

Role of admixtures in concrete durability

Saudi Concrete Conference, May 2016 David Bowerman, RBSM AS & CA, ORA



Presentation objective

To demonstrate how admixture technology can improve the quality of concrete to construct more sustainable structures









Durable concrete?

- » Low water/cement ratio
- Supplementary cementitious materials
- >> Dense reinforcement?
- > Able to pump?
- > Able to place?
- > Able to finish?



Durable Concrete?



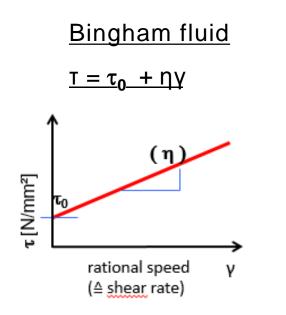




Rheology of Concrete

- Rheology defines the flow and intrinsic behavior of materials (from Greek rhéo, "flow" and -logia, "study of")
- * "Rheology retention" expresses the ability to maintain these properties over an extented time.
- >> Scientifically the rheology of the concrete is measured using a rheometer

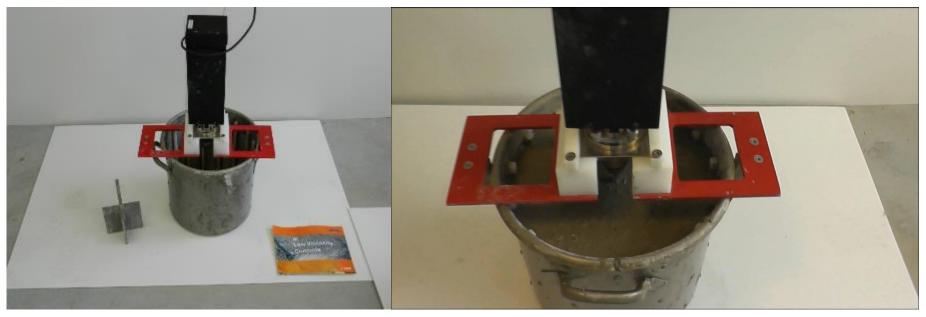




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•	Intrinsic characteristics			
	ł	τ_0 : yield point; minimum shear stress to initiate the flow		
	•	η : plastic viscosity; slope of the shear stress curve vs. shear rate		
		τ : Yield stress		
	•	γ: shear rate		

Evaluation of rheology

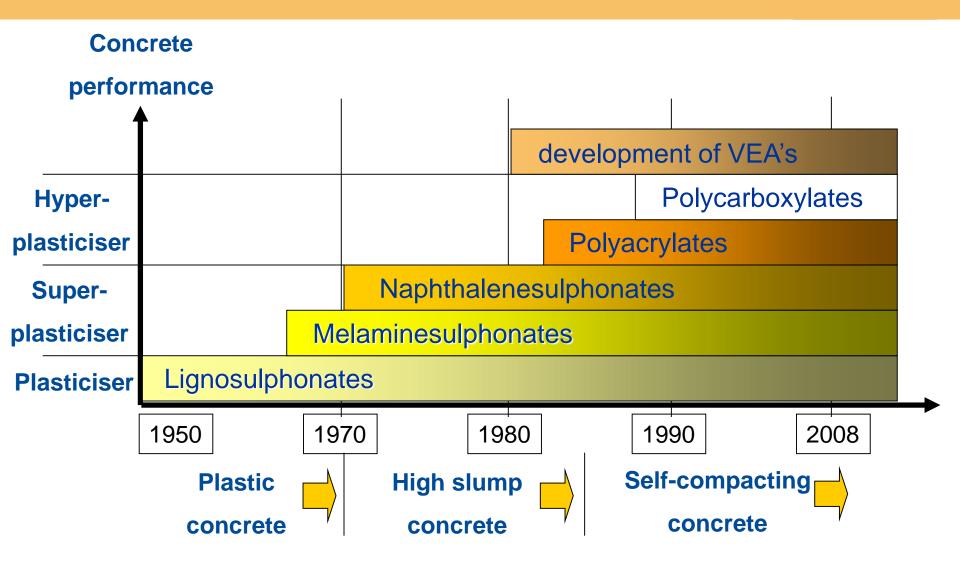
ICAR rheometer



Measuring intrinsic characteristics

- τ_0 : yield point; minimum shear stress to initiate the flow
- **n** : plastic viscosity; slope of the shear stress curve vs. shear rate

