



Chemical Modification and Stabilization of Subgrade and Associated Quality Assurance

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Williamsburg, VA



Agenda

0 1 Goals of Chemical Modification

0 2 Stabilization Options

0 3 The Right Product for the Right Soil

0 4 Mix Design and Testing



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Goals of Chemical Modification



Goals of Chemical Modification

- Reduce shrink/swell of expansive soils or existing materials.
- Increase strength to provide long-term support for the pavement structure.
- Reduce pavement thickness.
- Reduce moisture susceptibility and migration.
- Utilize local materials.
- Provide a working platform for construction of subsequent layers by drying out wet areas and/or increasing strength properties.
- Save money and/or time!



There are many options when dealing with difficult subgrade materials

Quicklime

- ASTM C977/ AASHTO M216
- Consists of calcium and magnesium oxides
- Limits the amount of carbon dioxide
- Limits moisture
- Available lime reacts rapidly with moisture
- Specification also includes hydrated lime

Lime Kiln Dust

- No national standard for LKD
- Co-product of quicklime production
- Blend of quicklime and fly ash
- Provides additional pozzolanic reactivity in leaner clay soils
- Standard DOT specification include
 - Combined totals CaO and MgO
 - Limit of carbon dioxide as LOI
 - Moisture
 - Sulfate
 - Minimum gradation

Lime/FlyAsh Blends

- ASTM C593
- Blend of quicklime and fly ash
- Specification includes chemical and physical properties
- Option for type C and F ash
- Evaluation based on strength

Portland cement

- ASTM C150
- Blend of calcium silicates and calcium aluminates
- Typically type I cement is used
- Type II cement has been used – sulfate attack

Quicklime and Lime Kiln Dust Modification and Stabilization

Dry

- Fast and effective
- Chemically bound water
- Evaporative heat generation
- Reduced moisture-holding capacity



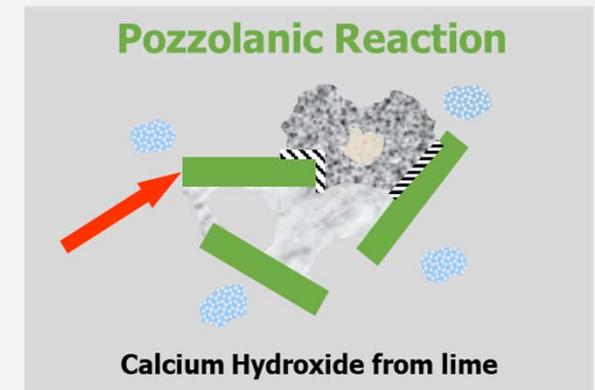
Modify

- Reduce plasticity
- Minimize shrink swell potential
- Improved compaction
- Increase in shear strength



Stabilize

- Increased pH solubilizes Si and Al from clays
- Increased strength and durability
- Lower absorption/moisture barrier
- Reduced Freeze-thaw susceptibility



Cement Modification and Stabilization

Dry/Modify

- Cement hydration binds water
- Dry bulking agent
- Minimize shrink swell potential
- Increase in shear strength



