


## SUSTAINABLE DESIGN USING SUPPLEMENTARY CEMENTING MATERIALS Case Studies

*“ The World will not evolve past its current state of crisis by  
using the same thinking that created the situation.”*

~ Albert Einstein





**KRISTY NEISH, LEED™ AP, P. ENG.**  
Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd.

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### WHY USE SCM'S?

- ❖ **Good Design**
  - ❖ Durable, adaptable buildings
  - ❖ Efficient use of materials
- ❖ **Owner Goals**
  - ❖ LEED credits
  - ❖ Economic/Green Balance



## USE OF FLY ASH



### Target Levels of Fly Ash:

- ❖ Highest in footings
  - ❖ 40% – 50%
- ❖ Mid-Range in vertical elements
  - ❖ 35% – 50% in walls and columns
- ❖ Lower in horizontal elements
  - ❖ 25% – 40 % in slabs
- ❖ Low in C1 exposure class (max 15%)
  
- ❖ Greatest concrete component is often slabs
  - ❖ up to 40% volume of typical highrise



## CASE STUDIES

### The Use of Fly Ash at:

- ❖ Bison Courtyard (Courtyard on Bear), Banff
- ❖ Cave Avenue Housing, Banff
- ❖ Bridges – The Vento, Calgary



**CASE STUDY:  
BISON COURTYARD**

**FLY ASH USE**

- ❖ 40% cement replacement
  - ❖ Footings
  - ❖ Walls
- ❖ 35% cement replacement
  - ❖ Columns
- ❖ 30%, 35%, 40% cement replacement
  - ❖ Suspended slabs
- ❖ 25% cement replacement
  - ❖ Parkade slab-on-grade



Client:	Arctos & Bird Management
Project Manager:	PCL Construction
Concept Architect:	William McDonough + Partners
Primary Architect:	Zeidler Carruthers & Associates
Structural Engineer:	Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd.



**CASE STUDY:  
CAVE AVENUE HOUSING**

**FLY ASH USE**

- ❖ 40% cement replacement
  - ❖ Footings
  - ❖ Walls
- ❖ 35% cement replacement
  - ❖ Columns
- ❖ 30% cement replacement
  - ❖ Suspended Slabs
- ❖ 25% cement replacement
  - ❖ Parkade slab-on-grade



Client:	Arctos & Bird Management
Project Manager:	Rescom Construction
Concept Architect:	William McDonough + Partners
Primary Architect:	IBI Group
Structural Engineer:	Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd.



**CASE STUDY:  
BRIDGES – THE VENTO**

**FLY ASH USE**

- ❖ 50% cement replacement
  - ❖ Footings
  - ❖ Columns
- ❖ 45% cement replacement
  - ❖ Walls
- ❖ 40% cement replacement
  - ❖ Suspended slabs
  - ❖ Slabs-on-grade



Client: Windmill Developments  
 Project Manager: Stuart Olson Contracting Inc.  
 Architect: Busby, Perkins + Will  
 Structural Engineer: Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd.



**SPECIFYING THE USE  
OF SCM'S**

- ❖ Specifications
  - ❖ Minimum fly ash targets
  - ❖ Curing requirements
  - ❖ Trial Mixes
- ❖ General Notes Drawings
  - ❖ Performance information
  - ❖ Curing requirements
- ❖ Pre-Construction Meeting
  - ❖ Review and clarify requirements
  - ❖ Be open for change

Element	Min. Strength (MPa)	Slump (mm)	Mix. Age: (mm)	Exposure Class
Slabs, Slab Bands, & Beams	30	70	20	N
Interior Walls	25	80	20	N
Interior Columns	30	80	20	N
Slab-on-grade (Interior Parking)	32	70	20	C-4
Exterior S.O.G., Sidewalks	32	70	20	C-2
Footings	30	80	40	N
Foundation Walls	30	80	20	F-2
Exterior Columns	30	80	20	F-2
Parkade Ramp	35	70	20	C-1
Footings	25	80	40	N
Foundation Walls	25	80	20	N
S.O.G (Interior No Parking)	25	70	20	N



