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UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION AND SYMBOL CHART COARSE-GRAINED SOILS (more than 50% of material is larger than No. 200 sieve size.) Clean Gravels (Less than 5% fines) Well-graded gravels, gravel-sand GW mixtures, little or no fines **GRAVELS** More than 50% Poorly-graded gravels, gravel-sand GΡ mixtures, little or no fines of coarse fraction larger Gravels with fines (More than 12% fines) than No. 4 sieve size GM Silty gravels, gravel-sand-silt mixtures Clayey gravels, gravel-sand-clay GC mixtures Clean Sands (Less than 5% fines) Well-graded sands, gravelly sands, SW little or no fines **SANDS** Poorly graded sands, gravelly sands, 50% or more SP little or no fines of coarse fraction smaller Sands with fines (More than 12% fines) than No. 4 sieve size SM Silty sands, sand-silt mixtures SC Clayey sands, sand-clay mixtures FINE-GRAINED SOILS (50% or more of material is smaller than No. 200 sieve size.) Inorganic silts and very fine sands, rock ML flour, silty of clayey fine sands or clayey SILTS silts with slight plasticity AND Inorganic clays of low to medium **CLAYS** plasticity, gravelly clays, sandy clays, CL Liquid limit silty clays, lean clays less than 50% Organic silts and organic silty clays of OL low plasticity Inorganic silts, micaceous or diatomaceous fine sandy or silty soils, MH SILTS AND CLAYS Inorganic clays of high plasticity, fat CH Liquid limit clays 50% or greater Organic clays of medium to high OHplasticity, organic silts HIGHLY ORGANIC SOILS Peat and other highly organic soils

LABORATORY CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA		
GW	$C_u = \frac{D_{60}}{D_{10}}$ greater than 4; $C_c = \frac{D_{30}}{D_{10} \times D_{60}}$ between 1 and 3	
GP	Not meeting all gradation requirements for GW	
GM	Atterberg limits below "A" line or P.I. less than 4	Above "A" line with P.I. between 4 and 7 are borderline cases requiring use of dual symbols
GC	Atterberg limits above "A" line with P.I. greater than 7	
SW	$C_u = \frac{D_{60}}{D_{10}}$ greater than 4; $C_c = \frac{D_{30}}{D_{10} \times D_{60}}$ between 1 and 3	
SP	Not meeting all gradation requirements for GW	
SM	Atterberg limits below "A" line or P.I. less than 4	Limits plotting in shaded zone with P.I. between 4 and 7 are borderline cases requiring use of dual symbols.
sc	Atterberg limits above "A" line with P.I. greater than 7	

