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### Sampling and Shipment of Concrete, FTB or Grout samples for Thermal Analysis

- **ALL** samples should be taken in 3"x6" or 4"x8" test moulds.
- If these are for pre-approval, a set of 3 samples is required. Please include a copy of the mix design and thermal specifications.
- If these samples are for Q/A (quality assurance test program), a set of 2-3 should be taken at each station.
- **All samples should be marked with the date the samples were cast, station number or Mix ID, type of material (FTB, Grout or Concrete), etc.**
- The samples can be shipped after 24-36 hours of curing period. Please cap and duct-tape the sample moulds to prevent loss of moisture and to minimize disturbance during transportation.
- Samples should be wrapped and taped in bubble wrap; shipped in cardboard box or 5-gallon bucket with proper packaging material to minimize disturbance.
- Include a chain of custody form (see below) with each set of samples in a ziploc bag.
- Send all samples via **FedEx** or **UPS** overnight service (or 2<sup>nd</sup> day air service).
- Email the tracking number to [info@geothermusa.com](mailto:info@geothermusa.com) and [lab@geothermusa.com](mailto:lab@geothermusa.com)
- Please contact us if you have any questions or require further details.

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### Please ship samples to:

**GEO THERM USA**  
21239 FM529 Road, Bldg F  
Cypress, Texas 77433  
(281) 985-9344

COOL SOLUTIONS FOR UNDERGROUND POWER CABLES  
THERMAL SURVEYS, CORRECTIVE BACKFILLS & INSTRUMENTATION

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## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**What is the usual turnaround time on test results?**

- For 3"x6" test moulds, it takes about 7-10 calendar days depending on when we receive them
- For 4"x8" test moulds, it takes about 10-14 calendar days depending on when we receive them

**Are there any special instructions in taking samples and placement of the material into the test cylinders, for instance placement for test cylinders for compressive strength requires 3 lifts and rodding each lift a specific number of times?**

- Following the above instructions should provide the necessary information.
- The high strength and low strength materials have a slump and will self level and fill all the annular space. Vibration will actually segregate the materials

**Do the test cylinders have to set for specific length of time before shipping?**

- Low strength should sit for minimum 36 hours
- High strength should sit for minimum 24 hours
- You should cap and tape all cylinders with proper ID on the side of each sample

**Can our field personnel take the samples and make the cylinders, or do we need to have the testing company doing the compressive strength cylinders also make these cylinders?**

- Typically, a third-party contractor who performs strength testing will take the cylinders for thermal testing as well.

**Is there any special concerns or methods we should take when shipping the samples?**

- This is covered in the shipping/sampling instructions.
- Each sample should be bubble wrapped and ensure that the cap is taped on.

