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# Soils & Masonry Testing



Joseph Ridgway, PE
Laboratory Manager

### AGENDA - SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

- Soils
  - \* Geotechnical Reports
  - \* Soil Classification
  - Proof rolling & Compaction
- Masonry
  - \* Material Testing

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## **GEOTECHNICAL REPORT**

GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
VINELAND FIRE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING
NORTHWEST BOULEVARD AND EAST PLUM STREET
CITY OF VINELAND



Importance

 Essential Information about the physical and mechanical properties of the soil and rock at the project site.

- Submitted To: New Road Construction Managemen Mr. Bruce Farrell, Project Executive 1876 Greentree Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
- Mwset Aver.

  Murat Arkan, PE
  Senior Geotechnical Engineer
- Contents:
  - Summary of Geologic Conditions
  - Proposed construction
  - Field and Lab work performed in analysis
  - Site conditions

- Subsurface Stratigraphy
- Analysis and Recommendations
- Earthwork
- Proposed foundation systems and design parameters
- Boring Logs

### **GEOTECHNICAL REPORT**

- Key Items within Geotechnical Reports
  - Preparations of subgrade
  - \* Re-use of onsite soils
  - Imported Fill Materials
  - Bearing Stratum Identification
  - Boring Logs
  - Compaction Control Requirements
  - Ground water elevations

### 5.2. EARTHWORK

As mentioned earlier, it is anticipated that the ground floor slab level of the proposed Fire HQ Building will range between Elev. 103.5 and 106.5, moderately higher than the existing grades. Therefore, up to 5 ft new fill will be necessary to attain the ground floor slab subgrade level in portions of the proposed building area, <a href="except">except</a> in the central portion of the existing building, where approximately 8 to 9 ft thick new fill will be required to fill the basement volume.

Initially, the existing building which partially occupies the area of proposed Fire HQ Building will be demolished. After the existing structure is razed, the foundations and floor slab concrete of the existing building, basement slab and walls, including all existing pavements, concrete walks, vegetation, topsoil, etc., should be completely removed from the area of proposed construction. In addition, any existing underground utilities should also be removed from the area of the proposed building. Underground utilities to be abandoned may be left in place provided that they are completely filled with concrete grout and that they do not conflict with the new foundations of the proposed Building.

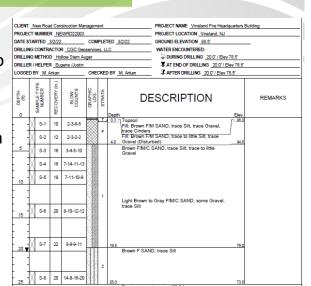
After the above operations, the exposed subgrades, including in the area of the previously existing basement, should be densified with a heavy vibratory roller, such as a Dynapac CA-25, or equal, to detect and repair loose areas. During densification, any unstable area found should be stabilized by excavating and replacing those soils with suitable soil (adequately compacted, see below), by lowering the moisture content of the subgrade soils and compacting them, or by other methods (placing a geotextile and stone layer, etc.).

Our experience and laboratory test results indicate that the on-site, existing near surface soils can be reused in compacted load bearing fills. Laboratory testing indicates that the near surface soils of Stratum 1 consist of sands with varying amounts of silt and gravel. Laboratory test results also indicate that the present moisture content (8% to 9%) of these soils appears to be within the optimum moisture content normally associated with these soils to achieve desired degree of compaction. Adjusting the moisture contents of these on-site soils before use in any compacted fills and/or subgrade preparation should be expected. Proper compaction equipment and placing soil in thinner layers should be considered when preparing earthwork schedules.

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# SOIL CLASSIFICATION

- Importance
  - Knowledge of material and ability to work with material
  - \* Ability to verify material
  - Ability to apply laboratory data with field data



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SOIL CLASSIFICATION Gradation and Atterberg Limits LIQUID AND PLASTIC LIMITS TEST REPORT \* Gradation - Particle size distribution Atterberg Limits – defining the boundaries between the soil consistency with moisture \* Solid - Semi-Solid - Plastic - Liquid Particle Sizes: Boulders Greater than 12 inches Cobbles 3 inches to 12 inches Gravel - Coarse 3/4 inches to 3 inches - Fine No. 4 sieve/ 3/16 inches to 3/4 inches No. 10 sieve to No. 4 sieve - Coarse - Medium No. 40 sieve to No. 10 sieve No. 200 sieve to No. 40 sieve - Fine Silt .005 mm to No. 200 sieve Less than .005 mm Clay

### **BEARING CAPACITY**

- Visual verification of subgrade below excavation (shallow foundation)
  - \* Identify the type of soil and stratum for the subgrade is required in the Geotechnical Report
  - \* Does not mean a verification of compaction or actual bearing capacity
- If no Geotechnical Report is provided, additional testing/verification is needed
  - Dynamic Cone Penetration Test (DCPT)
  - Boring or Test Pits
  - Bearing Plate Testing





# **COMPACTION**

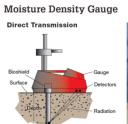
- Proof Rolling is performed on building pad after the excavation to the designated stratum identified in the geotechnical report
- Process includes
  - Excavation of existing soil material to designated stratum
  - Compacting the existing material with large rollers (specified in geotechnical report)
  - \* Fully loaded tri-axle dump trucks drives over prepared areas
  - Observation of the soil reaction beneath the tires
    - Looking for signs of instability, rutting, pumping
  - Deficient areas are excavated and replaced with suitable material per the Geotechnical report



### **COMPACTION**

- Nuclear Density Gauge is most frequently used tool for compaction control
- Nuclear density gauge requires the fill materials maximum density and optimum moisture content (Lab provided values)
- Verification of fill material is applicable to the provided lab values
- After compaction, the probe is entered into the ground and calculates the moisture content and density
- The compaction values (expressed as percentage) are compared to project specification or geotechnical report requirements.
- Prior to nuclear gauge density testing the soil is visually verified for acceptance (firm, stable, proper stratum/fill material)







Source: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC

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## **COMPACTION - LABORATORY TESTING**

- Moisture-Density Relationship (Proctor)
  - \* Modified (ASTM D1557)
  - \*Standard (ASTM D698)
  - \*Type of proctor based on compaction efforts

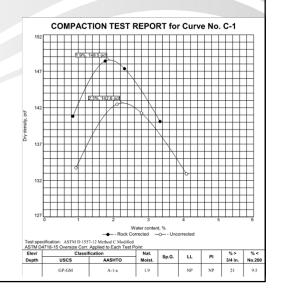




Courtesy of https://www.constructionequipment.com/

### **COMPACTION - LABORATORY TESTING**

- The proctor curve describes the moisture density relationship under certain compaction efforts
- Graph is parabolic
  - Modified higher density / lower moisture
- Shape of parabolic curve is dependent on the type of soils
  - Sharper curve silty and clayey soils
  - \* Flat curve granular



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## **MASONRY**

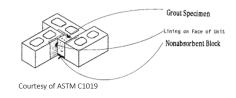
- Material Qualification Testing
  - Components of Masonry Testing
- Concrete Masonry Unit (ASTM C90)
  - Compression, Absorption, & Density (ASTM C140)





## **MASONRY**

- Mortar (ASTM C780)
  - Consistency, Air Content, Compression, & Splitting Tensile
- Grout (ASTM C1019)
  - Consistency,Temperature, &Compressive strength



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## **MASONRY**

- Masonry Prism (ASTM C1314)
  - \* Compressive strength







# **Q**UESTIONS

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