Next generation polymers

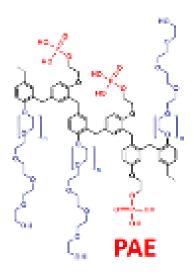


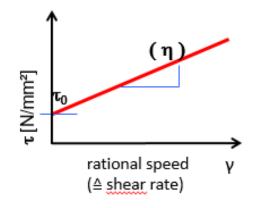
Poly Aryl Ether (PAE)

First new superplasticiser technology for 20 years

Patented technology

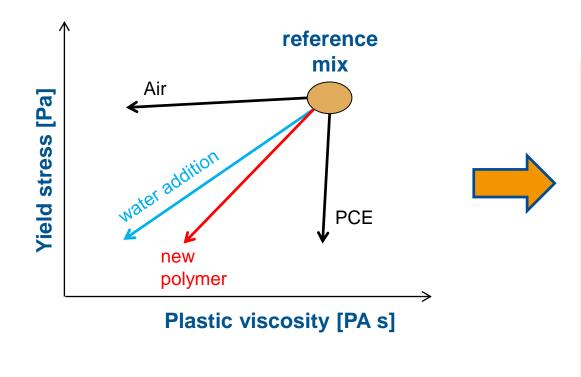
>> Much less sticky than any PCE (improved rheology)

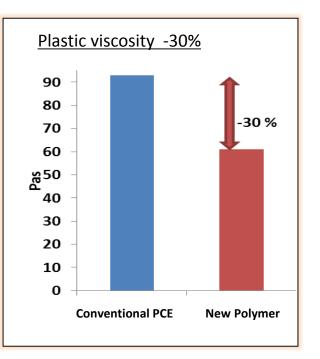




Performance objectives for new polymer

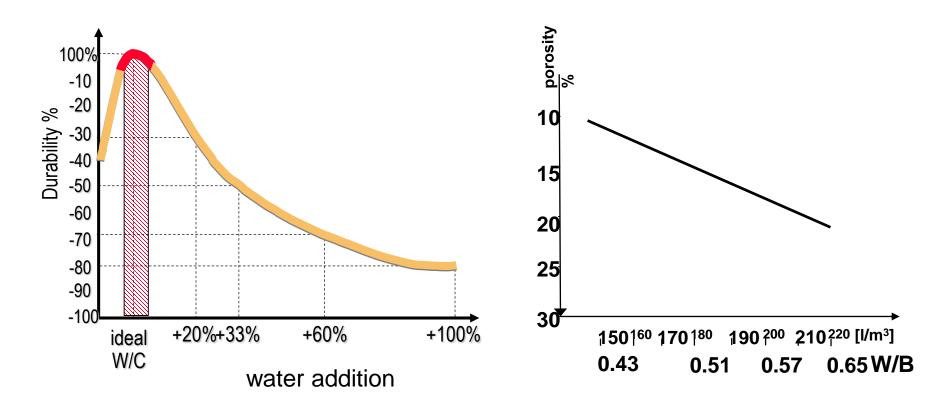
Maintain all the advantages of PCE technology: water reduction, workability retention, early strength, ... Sharply decreases the yield stress and plastic viscosity of concrete





Water is good for rheology but....

