



GROUND TECHNOLOGY



Dynamic Cone Penetrometer

The DCP test uses hand held apparatus to drive a 20mm diameter, 60 degree cone into the ground using an 8kg hammer dropping through a height of 575mm. Readings are taken at increments of penetration of about 10mm. The results can be quickly correlated to CBR values using methods derived by the Transport Research Laboratory. Depths of up to 1.00m can be achieved using this method, and the results provide an indication of layer stiffness throughout the test depth. Layer stiffness estimates are more appropriate to pavement design than the CBR test.

The DCP can be used in combination with a series of shallow exploratory holes to obtain design CBR values for different strata within the first 1.00m of the soil profile.