## CEMENT REPLACEMENT

### Why not always use 50% cement replacement?

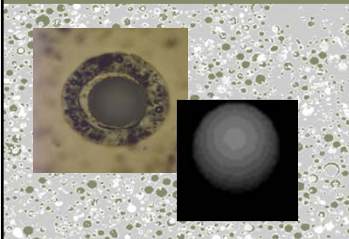
- ❖ Exposure
- ❖ Initial set time for finishing
- ❖ Early strength gain
  - ❖ Stripping formwork
  
- ❖ Mix designs driven by early strength gain



## CEMENT REPLACEMENT

### % Fly Ash = % Cement Reduction?

- ❖ Not necessarily...
    - ❖ Standard Mix – 300 kg cement
      - ❖ 40% cement replacement = 120 kg
    - ❖ “40% Fly Ash Mix”
      - 144 kg fly ash
      - 216 kg cement
      - 360 kg total CM
- Actual cement reduction = 84 kg  
( only a 28% reduction)



## CEMENT REPLACEMENT – BANFF PROJECT MIXES



Element	Strength at 28/56 days (MPa)	%Fly ash/Total Cementitious Material and Total Cementitious Material (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )		
		Mix A Standard	Mix B Summer	Mix C Winter
Suspended Slabs	30	25% 285 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	35% 271 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	30% 271 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Interior Walls	25	25% 260 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	45% 247 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	35% 247 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Interior Columns	30	25% 285 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	45% 271 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	35% 271 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Footings	30	25% 285 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	50% 270 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	40% 270 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Foundation Walls	30	25% 328 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	45% 311 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	40% 311 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Slab-on-grade (Interior No Parking)	25	25% 260 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	35% 247 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	30% 247 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

## CEMENT REPLACEMENT

### Every experience is different:

- ❖ Aggregate source
- ❖ Cement source
- ❖ Fly ash source
- ❖ Curing temperature, conditions

Trial mixes help resolve these uncertainties



LEED™ LEADERSHIP  
IN ENERGY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN



How does fly ash impact LEED™?

- ❖ LEED™Canada provides new incentive
- ❖ Concrete as a building material

LEED™ MR Credit 4.1

- ❖ Uses **cement reduction** rather than % *fly ash*
- ❖ Provides a bench mark for a standard mix



USING SCM'S:  
THE BENEFITS



- ❖ Environmental benefits
- ❖ Greater long-term strength
- ❖ Greater durability (less permeable)
- ❖ Better workability
- ❖ Aesthetics



## USING SCM'S: THE CHALLENGES



- ❖ Slower initial set
  - ❖ Time pours to allow for delay
  - ❖ Decrease W/CM
- ❖ Slower early strength gain
  - ❖ Formwork scheduling
  - ❖ Accelerators
- ❖ Winter construction
  - ❖ Heating and hoarding



## CASE STUDY

### BISON COURTYARD, BANFF, ALBERTA 2004

#### HVFA Concrete use in winter pouring

- Determine % of fly ash in concrete for cold temperatures (Av. Ambient temp = -25 )
- Obtain information on the use of accelerators in HVFA concrete
- Compare energy consumption of heating and hoarding of HVFA concrete relative to standard concrete

Client: Arctos & Bird Enterprises  
Primary Architect: Zeidler Carruthers & Assoc. Arch.  
Design Architect: William McDonough + Partners  
Structural Eng: Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd.  
Materials Eng: McIntosh Lalani Engineering  
Contractor: PCL-Maxam, A Joint Venture  
Concrete Supply: Lafarge Canada Inc.



