# What Everyone Receiving Fresh Concrete at the Jobsite Should Know

James M. Shilstone, Jr., FACI jshilstone@commandalkon.com



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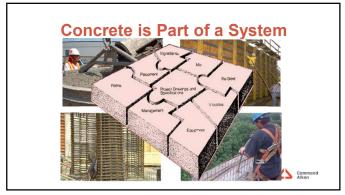
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## Concrete is "manufacturing"

Manufacturing – (industrial production) - in which raw materials are transformed into finished goods - Wikipedia

- Fresh concrete (rock, sand, cement & water)
- Reinforcing steel
- Formwork
- Curing (moisture and thermal)
- (Testing)

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Desi	ign of Co	ncrete	Mixtu	res		
D.A.	Abrams,	Lewis	Inst.,	Bull.	1,	1918

"... water, is in fact, the most important ingredient, since very small variations in water content produce more important variations in the strength and other properties of concrete with similar changes in other ingredients."



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#### Before the placement



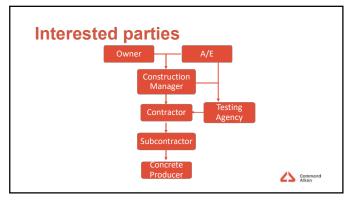


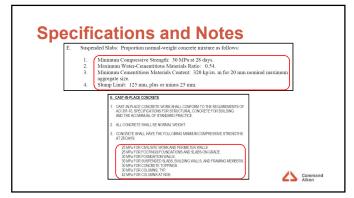
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"If you don't know where you're going, you're liable to end up somewhere else."

- Yogi Berra

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# **Specifying the Concrete Mix**

- Maximum aggregate size
- Slump & tolerance (maximum or nominal)
- Air content and tolerance
- Concrete temperature range
- Concrete unit weight and tolerance (Itwt & hvywt)
- Design strength
- Placement method
- Type of concrete element (i.e. wall, slab, beam)
- How long can the concrete be held at the job?
- ASTM C-94 Option A, B or C

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<b>ASTM C-94, Specification for R</b>
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Standard Specification for Ready-Mixed Concrete<sup>1</sup>



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#### **ASTM C94 Ordering**

- Maximum size of coarse aggregate
- Slump or slump flow at point of delivery
- · Air content at point of delivery
- Tolerances for slump, slump flow or air
- · Lightweight concrete density
- · Heavyweight concrete fresh density
- Optional requirements for water
- Max drum revolutions permitted before discharge
- Use of Option A, B or C

  - A Purchaser states design requirements, Manufacturer designs mix
     B Purchaser assumes responsibility for mix design and Manufacturer batches as designed
  - C Purchaser states design requirements, including min. cement and/or max w/cm but Manufacturer designs the mix



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#### **The Concrete Submittal**

- Summary of mix design requirements
- Mix target slump, air content, unit weight
- · Maximum number of revolutions of drum
- Materials' qualifications
- Mix design material names & quantities
- · Justification of strength
  - w/cm curve
  - Statistical overdesign



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#### **Preconstruction conference**





http://www.nrmca.org/aboutconcrete/cips/32p.pdf http://www.ascconline.org/

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#### **The Order**

- Mix code/name (alternate mix codes or plants?)
- Time to start placement
- Delivery frequency (i.e. "every 20 minutes")
- Total number of cubic yards/meters
- Placement method
- Placement/delivery location

- Special requirements
   Materials, clean-up
   NRMCA CIP-31 "Ordering Ready Mixed Concrete"



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**DURING** the placement

# **Get Ready for Placement**

- Placing equipment in place and set up
- · Placing crew ready to place concrete
- Finishing crew available
- Truck delivery location accessible
- Truck staging area accessible
- Truck cleanout location accessible
- Testing lab notified and available
- Aware of Mix ID, required slump & air content



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#### **First Truck Arrives**

- Notify placing crew
- Prepare delivery equipment

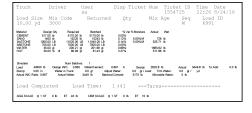


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# The Delivery Ticket | Comment | Com

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# The Delivery Ticket



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#### **Preliminary Characteristic Test**

ASTM C94 – "17.6 If preliminary checks of slump, slump flow, or air content are made, a single sample shall be taken after the discharge of not less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  m³ or  $\frac{1}{4}$  yd³. All other requirements of Practice C172/C172M shall be retained. If the preliminary measurement of slump (12.7) or air content (8.3) falls outside the specified limits, address as indicated in section 17.6.1 or 17.6.2 as appropriate."



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#### **Slump Tolerances**

- Maximum slump (not-to-exceed)
  - Target 3" (75mm) + 0" 1-1/2" (40mm)
  - Target > 3" + 0" 2-2/12" (65mm)
- Nominal slump
  - Target 2" (50mm) or less ± ½" (15mm)
  - Target 2-4" (50-100mm) ± 1" (25mm)
  - Target > 4" (100mm) ± 1-1/2" (40mm)

#### **Slump Flow Tolerances**

- Target <= 22" (55mm)
- ± 1-1/2" (40mm)
- Target > 22" (55mm)
- ± 2-1/2" (65mm)



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#### When to Add Water?