An increase in the dosage of water will have a direct impact on the mechanical performance There is a directly affect on the porosity



Performance optimisation

Objectives:

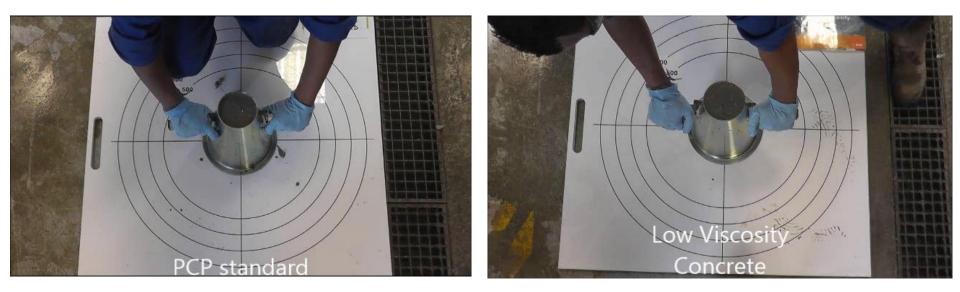
- Possibility to reduce the w/c ratio without affecting the viscosity of concrete
- Ensure maintenance of handling and maintaining low viscosity over the entire time of delivery and placement ("rheology retention")
- Mix design optimisations without compromising on rheology: Higher SCM usage and/or reduced cement. Use of challenging aggregates.
- Improved concrete surfaces

Whilst at the same time improving:

- The robustness of concrete
- Durability of concrete (strength, shrinkage, porosity, etc)



Low viscosity concrete utilising PAE



Same mix design; same slump/flow

Only difference is admixture

Low viscosity concrete utilising PAE



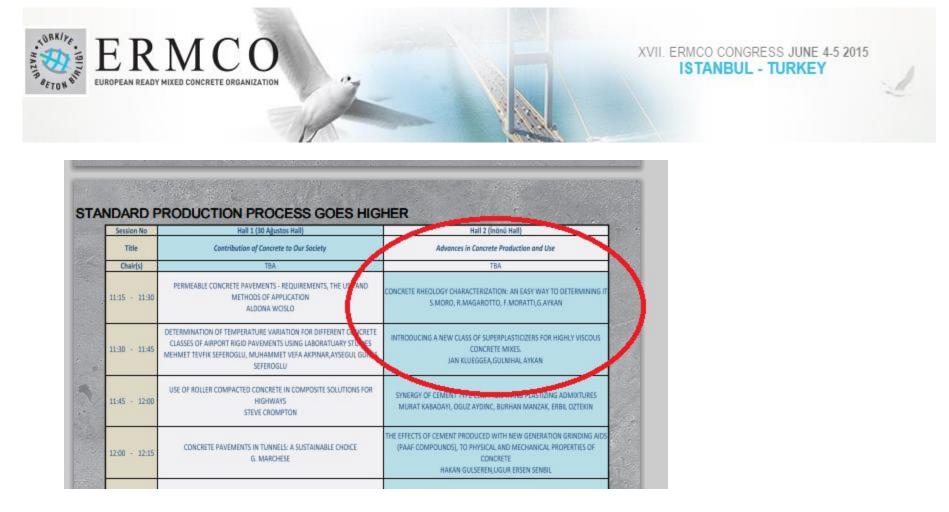
Low viscosity concrete utilising PAE

Identical mix design and identical slump flow





Launch of new polymer



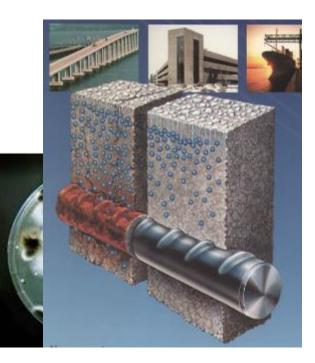
Advantages of PAE

- Reduces pumping pressure
- Reduced pumping time
- Improved truck utilisation
- Reduced wear and tear on pumps
- Increased life of pipelines
- Concrete easier to place and finish enabling the durability designed into the mix to be realised

