

# EcoSmart™ Concrete Project a concrete contribution to the environment™

## EcoSmart Concrete Project And the Little Mountain Reservoir Case Study

Roy Sage, Climate Change Action Plan 2000  
Michel de Spot, P.Eng., EcoSmart™  
A.P. Sukumar, P.Eng., GVRD  
John Sherstobitoff, P.Eng., Sandwell Engineering  
Daniel St-Pierre, P.Eng., Lafarge  
Rob Karchewski, P.Eng., Graham Construction  
Phil Seabrook, P.Eng., Levelton Engineering

BC Construction Show  
Vancouver, February 25, 2004

## Climate Change Action Plan 2000

Roy Sage



Natural Resources  
Canada

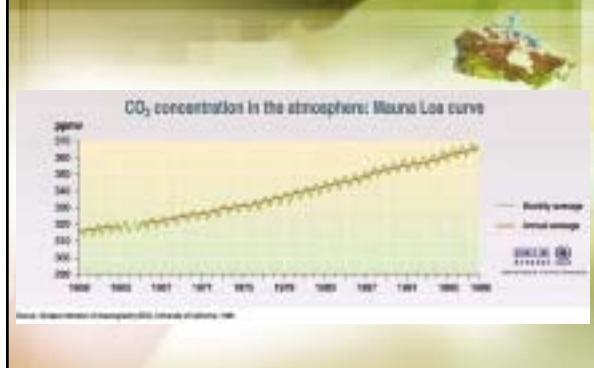
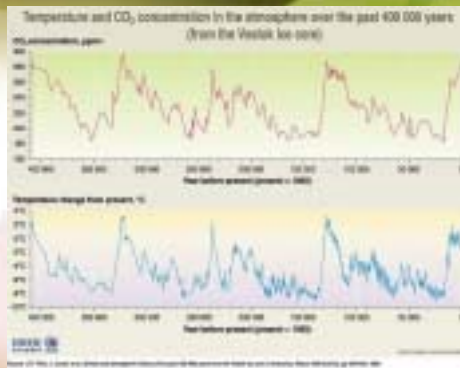
Ressources naturelles  
Canada

## Action Plan 2000 – Minerals and Metals Part of Canada's National Action Plan on Climate Change

Roy Sage  
Natural Resources Canada

## Is climate change real?

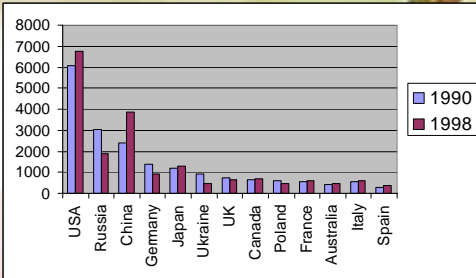
- There is a greenhouse gas effect
  - Water vapor
  - Carbon dioxide
  - Methane
  - PFCs, SF<sub>6</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>



## What is Canada's role?

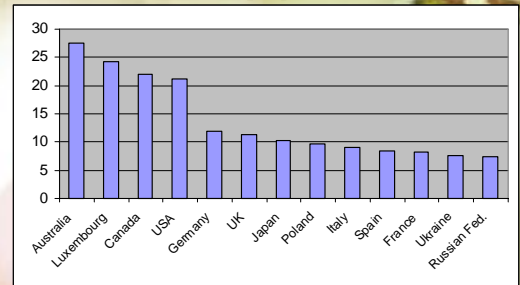
- **We are both a small and a large country**
  - Few people – 30 million, about 0.6% of global total
  - Very large land mass
- **Large GHG emitter**
  - About fifth or sixth in world (comparable to UK)
  - Third in terms of GHG per person

## GHG emissions (megatonnes CO<sub>2</sub>)



Source: Jean-Marc Jancovici, L'Avenir Climatique, 2003

## GHG emissions, tonnes per person, 1998

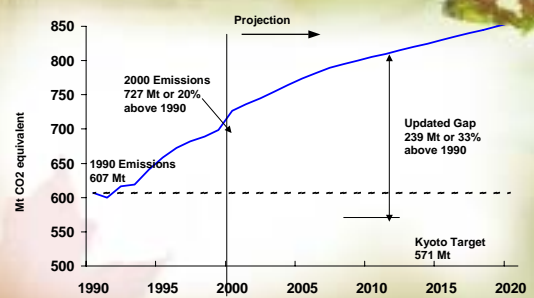


Source: Australia Institute 2001

## Canada's climate change action plan

- **Canada believes:**
  - the potential impact of human-induced climate change is serious and likely to be true
  - the global community should act now to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.
- **In consultation with provinces, municipalities, NGOs, industry, Canada has developed a multi-stage Action Plan**
  - Also ratified the Kyoto accord

## Updated GHG Emissions Projection and the Kyoto Target



## Cement

- Globally, cement manufacture accounts for release of more than 5% of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- In Canada, total emissions are about 12 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> per year
- Well-established that supplementary cementing materials – SCMs – can partially replace cement in many applications
  - Requires careful engineering and control
  - Around 10% of Canada's cement requirement is already met this way.

