Technical Bulletin
Prepared jointly by the Manitoba Association of Architects and the Winnipeg Construction Association, and intended as guidelines to increase awareness of recommended industry practices.

Technical Bulletin #14

Subject: Tests and Inspections

In order to promote uniformity in methods of providing for tests and inspections, costs of which are ultimately borne by the Owner in one way or another, the following procedure is suggested:

Testing and inspection authorities may be employed by, and their charges invoiced directly to the Owner. Alternatively, a cash allowance should be provided within the contract, to cover the cost of itemized tests and inspections, commissioned by the Owner/Architect and administered by the Contractor. The cost of any special procedure not so itemized will become an increase in the contract sum, subject to the contract provisions for changes in the work. Testing requirements, administrative procedures, and cash allowances must be clearly identified in the contract documents, preferably in Division 1 of the specifications.

Independent Tests & Inspections may include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Aggregate analysis
- Soils & granular materials – Compaction testing
- Piling drilling & driving inspections
- Pile loading tests
- Welding inspection & testing
- Membrane waterproofing inspection
- Roof testing & Inspection
- Thermal testing (windows)
- Paint mil thickness test
- Mechanical system testing & balancing
- Soils & granular analysis
- Concrete mix designs
- Concrete strength tests
- Mortar strength tests
- Load testing for generators and pumps
- Medical gas tests
- Environmental Inspections (mould, asbestos, contaminated soils)
- Fire alarm verification

Testing and Inspection authorities for all such procedures shall be subject to the approval of the Architect or Engineer.