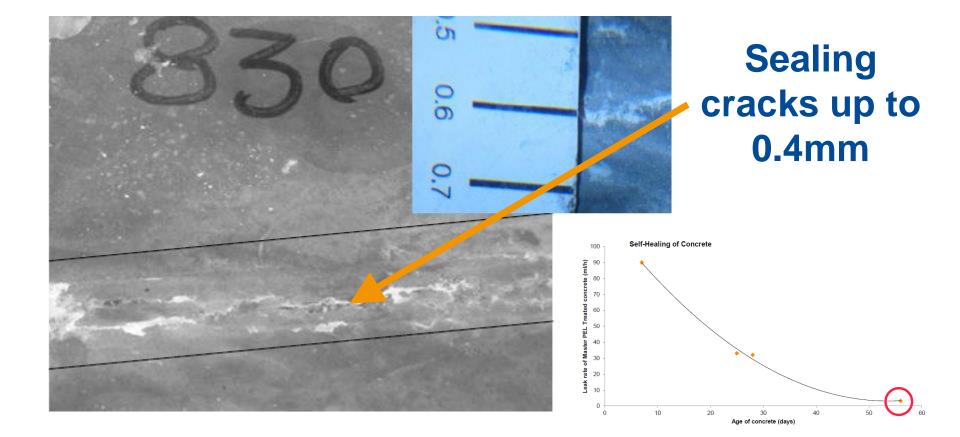


Admixtures for enhanced durability

- Shrinkage reducing admixtures
- > Crack reducing admixtures
- > Corrosion-inhibiting admixtures
- > Anti-microbial admixtures
- >> Waterproofing admixtures



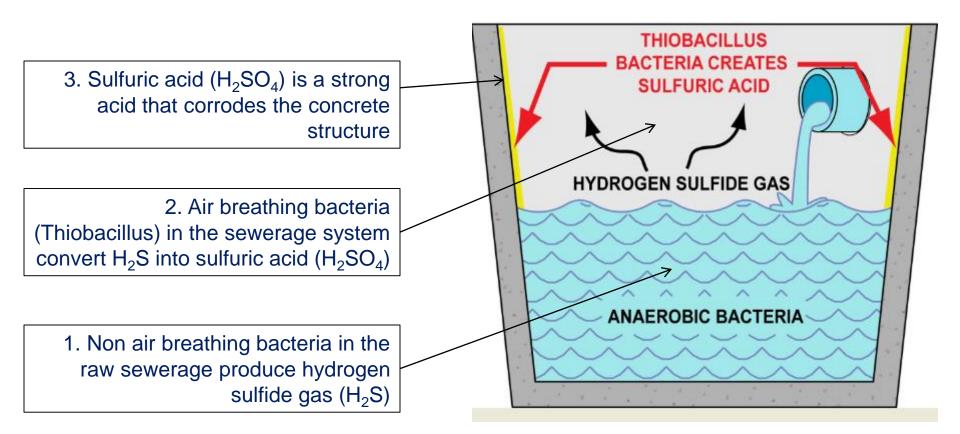
Crystalline waterproofing admixtures



Hydrophobic poreblocking admixtures

	·	
National Dubai, OPC	400	400
Total Free Water	160	160
(Added + In Admixtures)	(157+3)	(150 + 10)
Free W / Cm Ratio	0.40	0.40
Superplasticiser dosage I/m ³ (I/100kg Cm)	4.95	5.15
	(1.238)	(1288)
Waterproofer dosage I/m ³ (1/100kg Cm)		8.0
		(2.0)
Date of Trial	30-6-02	30-6-92
Concrete Temperature ^o C	29.0	29.0
Workability by Initial	170	180
Slump mm 30min	135	150
60min	100	115
Air Content %	1.6	2.5
Fresh Wet Density kg/m ³	2515	2490
BS 5075 Set Time Initial	5:15	6:45
hrs : mins Final	6:45	8:00
Compressive Strength N/mm ²	27.0	23.0
24hrs	45.0	41.5
3day	54.5	49.5
7day	61.0	60.0
BS 1881 Pt 122 Water Absorption	2.5 %	0.75 %
7day		

