Determining the Bar Linear Shrinkage of Soils

## $\therefore$ : <br> Why

To determine the shrinkage of soil in a linear dimension with water content equal to or more than the liquid limit (LL) of the designated soil.

## Wh When

When specification requires or liquid limit (Tex-$104-E$ ) is not able to be obtained.

- Specification 132
- Special Spec. 3080
- Specification 247
- Special Spec. 3081
- Special Spec. 3082
- Special Spec. 3076
- Special Spec. 3077


## How

## Equipment

- Porcelain mixing dish
- Grooving tool
- Straight edge
- Scale
- Bar linear shrinkage mold $0.75 \times 0.75 \times 5.0 \mathrm{in}$.
- Oven maintaining $230 \pm 9^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$
- Number 20 scale (optional)



## Preparing Sample

- Use material remaining from Tex-104-E.
- If there is not enough material from Tex-104-E, mix in water to the consistency outlined in Tex-107-E


## Procedure

- Get enough material into the mixing dish to fill the mold.
- Mix in water uniformly.
- Check the sample is properly mixed by:
- Smoothing the material in the bottom of the dish at a depth of 0.5 in .
- Strike a groove in the material if the material immediately closes on its own accord at the bottom of the dish.
- Grease with petroleum jelly the slots of shrinkage mold that are going to be used for testing.
- Pour in a small portion of prepared material and gently tap the mold on the table/counter to remove the entrapped air, repeat until mold is full.
- Remove the excess material from the top of the mold using the straightedge.
- Let the sample air dry in the mold until a slight color change.
- Place in an oven at $230 \pm 9^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ and dry to constant mass.
- Remove from oven let cool to room temperature and measure using the 20 scale or measuring device.



## QUICK FACTS: SB 101 DRAFT

## Action

- Calculations
- If measured in inches:
- LS = 100X (LW - LD) $\div$ LW
- LW = length of the wet soil bar, (5 in.)
- LD = length of the dry soil bar, (in.)
- If measured in percent:
- LS = LW - LD
- LW = length of the wet soil bar, $100 \%$
- LD = length of the dry soil bar, \%.
- Report to the nearest whole number

