



# Specific Gravity Flask

Specific gravity/absorption determinations for aggregate

**Phunque Flask Specific Gravity Flask,  
For fine aggregate— H-3383F  
For coarse aggregate— H-3383L**

The Phunque Flask is the key element in a newly developed method for conducting specific gravity/absorption determinations for aggregate. This method has been designed to eliminate the inherent guess work built into ASTM C128 and AASHTO T-84—the current cone and tamper methods in use today. The test is easy to perform, easy to understand and easily reproducible between technicians and labs; and is very easy to run reliably in the field. The test can be especially helpful in asphalt operations where specific gravities can make a big impact on pay factors. This test lets the contractor check specific gravities on the material he is currently using, and not rely on lab tests, which may not be current.

The test provides repeatable and consistent test results despite the use of different labs or technicians. It also enables the contractor and DOTs to begin to come to terms with the inherent problem of how much the aggregate from a given pit or source varies, both by location within the pit, and from different fundamental geological characteristics.

Additionally, the test allows specific gravities to be tracked, and a moving-average chart maintained. If found to be appropriate, the contractor would be able to calculate the volumetrics using a moving average approach for the aggregate actually being used instead of the highly variable value determined in a lab 6 months to a year earlier. This process, itself, could eliminate many penalties and/or claims.

The H-3388F is for fine aggregate and has a neck approximately 1" in diameter. The H-3388L is used for coarse aggregate and has a neck approximately 2" in diameter. The scale on both items is readable to 0.1 grams; Both include an excel calculation sheet and a swabbing utensil to keep the neck of the flask dry during loading.