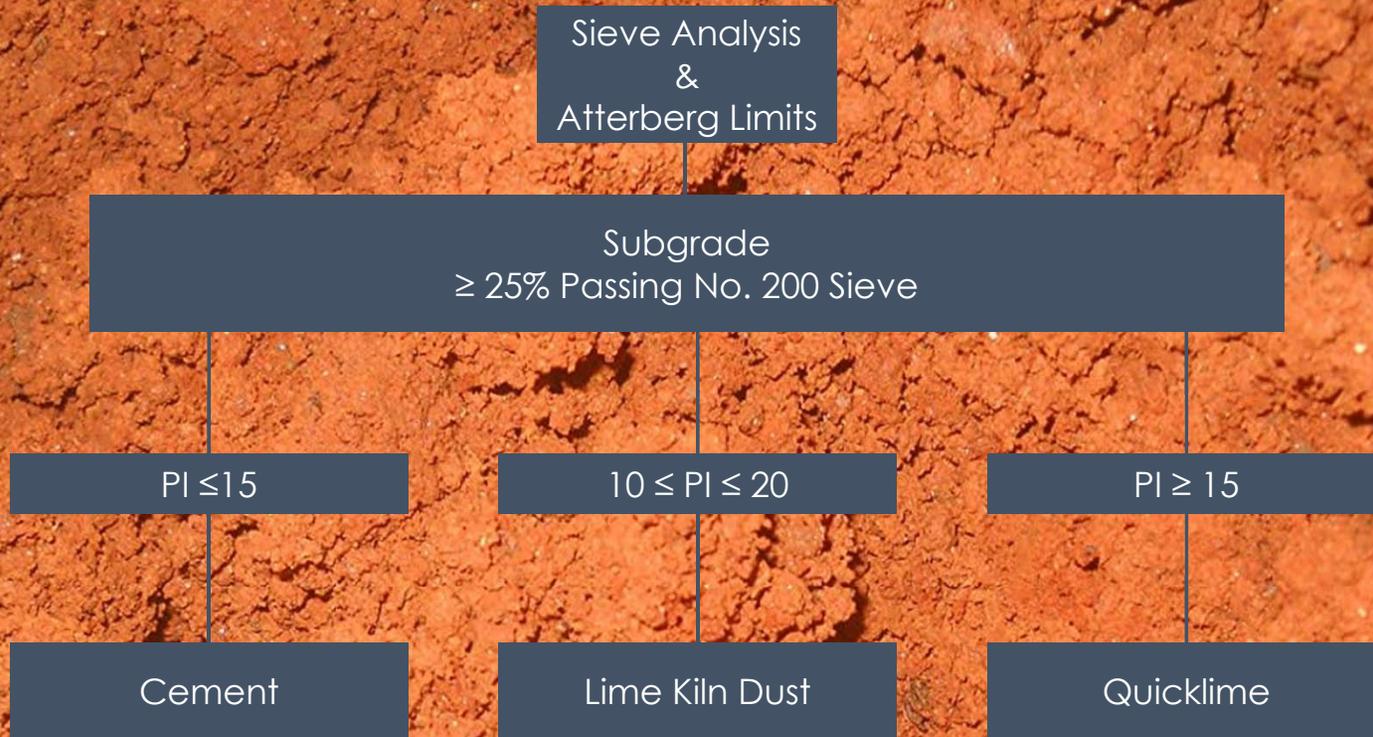
Before

Stabilize

- Hydration of cement forms CSH and CAH
- Increased strength and durability
- Lower absorption
- Reduced Freeze-thaw susceptibility



Generalized Additive Selection Guideline



Laboratory Evaluations for Lime Stabilization

1. pH Determination for Minimum Lime Content

- ASTM D 6276 (Eads – Grim Test)
- Min amount of lime to raise soil pH level to 12.4

2. Optimum Moisture Content

- ASTM D 698 (Standard Proctor Density)
- Generally increases with lime
- Mellow period

3. Unconfined Compressive Strength

- ASTM D 5102
- Minimum of 125 psi for most states
- Freeze-thaw durability



Laboratory Evaluations for Soil-cement

1. Optimum Moisture Content

- ASTM D 558 (~ASTM D698)
- Allows for reuse of material
- $\frac{3}{4}$ " material with 4" mold

2. Unconfined Compressive Strength

- ASTM D 1633
- Compressive strength varies by design

3. Freeze-Thaw testing

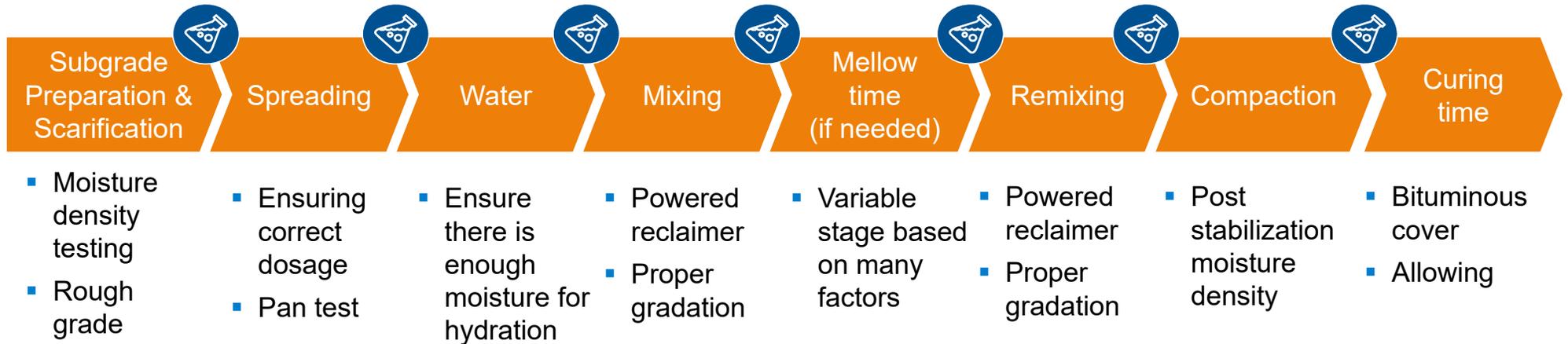
- ASTM D 560
- Compaction with D558
- Freeze-thaw durability



Stabilization field testing

General Requirements

Safety, treatment depth, temperature limitations, wind restrictions, etc.



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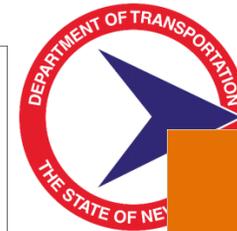
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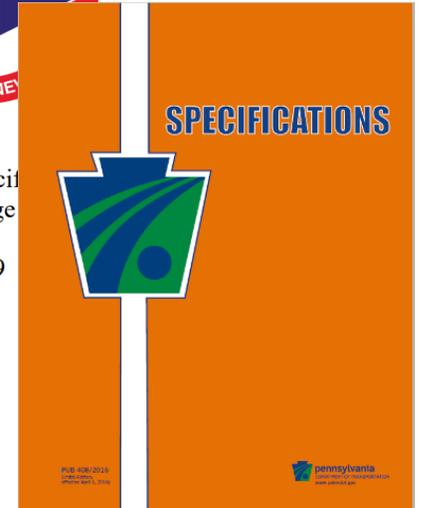


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Thank you