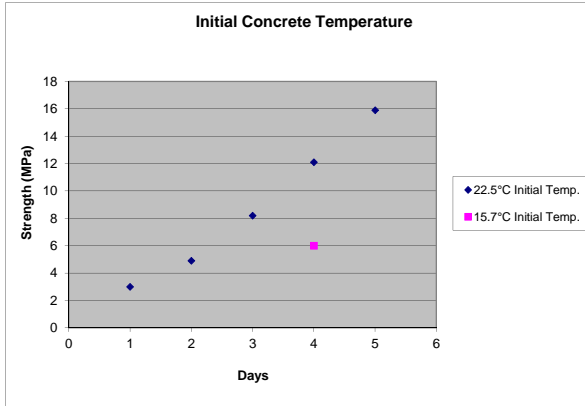
CASE STUDY

BISON COURTYARD  
BANFF, ALBERTA 2004



Concrete temperature arriving on site:

- ❖ Half the strength gain of warmer concrete



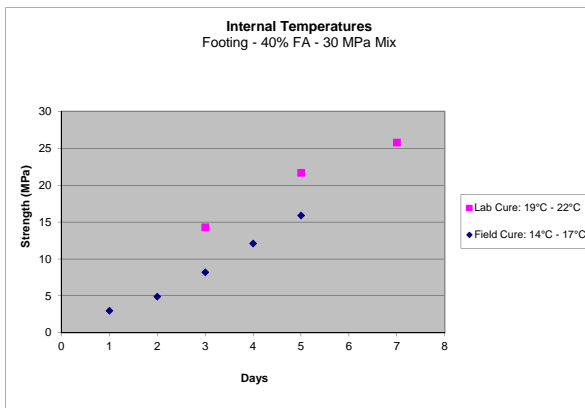
CASE STUDY

BISON COURTYARD  
BANFF, ALBERTA 2004



Concrete temperature during curing:

- ❖ 5°C difference slowed strength gain up to 70%



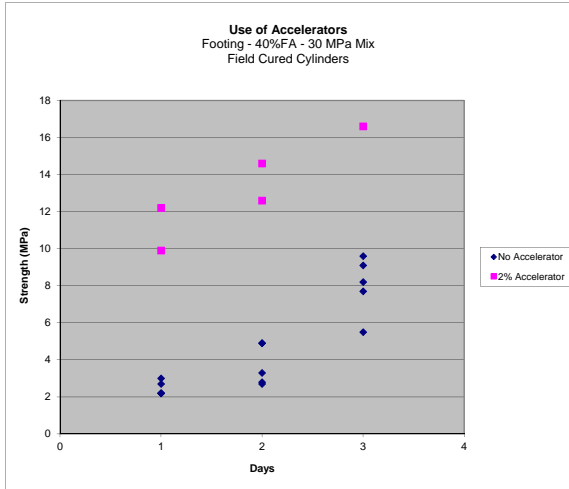
CASE STUDY

BISON COURTYARD  
BANFF, ALBERTA 2004



Use of accelerators:

- ❖ Doubled strength gain in first three days



CASE STUDY

BISON COURTYARD  
BANFF, ALBERTA 2004



Suspended Slabs:

- ❖ Used 30%, 35%, and 40% fly ash
- ❖ Heated formwork and rebar prior to pour
- ❖ Maintained 20°C to 25°C below slab for curing period (at least 7 days)
- ❖ **Concern with high W/CM**
  - ❖ Early strength gain
  - ❖ Durability



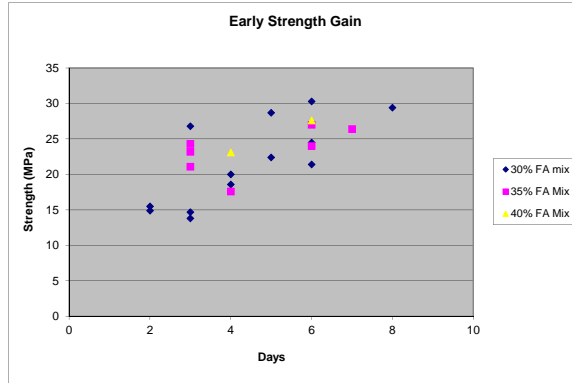
CASE STUDY

BISON COURTYARD  
BANFF, ALBERTA 2004



Suspended Slabs

- ❖ Initial strength gain results encouraging
- ❖ W/CM did not have a detrimental effect