- Check the slump after the concrete arrives at the project
- If slump is wrong, mix at mixing speed for 30 revs
- If slump is still wrong, add water to achieve designated slump, but don't exceed allowable w/cm ratio (some limits for air-entrained superplasticized concrete)
- · Record added water on delivery ticket



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#### When **NOT** to Add Water

- After a 1-time addition of water
- · After more than 10% of concrete discharged
- If a superplasticizer has been added
- If there is no water addition allowed based on the batch ticket or specification
- If the design water/cementitious ratio will be exceeded



#### **Impact of Adding Water**

- · Adding 1 gallon of water to 1 cyd of concrete
  - Increases slump by about 1 inch
  - $\bullet$  Decreases strength by about 5%
- Affects air content, permeability & cracking
- NRMCA CIP-26 "Jobsite Addition of Water"



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#### **Air Tolerances**

- ASTM C94 8.2: ± 1.5% of specified value
- ASTM C94 "8.3 When a preliminary sample taken within the time limits of 12.7 and prior to discharge for placement shows an air content <u>below</u> the specified level by more than the allowable tolerance in accordance with 8.2, the manufacturer may use additional air entraining admixture to achieve the desired air content level, followed by a minimum of 30 revolutions at mixing speed, so long as the revolution limit of 6.1.9 is not exceeded (see Note 11)."



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#### **Temperature factors**

- Hot Weather
  - Concrete initial temperature, accelerated set
  - Proper form or sub-grade preparation
  - · Provisions in place for curing

#### Cold Weather

- Concrete initial temperature, delayed set
- Moisture and thermal curing
- · Insulated forms





Adding	Other	<b>Materials</b>

- Superplasticizers
- Pigments
- Fibers
- Powdered admixtures
- Note all additions on the batch ticket and report to the testing agency



#### **Producer's responsibility**

- ASTM C94 "7.2 Concrete shall be available within the permissible range of slump or slump flow for a period of 30 min starting either on arrival at the job site or after the initial slump adjustment permitted in 12.7, whichever is later."
- Only 1 addition of water allowed. Consider addition of superplasticizer. (May cause other problems.)



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#### Contractor's responsibility

 ASTM C94 – "7.2 If the user is unprepared for discharge of the concrete from the vehicle, the producer shall not be responsible for the limitation of minimum slump or slump flow after 30 min have elapsed starting either on arrival of the vehicle at the prescribed destination or at the requested delivery time, whichever is later."



#### **Rejecting Concrete**

- Person responsible should be established in the preconstruction conference or purchase order
- · Consequences of rejection should be known (i.e. cold joint)
- Concrete should not be rejected if it complies with slump, air and temperature requirements without addition of water (other options?)
- Evaluate construction practices if concrete must be rejected or accepted outside of limits



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#### **Reasons for Rejection at Jobsite**

Cause	Percent of Respondents
Slump	43%
Air Content	32%
Delivery Time/revs	14%
Other	8%

NRMCA Quality Survey



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## **Concrete Age When Placing**

- · What is the objective?
- · No real limit if admixtures used appropriately
- ACI 301-10 After 90 minutes verify slump and air content
- ASTM C-94 Concrete shall maintain slump range for at least 30 minutes after arrival. Concrete must be placed within 90 minutes of batch time unless it is still workable



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ASTM C94 - Purchaser must state limit on drum revolutions. If purchaser doesn't state limit, manufacturer must state it. Limit must appear on batch ticket.



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#### **Other Problems**

- Air content, temperature & unit weight Report to concrete producer
- Segregation Reduce slump
- Placing & finishing Report to concrete producer
- Delivery rate Report to concrete producer



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#### 90% Completion

- Determine quantity of concrete still required
- · Who will order additional concrete and when?
- Should placing rate be slowed to maintain even delivery of concrete?



#### Receiving Concrete Checklist (added)

- Planned start time and spacing factor
- Truck arrival time & truck number
- · Qty of water added and time added
- Time start discharge
- · Time finish discharge
- Was concrete sampled & tested
- Test results (slump, air, temp., unit weight, # of cylinders)



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#### **Concrete Producer & Test Reports**

- ACI 318-14, "Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete" Para 26.12.1.1 (e): "All reports of acceptance tests shall be provided to the licensed design professional, contractor, concrete producer, and, if requested, to the owner and the building official."
- ACI 301-10, "Specifications for Structural Concrete" Section 1.6.3.1.c:
   "The Owner's testing agency will report test and inspection results of
  the Work to Owner, Architect/Engineer, Contractor, and concrete
   supplier within 7 days after tests and inspections are performed."
- ASTM C94, "Standard Specification for Ready-Mixed Concrete" Para. 6.1: "The purchaser shall ensure that the manufacturer is provided copies of all reports of tests performed on concrete samples taken to determine compliance with specification requirements."



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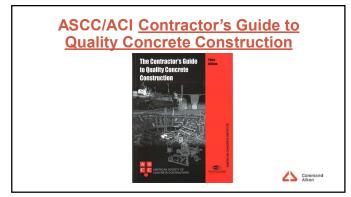


# **Summary**

- · Know what to expect
- Plan the delivery
- Manage the delivery
- Follow thru

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Thank You!		
	James M. Shilstone, Jr., FACI jshilstone@commandalkon.com	
	jsmistone@commandakon.com	
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