## Cement industry position

- Excellent acceptance that SCMs are important
  - Green buildings
  - Reduce associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - Used properly, result in higher quality concrete
- Can often reduce total cost of concrete



## Goal

- Action Plan 2002 believes use in Canada can increase to average 25%
  - Increase would displace about 1.8 million tonnes of cement per year
  - Would reduce GHG emissions by up to 1.5 million tpy
- AP 2000 has supported EcoSmart in western Canada
- Now looking to expand EcoSmart across Canada.

## EcoSmart Presentation

Michel de Spot, P.Eng.

## About EcoSmart

Climate Change  
Technological Innovation and Deployment  
Industry - Government Partnership  
Industry Canada, Environment Canada, CANMET, PWSC, GVRD  
Lafarge, Lehigh, CAC, Pre-cast industry  
Engineers, Architects

## EcoSmart Objectives

To minimize GHG "signature" of concrete by optimizing replacement of Portland cement with SCM while improving or maintaining

- Cost
- Performance
- Constructability

## The Strategy

Case studies  
SCM's\* investigations  
Risk abatement  
Knowledge management

\* Supplementary Cementing Material

## Case Studies

Maximum: Exploring the boundaries - 50%  
Optimum: Adapted mix design  
Average: One-fits-all, "Universal" mixes

### The Waterfall Studios



### Cranberry Commons Townhouse



### York University Computer Science Building



### Bayview High Rise Building



Element	Min. 28 Day Strength (MPa)	% Super Replacement (Concrete)	% Super Replacement (Concrete)	W/C Ratio
Foundation to 1st Floor	25	25	25	0.40
1st to 2nd Floor	25	25	25	0.40
2nd to 3rd Floor	25	25	25	0.40
3rd to 4th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
4th to 5th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
5th to 6th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
6th to 7th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
7th to 8th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
8th to 9th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
9th to 10th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
10th to 11th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
11th to 12th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
12th to 13th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
13th to 14th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
14th to 15th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
15th to 16th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
16th to 17th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
17th to 18th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
18th to 19th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
19th to 20th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
20th to 21st Floor	25	25	25	0.40
21st to 22nd Floor	25	25	25	0.40
22nd to 23rd Floor	25	25	25	0.40
23rd to 24th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
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25th to 26th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
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90th to 91st Floor	25	25	25	0.40
91st to 92nd Floor	25	25	25	0.40
92nd to 93rd Floor	25	25	25	0.40
93rd to 94th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
94th to 95th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
95th to 96th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
96th to 97th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
97th to 98th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
98th to 99th Floor	25	25	25	0.40
99th to 100th Floor	25	25	25	0.40



## High-Rise Study



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## Mountain Equipment Co-op Montreal



TerCem 3000

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## Brentwood SkyTrain Station



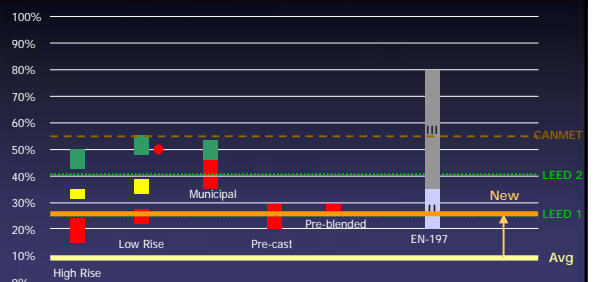
30% fly ash in pre-cast

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## How Much?



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## The Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction Case Study

– EcoSmart Concrete in Action

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## The Owner's Perspective

A.P. Sukumar, P.Eng.



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## SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION



GVRD's Sustainable Region Initiative:

A framework and action plan for the present and the future of Greater Vancouver..

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People

Partnership  
Partnering  
Public Consultation  
Impact Mitigation  
Communication

Environment

Recycling  
'Green' Construction  
Environmental Monitoring  
Tree Protection &  
Replanting

Resources

Safety & Reliability  
Optimization  
Minimum Life cycle Cost  
State of the art  
Long Term  
Multiple use

Integration of enhanced public safety, and reliability of infrastructure with recreation.

