



## **What is DIME?**

DIME is the acronym for Data Interchange for Materials Engineering. DIME is a web application developed by the California Department of Transportation, Materials Engineering & Testing Services (METS) to allow material testing laboratories the ability to easily submit sample information and test data to Caltrans' database via the internet.

## **Purpose**

In the near future, Caltrans' quality assurance specifications will require external laboratories submit test results to Caltrans via the internet. DIME was developed to facilitate this submission process. DIME will provide material testing laboratories an easy-to-use web application to upload data, view data, edit data and verify data. DIME is not meant to be used by external laboratories to store and manage test results. Each external laboratory should save and back up their own files locally.

## **Advantages**

DIME provides a number of advantages over manually submitting test results via email or parcel post. For instance, DIME checks if submitted data meets data requirements. If data requirements are not met, the data is not accepted. Secondly, data from multiple tests can be uploaded simultaneously by encoding the data in a properly formatted xml file. Thirdly, after data is submitted, a user with data-verifying privileges can verify the sample information and test results.

## **Uploading Data**

DIME provides two methods to submit test results: 'Manual Input' and 'XML Upload.' Manual Input means the user types in sample information and test data in a form on the DIME website and clicks a 'Submit' button when all required fields are filled out and valid. XML Upload means the user uploads a valid xml file containing sample information and test results. The data uploaded to DIME is private and not shared.

## **How Does a Company/Laboratory Sign up for DIME?**

To register for an account on DIME, an officer of the company must submit a written request on company letterhead for an account. This request should include the following information: name of company/laboratory, street address, e-mail address, password, and PE license number (if available). Requests should be sent to The Materials Administrator, Attn: DIME, 5900 Folsom Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95819-4612 MS 5. You will receive confirmation of your account within a week of receipt of your request.

## **Where Can I Find DIME?**

DIME can be accessed by visiting: [www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/Translab/DIME/index.php](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/Translab/DIME/index.php)

