

MOSTAP soil sampler

Sample diameters

The mostap sampler enables continuous undisturbed soil samples to be recovered at discrete depths at a test location. The available sample diameters are $\Phi 35\text{mm}$ and $\Phi 65\text{mm}$, with sample lengths of 1m, 1.5m and 2m.

Operation

A Mostap sampler consists of a cone plus a cutting mouth at the base connected to a sample tube complete with a lining stocking. This is connected to standard CPT rods and pushed using the hydraulic rams to the predetermined depth.

A fishing tool (ie a line with a hook) is lowered through the hollow rods to release the cone face. The apparatus is then pushed further to take the soil sample, while the released cone stays in the top part of the sample tube. Upon withdrawing the probe, the equipment is dismantled allowing the sample to be retrieved, including the 200mm section in the cutting head. Both of these are labelled to identify location and depth. The equipment is thoroughly cleaned, assembled and is ready for the next sample to be taken.



Specifications

$\Phi 35\text{mm}$: Pushed in using 36mm CPT rods; this is mainly used for visual identification purposes, plus confirmation of soil types and is not suitable for many geotechnical tests, but can be used for classification tests (PI, MC and PSD). It is also possible to perform pH, SO_4 tests and ICRCL contamination suites.

$\Phi 65\text{mm}$: Pushed in with 55mm CPT rods; this enables visual identification and the above mentioned contamination tests, plus the following laboratory tests: Moisture Content, Atterberg Limits, Bulk Density, Oedometer, UU, CIU and CAU.

Advantages

The main advantages of the MOSTAP sampling system are as follows:

- Samples can be collected at selected depths - no pre-drilling is required
- Samples are of high quality
- No soil arisings are generated - soil is either within the sample tube or pushed aside as the sampler is advanced
- The system is virtually self-sealed - minimal contact between the operator and the soil (excellent for preventing contamination of soil samples).
- Samples can be recovered from both loose-to-dense granular soils and very soft-to-very stiff cohesive soils.

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