*Triple Bottom Line Balance*

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Little Mountain Reservoir Site  
Q.E. Park, Vancouver



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## LMRR Project in Brief

- 38.5 mil. gal. (175 mil. L) capacity
- More than 2 football fields in area
- Two independent reservoir cells
- Public Consultation & Openhouse 2001-2003, 2004
- Demolished in September 2002
- Critical Milestone (Cell #1) in June 2003
- Construction is now 99% complete
- Roof top Redevelopment in 2004 by VPB
- Budget: \$37.6 million.
- Project on Schedule, *within* budget
- EcoSmart Concrete +/- 27,000 Cu.m
- Concrete with 40 to 58% Fly Ash

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**Demolition & Recycling**

- On-site separation of concrete and steel
- Concrete sent to plants making concrete lock blocks
- Rebar sent to a recycling plant

Concrete Crusher on site

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**LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION in Progress**  
July 2003

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**Roof slab and columns**

**Reservoir walls**

High Quality Concrete (27,000 (+/-) Cu.m) Finish Using EcoSmart™ Concrete  
Prevented 3700 (+/-) Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

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**Integration**

- Public safety
- Reliability
- Communication
- Environmental Stewardship
- Resource Optimization
- Innovative Technologies
- Public Engagement
- Partnership
- Multiple Use

**Continuous Improvement**


**In Summary....**

*Project - Infrastructure Renewal  
Mission- Sustainable Development  
Strategy- Sustainability in Action  
Partners - Public  
Project Team- Stewards  
Result - A Sustainable Facility*

**LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION**  
**APEGBC Sustainability 2003 Award Winning Project**

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**LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR, Q.E. Park, 1910**  
Photo taken in 1940

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**LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR, Q.E. Park, 1966**

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
August 2002

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
September 2002

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
October 2002

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
January 2003

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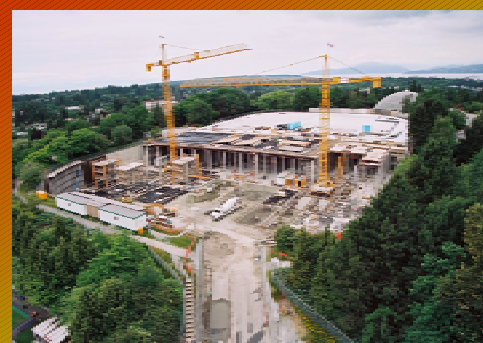
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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
May 2003

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
June 2003

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
July 2003

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
September 2003

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
October 2003

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LITTLE MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR RECONSTRUCTION  
November 2003

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## The Designer's Perspective

John Sherstobitoff, P.Eng.

**Sandwell**

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## Structural Concept

- Monolithic Base Slab, Walls & Roof
  - No expansion joints
  - Advantages
    - Efficiently resist high seismic demands
    - Eliminate high maintenance movement joints

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## Design Issues

- Challenge: Control **temperature and shrinkage** effects
- Uncontrolled Cracks = Leakage and loss of durability

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## Mitigate Shrinkage Effects

- Optimize concrete mix design
  - EcoSmart concrete (plus Shrinkage Reducing Admixtures in base slab)
- Establish construction procedures
  - Curing & temperature controls

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## Concrete Performance Requirements

- Long term durability
- Low permeability
- Strength without undue impact on schedule
- Placeability
- Limit all cracks to < 0.2mm (but still anticipate significant crack injection)

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## Previous Experience

- Good performance using EcoSmart concrete on massive pour for TG foundation
- Significant reduced heat of hydration
- Minimal cost/schedule impact

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## Design Procedures

- Retain materials specialist intimately familiar with performance and project
- Ensure formwork feasible for full height pours (9m to 13m)
- Detailed concrete specifications
- QA/QC specifications

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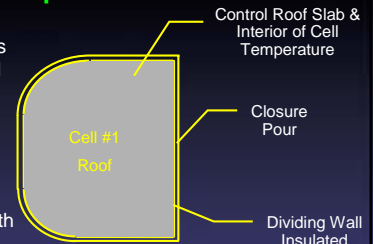
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## Construction Sequence

- Base Slab and Walls cast in checkerboard fashion
- Roof slab cast independent of walls with closure pour at perimeter
- Closure pour cast with roof temperature controlled



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## Concrete Mixtures

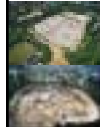
- 2 sets of Concrete Mixtures were designed to address the winter/spring pour on Cell 1 and the Summer/Fall pour on Cell 2.
- Shrinkage Reducing Admixtures were used on the project and tested in accordance with ASTM C157 as per the Project Concrete Specification.
- The Specification required much higher Flyash percentage than what is normally used in the GVA. The determination and firm effort from all parties (GVRD, Design Engineer and QA Engineer) to maintain the Flyash percentages paid off for a successful completion of the project.