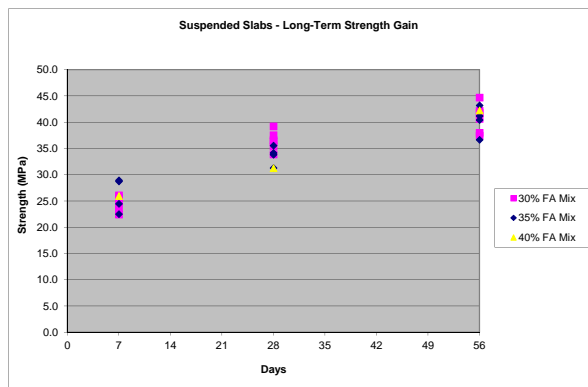


CASE STUDY

BISON COURTYARD  
BANFF, ALBERTA 2004

Long-Term Strength Gain

- ❖ Suspended slab with 30 MPa design strength:



- ❖ Suspended slabs, columns, walls, and footings all had similar long-term strength gains



## CASE STUDY

### BISON COURTYARD BANFF, ALBERTA 2004



- ❖ Environmental cost of winter construction
  - ❖ Heat and hoarding required for HVFA and standard concrete
  - ❖ No additional energy penalty for HVFA concrete according to the contractor
  - ❖ Winter construction results in increased costs and energy consumption – best solution to schedule concrete pours in summer
- ❖ Side effect of winter construction
  - ❖ Constant, controlled heat dictated by the contractor to suit construction schedule



## CONCRETE STRENGTH MEASUREMENT



### Methods of Testing:

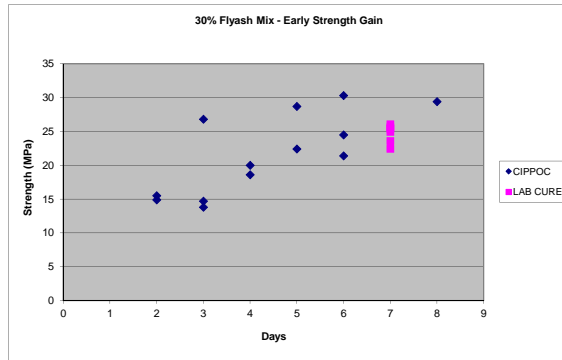
- ❖ Lab-cured cylinders
  - ❖ Do not reflect site temperatures
  - ❖ Use for long term strength measurements
- ❖ Traditional field-cured cylinders
  - ❖ Sit below hoarding, next to pour
  - ❖ Do not benefit from the mass heat
- ❖ Lok tests
  - ❖ Cast in, measure in-situ strength
  - ❖ Measures surface concrete strength
- ❖ Cast-in-place punch-out cylinder (CIPPOC) tests
  - ❖ Cast in, measure in-situ strength
  - ❖ Requires transportation
  - ❖ Plastic sleeve blocks some of the mass heat



## CONCRETE STRENGTH MEASUREMENT

### Comparison of results:

- ❖ Similar strength results
- ❖ Good heating and curing



## CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ **Fly ash targets**
  - ❖ Vary based on element and weather
- ❖ **Trial mixes**
  - ❖ Aggregate/Cement/Fly ash combination
  - ❖ Lab cure test should simulate site conditions
  - ❖ Trial pour to gauge workability
- ❖ **Curing**
  - ❖ Important for all concrete
  - ❖ Especially important for HVFA concrete
- ❖ **Testing**
  - ❖ CIPPOC and Lok test preferred



THANK YOU

***“Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their needs.”***

*- Oxford 1987, The world commission of environment and development*



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