications to some of the testing in the new NZTA M04: 2024. After discussions with NZTA and IANZ, we are happy to share the following clarifications to a couple of points that have been raised.

1. AS1141.15 Flakiness Index when testing (M4)

- a) The scope of the test method requires that the material has at least 80% by mass retained on a 4.75mm sieve. This will not be the case when testing the material used for the PSD in M4.
- b) The procedure calls for the PSD to be determined using AS1141.11.1 (and 12 if required)

We propose that for the Flakiness Index test included in M4, labs use the material used in the NZS 4407 Test 3.8.1 PSD test and the above mass requirements are waived. IANZ endorsed reports are to have a note explaining the departure.

This has been agreed by NZTA and IANZ and will be included in any review of M04 by NZTA

2. NZTA T15 Repeated Load Triaxial (M3 and M4)

- a. Throughout the test method the target density / MC requirements use NZS 4407 Test 4.1.3. With the research and adoption of NZTA T28, it is not clear whether the RLT test should be carried out on 26.5mm scalped material using the T28 result that has to be done in M4 or that labs have to do a 4.1.3 test for the targets

We propose that the RLT test is carried out on material scalped at 26.5mm with compaction target being 95-96% MDD and 100% OMC from the T28 test, with a note explaining the departure on test reports.

This has been agreed by NZTA and IANZ and will be included in any review of M04 by NZTA

3. AS1141.22 Wet Dry Strength Variation (M4)

- a) There are some very minor calibration differences to the Cylinder and Plunger in NZ4407 test 3.10 and AS1141.22.

We propose that for the Wet Dry Variation test included in M4, labs may use the NZ calibration dimensions with a note explaining the departure on test reports

This has been agreed by NZTA and IANZ

The suggested departure comment is “Testing completed using equipment that conforms to the requirements of NZS 4407, clause 3.10”

Please note the following IANZ Comment –

It could be worth pointing out that, as these deviations will be documented (i.e. comments included in reports alongside this memo), are technically justified, and accepted by the customer (albeit a downstream customer), provided that each lab individually records some kind of internal decision and authorisation to follow the departures from the methods, the results can be accredited as the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017, clauses 7.2.1.7, and 7.8.2.1 *n*, have been met. There's no need to remove endorsement on relevant reports or exclude them from the endorsement in combined reports.