LLMR Project – Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction



## Flyash Content

- The weighted average overall Flyash content on the project for all mix designs used on the project is slightly over 44 % for a total volume of concrete exceeding 27,000 m<sup>3</sup>.
- Concrete strengths were designed at 56 days.



LLMR Project – Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction



## Pre Pour Meeting – Highly Recommended

- Numerous Pre Pour Meetings took place between Graham, GVRD, Lafarge, Levelton, Sandwell & Metro Testing at the beginning and throughout the project. The key groups are as follows:
  - Supplier.
  - Superintendent & forming crew.
  - Concrete placement crew.
  - Pumping contractor.
  - Engineer / Architect.
  - Testing lab.

LLMR Project – Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction



## Concrete Testing

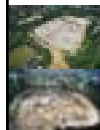
- Lafarge did internal QA testing on site to complement the main QC testing conducted by Metro Testing and to maintain the Mix Quality.

### Concrete Strength Summary at 56 days

	Slab Concrete	Wall Concrete
No. of Test Sets	65	49
Max. MPa	60.7	59.3
Min. MPa	40.2	35.3
Standard Deviation, MPa	4.1	4.8
Coefficient of Variation, %	9.9	13.1
ACI 214 Uniformity Rating, based on Coefficient of Variation	Very good	Good

(Extract from Sukumar, Seabrook, Sherstobitoff and Huber's paper for 8<sup>th</sup> CANMET / ACI International Conference on FA, SF, Slag and Natural Pozzolan in concrete)

LLMR Project – Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction



## Challenges

- High Flyash content for concrete mix design placed during winter conditions.
- Demands for water addition to the concrete mixes.
- Time constraint for research & testing on mix designs prior to the start of the project.
- Communication on any project is a team effort.
- Constructability.

LLMR Project – Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction



## Communication

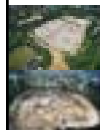
Proper **communication** helps to ensure that **surprises** are not an option.

- Discuss your expectations.
- Insist on a trial pour.
- Good upfront communication was a key on this project.
- There was no finger pointing.

# Thank You!



LLMR Project – Little Mountain Reservoir Reconstruction



## The Contractor's Perspective

Rob Karchewski, P.Eng.

**GRAHAM**

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## Overview

- 27000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete poured on this project
- Fly ash ranged from 40 to 58%
- Concrete was poured from October 2002 through to October 2003
- High fly ash concrete behaved differently as seasons and temperature changed
- Mix design generally coarse in nature to aid in the reduction of plastic shrinkage

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## Slab on Grade

- 6300 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete in the base slab
- 3% air and at least 40% fly ash
- Slabs were placed using a combination of pump and/or crane and bucket
- Pumped okay over short distances
- Concrete would tend to pile but would flow easily when vibrated
- Could not place at the specified 70 +/- 20mm. May have been partly due to the coarseness of the mix
- Added a minimum of ½ l/m<sup>3</sup> of plasticizer to get to an acceptable slump

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## Slab on Grade

- Very slow set times in winter months
- Pour in late afternoon – Finish the next morning
- Set times in summer months much quicker but slower than non fly ash mixes
- Trowel finish required
- Bleed water was minimal
- Had to fog mist surface to prevent tearing during initial float
- Seemed to have good paste and finished easily after the initial floating operation

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## Structural Slab

- 6800 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete poured in the structural roof slab
- 5% air and at least 45% fly ash
- Difficult to line pump over 60-70m – Again may be mostly due to coarseness of the mix
- Added plasticizer up to 1 l/m<sup>3</sup>
- Same type of placing characteristic as the slab on grade
- Float finish required
- Set times not a factor due to the float finish
- Had sufficient strength gain to strip false work after 6 days

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## Walls

- 5800m<sup>3</sup> with at least 40% fly ash
- Reservoir walls - 30 feet high
- Valve chamber - 40 feet high
- 158,000 sf of wall formwork
- Formwork designed for 1000 psf with a pour rate of 6'/hr
- Rebar – 25m at approximately 75mm O.C. each way

