

HEATEC BULLETIN

Product news from Heatec Inc., an Astec Company 5200 Wilson Road, Chattanooga, TN 37410 Phones 423-821-5200 800-235-5200



Heatec Helitank with sampling valve. Tank is used to heat and store either polymer asphalts or virgin asphalts.

Sampling valve facilitates more frequent AC samples

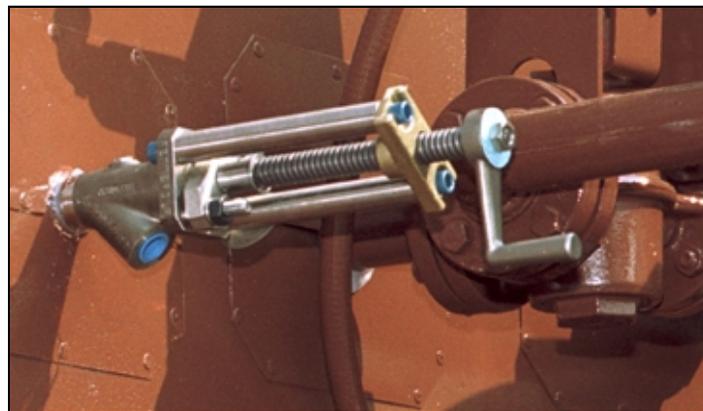
Many state DOTs now require closer monitoring of asphalt cements, especially when they include polymers. Thus, samples are taken more frequently from the asphalt storage tanks than in the past.

As a result, hot mix producers are paying more attention to the sampling provisions on their asphalt storage tanks. Many contractors are now ordering their new storage tanks with a special sampling valve. Sampling valves can also be retrofitted into old storage tanks. However, the tank must be drained before the installation is made.

Sampling valves have important advantages over other types of valves and are well worth their extra cost. They are designed specifically for sampling. Consequently, they virtually eliminate the hazards and difficulties associated with using other types of valves for that purpose.

Sampling valves are usually manually operated and feature a screw stem operated by a hand crank. They are virtually clog-free because of the way the valve is designed and mounted in the tank. (They do not need a hot oil jacket.) Moreover, they are leak-free when closed and provide free-flow when opened.

In a horizontal asphalt tank the valve is usually installed in one end, about 24 inches above the bottom. In a vertical asphalt tank it is installed in the side, about the same height above the bottom.



Sampling valve minimizes danger of getting burned by hot AC. Has stainless steel body and screw stem operated by hand crank. Discharge nozzle is 45 degrees to body and causes streamlined flow of AC with low pressure drop.

Gate valves and other types of valves don't always work well for sampling. They often clog and require use of a torch to heat them and their connections to get the material to flow.



HEATEC