ASPHALT INSTITUTE

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

        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) if you have any questions. Thanks for your continued interest in this program!

asphalt institute

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 _____

_____

_____

Billing Address _____

_____

_____

Cost: **$270.00**

Payment:

Please Bill Us: ❏

Check Enclosed*: ❏ ***Payable to "Asphalt Institute"**

Credit Card: ❏ MasterCard ❏ Visa ❏ American Express ❏ Discover

☐☐☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐ – ☐☐☐☐
CARD ACCOUNT NUMBER

☐☐ – ☐☐
EXPIRATION DATE

Name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

ASPHALT INSTITUTE

Roofing Asphalt Proficiency Program