Microbiologically Induced Corrosion (MIC)



Effects of Micro-organisms on Concrete Microbiologically Induced Corrosion (MIC)

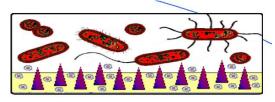








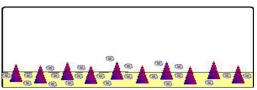
Anti-Microbial Admixture (AMA) How Does It Work?





- 1. Anti-Microbial Admixture (AMA) integrates permanently into the concrete structure
- 2. Micro-organisms come into contact with the concrete surface and are destroyed



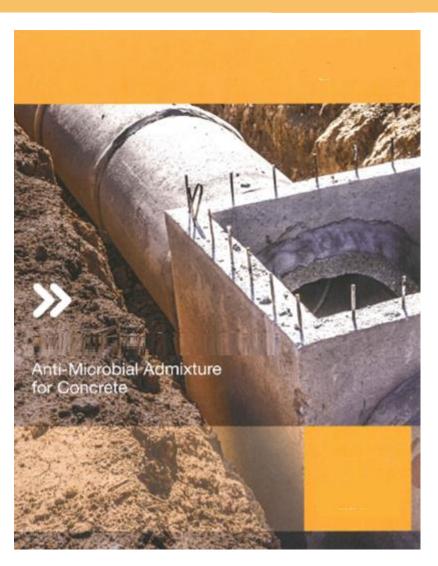


- 3. The AMA prohibits further growth of microorganisms
- 4. The result a clean concrete surface free of the growth of mold, algae, fungus, viral, and bacterial organisms for the life of the concrete

Features & Benefits

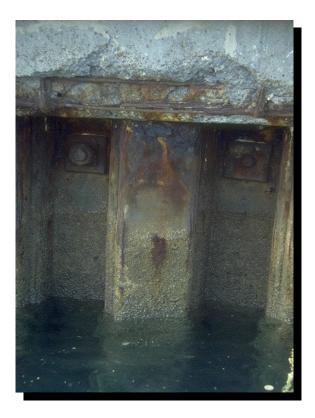
» Water-based, non-flammable

- » Not harmful to the environment, safe for producers and contractors to handle
- Can be used in all concrete applications to prevent growth of micro-organisms (precast, manufactured concrete products, cast-in-place, shotcrete, underground constructions, etc.)
- » No impact to plastic or hardened concrete properties (air, set time, strength, etc.)
- » U.S. EPA Registered
- > Compatible with other admixtures for concrete



Why do we need corrosion inhibiting admixtures?

Concrete frequently fails to meet its design life; especially in marine environments.





What is a corrosion inhibitor?

An inhibitor is a substance which retards or slows down a chemical reaction. Thus, a corrosion inhibitor is a substance which, when added to an environment, decreases the rate of attack by the environment on a metal.

