



November 29, 2007

To: Roofing Asphalt Testing Laboratories

From: Mike Anderson  
Director of Research and Laboratory Services – Asphalt Institute

Re: Proficiency Sample Program for Roofing Asphalt

Starting in 2005, the Asphalt Institute began conducting a Proficiency Sample Program for Roofing Asphalts similar to the AASHTO Materials Reference Laboratory (AMRL) proficiency sample programs for paving asphalt binders. Approximately 20 labs have participated in each of the three Proficiency Sample Programs – with the most recent program completed in July 2007. If interested, you can view a sample report at [www.asphaltinstitute.org](http://www.asphaltinstitute.org) under the heading of “Roofing Technical Issues”.

Based on positive feedback from the participants, the Asphalt Institute is continuing the Proficiency Sample Program for Roofing Asphalts in 2007 with a second set of samples. Each participating lab will receive a set of two sample containers with testing and reporting instructions. Several common roofing asphalt tests may be conducted and reported including:

Softening Point	<i>ASTM D36, Test Method for Softening Point of Bitumen (Ring &amp; Ball Apparatus)</i>
Flash Point	<i>ASTM D92, Test Method for Flash and Fire Points by Cleveland Open Cup</i>
Penetration @ 0, 25, and 46°C (32, 77, and 115°F)	<i>ASTM D5, Test Method for Penetration of Bituminous Materials</i>
Ductility @ 25°C (77°F)	<i>ASTM D113, Test Method for Ductility of Bituminous Materials</i>
Rotational Viscosity @ 204°C (400°F)	<i>ASTM D4402, Test Method for Viscosity Determination of Asphalt at Elevated Temperatures Using a Rotational Viscometer</i>
Stain Index	<i>ASTM D2746, Test Method for Staining Tendency of Asphalt</i>

We understand that not all the tests may be conducted on each sample by the participating lab. However, we would ask that each lab conduct as many tests as possible to allow for a complete analysis of the data.

Participants will have approximately 4-6 weeks after receipt of the sample to complete testing and submit test results to the Asphalt Institute for analysis. After the closing date (shown on the Results Form), all data will be analyzed and a summary report will be submitted to each participant showing their individual lab results and a comparison with the rest of the labs. Since the proficiency program does not involve accreditation, it will be the participating lab's decision how to address test results that are more than two standard deviations from the mean.

To enroll in the Proficiency Sample Program for Roofing Asphalts for the December 2007 samples, please fill out the enclosed form for each participating lab (i.e., one form per set of samples) and return it to the Asphalt Institute by **December 31, 2007**. Alternatively, labs that participated in the most recent program can simply send an e-mail indicating their interest in the December 2007 program and noting any changes in billing or shipping information. Samples should be distributed in January 2008.

Please feel free to contact me (859-288-4984 or [manderson@asphaltinstitute.org](mailto:manderson@asphaltinstitute.org)) if you have any questions. Thanks for your continued interest in this program!

# Roofing Asphalt Proficiency Program Request Form

**RETURN TO:**

Mike Anderson  
Director of Research and Lab Services  
Asphalt Institute  
2696 Research Park Drive  
Lexington, KY 40511

Email: manderson@asphaltinstitute.org  
Phone: 859.288.4984  
Fax: 859.288.4999  
Web: www.asphaltinstitute.org

We would like to participate in the roofing asphalt proficiency sample program:

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Billing Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Cost:** **\$270.00**

**Payment:**

Please Bill Us:   
Check Enclosed\*:  \*Payable to "Asphalt Institute"  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  Visa  American Express  Discover

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CARD ACCOUNT NUMBER

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EXPIRATION DATE

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