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## Walls

- Concrete was placed using crane and bucket
- Specifications dictated that walls must be poured continuously full height at a 150mm slump
- Used plasticizer to bring slump to 150mm for the first wall pour only
- Remaining pours were placed at 40-60mm slump
- Lower slump preferred to try to accelerate initial set times
- Concrete flowed well when consolidated – No honeycomb

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## Walls

- Achieved an average pour rate of approximately 4'/hr adding 2 ½ hours or 50% more time to the wall pours in cold weather
- In cooler weather, had to hoard the wall and introduce heat to accelerate initial set.
- Achieved the design pour rate of 6'/hr during summer months
- Wall reasonably easy to finish – Fewer air pockets

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## Summary - Slabs

- Had to plasticize this mix to aid in placing
- Slow set times equate to higher finishing costs in cool weather
- Alternate finishing techniques required to float surface (i.e. fog misting surface to prevent tearing)
- Finish very well after initial floating operation

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## Summary - Walls

- Lower slumps flow well when consolidated
- Slower set times equate to higher placing costs in cool weather
- Initial set times acceptable in warmer temperatures
- Good finish on end product – Less air pockets
- Minimal shrinkage cracks in end product

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## The Materials Engineer's Perspective

Phil Seabrook, P.Eng.



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## Specification for EcoSmart Concrete

Property	Element									
	Base Slab & Footings		Columns and Walls		Roof Slab		Topping		Lean Conc.	
	Cell 1	Cell 2	Cell 1	Cell 2	Cell 1	Cell 2	Pavement	Pavement	Cell 1&2	
<b>Mixture Proportions</b>										
Class of Exposure	N	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2	F1	C1	N	
Maximum Aggregate, mm	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	28	
Minimum Mass of Coarse Aggregate, % total aggregate	60	62	60	60	60	60	58	58	-	
Fly Ash, Minimum % of cementing materials	30	35	35	45	30	40	25	15	50	
Maximum Water/Cementing Materials	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.40	-	
<b>Admixtures</b>										
Superplasticizer	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N		
Shrinkage reducing	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N		
<b>Plastic Concrete</b>										
Slump, before / after S/P, mm	70	60 // 180	70	70	70	70	70	150		
Air, % ± 1	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		
<b>Compressive Strength, MPa</b>										
Form Strip (in situ)	N/A	15	25	25	25	25	N/A	N/A	N/A	
28 days							35	40		
56 days	35	35	35	35	35	35			10/20***	

\* Cell 1 = winter construction; Cell 2 = summer construction

ECOSMART CONCRETE

A Concrete Contribution to the Environment

Canada



## How Concrete Design Principles Were Achieved

Design Principle	Specification	Achieved
<b>Durability</b>	<b>(100-year Service Life)</b>	
Freeze-thaw + deicing salts	Air entrainment @ 6%	Adequate hardened air voids
	Reduce FA	Improve scaling resistance
Fresh water leaching	Low W/CM (< 0.45)	Actual < 0.40
	FA replace cement	> 35% typical
Impermeability	Low W/CM (< 0.45)	RCP < 1200 Coulombs
	FA replace cement	Absorption < 6%
Rebar corrosion resistance	Low W/CM (< 0.45)	Resistivity > 15,000 ohm-cm
	FA replace cement	
Compressive Strength	> 35 MPa @ 56 days	> 41 MPa @ 56 days

## How Concrete Design Principles Were Achieved

Design Principle	Specification	Achieved
<b>Minimize Cracks</b>		
Walls	Min. stone content	> 60% stone
	Low W/CM (< 0.45)	< 0.40
	Design @ 0.045% shrinkage	Few cracks > 0.2 mm
		Shrinkage 0.04 – 0.05%
Slabs	Reduce heat by high FA	Max. temp. < 35°C
	Require < 0.03% by SRA	Approx. 0.03%

## How Concrete Design Principles Were Achieved

Design Principle	Specification	Achieved
<b>Constructability</b>		
Pumpability	FA > 35%	Excellent
Placeability in 10 m high walls	FA > 35%	Minor honeycomb
	Superplasticizer to 180 mm slump	
Void-free formed surfaces	FA > 35%	Excellent – largely free of bug holes
Trowelability	Reduce FA	Slow setting
Minimize control joints	Reduce shrinkage as above	Little cracking
Cold weather – slow setting	Reduce min. FA content	Reduce rate of pour to control form pressure

## Thank You

Please visit us at

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Information?

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