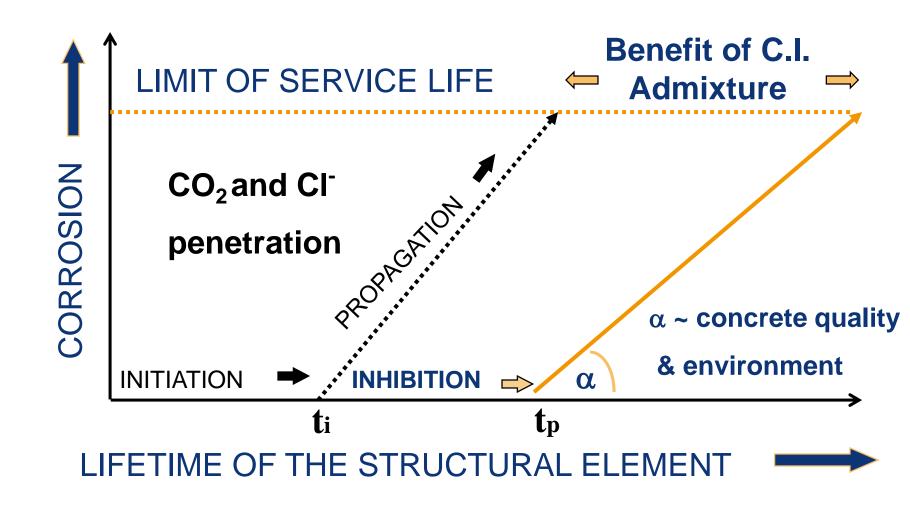
Corrosion Basics, An Introduction

pub. National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE)

Corrosion inhibiting admixtures

- Sive protection against corrosion of steel in reinforced concrete structures
- Sood for structures exposed to cycles of wetting and drying (e.g. structures in a marine environment)
- >> Do <u>not</u> prevent corrosion completely
- >> Do delay the <u>time</u> when corrosion starts
- >> Do delay the <u>rate</u> at which corrosion occurs

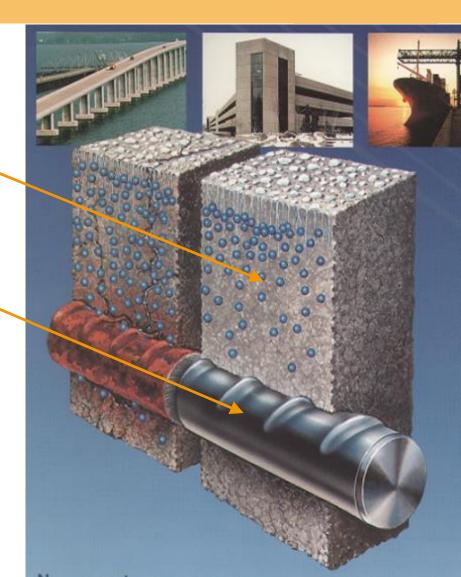
Service life of a reinforced concrete structural element



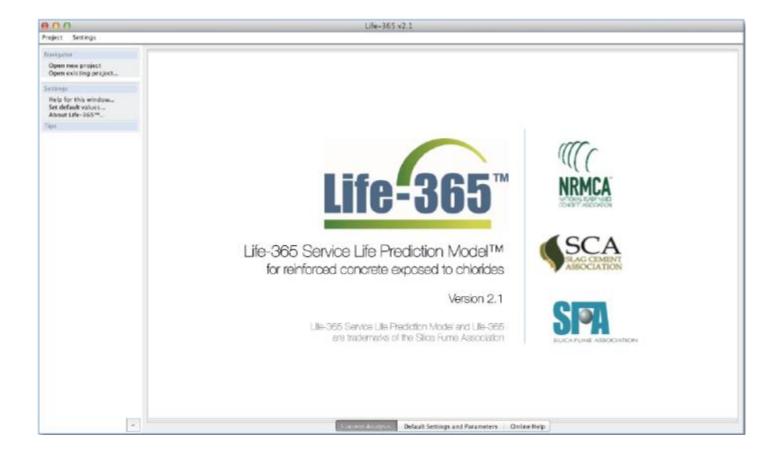
Dual mechanism organic corrosion inhibitors

- 1) Reduce permeability of concrete
- 2) Form a pacifying layer on steel
- Single dosage independent of chloride level





Life-cycle modelling



http://www.life-365.org/download.html

Summary

- > Yes; specify durable concrete. But...
- >> Enhance the rheology to make the mix :
 - Easier to pump
 - Easier to place and compact (preferably SCC)
 - Easier to finish

Then extend the service life of the structure by adding durability-enhancing admixtures.



Thank you for your attention.

