Workshop on Nanotechnology for Cement and Concrete

September 5, 2007
Acknowledgments

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Thanks go to the presenters for permission to reproduce their presentations.
Preface

This document summarizes the discussions and findings of a workshop held in Arlington, VA, on September 5, 2007. The objective of the meeting was to provide national direction on areas of priority interest and collaboration between industry and public agencies specifically for applications of nanotechnology to cement and concrete.
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Introduction

The Challenge

Concrete as a material is the most commonly used material (other than water) on the planet. Its significance to the basic infrastructure of modern civilization is immeasurable, and it is difficult to imagine life without it. However, concrete as a material has changed relatively little since its first usage in its current form one hundred years ago. As increasingly higher performance demands are placed on the product, the limitations of modern concrete as a construction material become increasingly apparent.

One significant need of the concrete construction material is to significantly increase reliability. It is estimated that up to 10% of concrete placed in a given year fails prematurely or is below standard from the beginning. Considering that concrete construction is a 700 billion dollar industry worldwide, even a small reduction in the number of problems would amount to significant economic savings and performance benefits. A lot of attention is focused on dealing with the currently accepted risks inherent in construction, along with the associated high levels of litigation. The industry is generally conservative because the consequences of failure are devastating, leading to significant overdesign of many facilities. There is a movement to move away from prescriptive specifications to performance-based specifications; however, it is also generally accepted that adequate test methods and tools to measure performance are lacking at present. An improvement in reliability of concrete systems will have a multibillion dollar impact on the economy.

Another issue is that while the production of concrete is efficient in terms of emissions and embodied energy, the shear volumes of concrete produced worldwide mean that attention has to be paid to make the material more sustainable and impose a lower burden on the environment. Concrete produces lower emissions and has lower embodied energy than other materials. Published data are varied, but typically concrete is reported to have lower embodied energy per square foot of floor area for office buildings than steel. Portland Cement Association (PCA) reports that 2.310 million metric tons of cement were produced in 2005 worldwide, meaning that up to 2.08 million metric tons of $\text{CO}_2$ were released (based on the assumption that for each ton of cement, 0.9 tons of $\text{CO}_2$ are released).

A challenge facing materials engineers working in concrete is that most other modern systems are several orders of magnitude smaller and cheaper than they were a few decades ago, but the same is not true of structures. This is partially so because buildings still have to be big enough for us to fit into. Even so, section thicknesses in structures have not changed significantly over time.

Concrete as a construction material is unique because it is a commodity, fabricated on site by generally low-paid workers with a modicum of quality control. Imagine a material made out of abundant raw materials available almost everywhere by a very energy-efficient process. By mixing this material with water, you get a construction material that is workable for many hours, that can be formed into any geometrical shape, and that hardens and develops high strength. It is used in a relatively crude way in the field. Nanotechnology has the potential to enhance the desirable properties of concrete while helping to address some of the challenges facing the construction industry.

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Background

The study of cementitious systems has not gained much attention in materials science and materials engineering circles, possibly because it is not a carbohydrate and because it is less predictable than metals. Also, in many ways, current knowledge has been good enough for it to be economically functional. It has been abuser friendly, and because strength was the only parameter of concern, a fundamental understanding of how the system works has not been aggressively pursued. However, concrete systems are growing increasingly complex, changing from mixes with four basic ingredients (cement, water, sand, and stone) to mixes with nine or more ingredients with the addition of multiple chemical admixtures and supplementary cementitious materials. With increasing number of ingredients come increasing complexity and risks of problems, as illustrated by a new-found emphasis on incompatibility that was not seen ten years ago. Additionally, as previously noted, engineers are moving toward requiring performance that is based on durability and crack resistance, rather than simply strength.

Fundamentally, hydrated cement paste (HCP) is a nanomaterial (Figure 1)\(^3\). The structure of calcium silicate hydrate is much like a clay, with thin layers of solids separated by gel pores filled with interlayer and adsorbed water (Figure 2)\(^4\). This has significant impact on the

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performance of concrete because HCP is sensitive to moisture movement, which can lead to shrinkage and consequent cracking if accommodations in element sizes are not made.

As computing capabilities grow and nanotechniques are developed, we now are starting to improve the tools and skills that we need to take a fundamental look at the hydrated cementitious system. Based on this new knowledge, it is therefore feasible to consider how to modify the cementitious system to address the issues confronting working construction sites, including shrinkage and knowing/controlling the degree of hydration.

The concrete construction industry is not the only industry looking at using nanoscience and technology to enhance their products. Notable overlaps with our work are roadmaps developed for forest products and chemical products. Forestry is looking at ways to manipulate and use lignin, which is a primary ingredient in concrete admixtures, while the chemical products industry is adopting an approach of starting with their needs and then using nanotechnology to meet those needs, which is the same approach being adopted in this meeting.

A workshop at the University of Florida in August 2006 was attended by over 70 participants, with over 30 presentations. The meeting focused on the development of a Roadmap for Research for Concrete-Based Materials. The roadmap is destination oriented with clearly defined outcomes that will greatly enhance concrete technology and the uses of concrete in structures, including housing, bridges, tunnels, and pavements. The needs expressed during the 2006 workshop are as follows:

- Development of high-performance cement and concrete materials as measured by their mechanical, durability, and shrinkage properties.
- Development of sustainable and safe concrete materials and structures through engineering concrete for different adverse environments, reducing energy consumption during cement production, and enhancing safety with nano-engineering of concrete materials.
- Development of intelligent concrete materials through the integration of nanotechnology-based self-sensing and self-powered materials and cyber infrastructure technologies.
- Development of novel concrete materials through nanotechnology-based innovative processing of cement and cement paste.
- Development of fundamental multiscale model(s) for concrete through advanced characterization and modeling of concrete at the nano-, micro-, meso-, and macroscales.

The aim of the 2007 workshop was to build on the 2006 workshop and to seek input from industry regarding needs that should be addressed now, based on what is required, and what is conceivably possible in the near term. Input to the discussions also included examples of successes already achieved and guidance from those currently working in technology on what is feasible based on current knowledge. In attendance were representatives of the concrete construction industry, product manufacturers, government agencies, including owners of concrete structures and regulators of such, and academia. One of the presentations included a representative of Nanocem, a European initiative that is funded primarily by industry with the stated goal of conducting fundamental research on cementitious materials with an emphasis on understanding cement hydration at a molecular level.

The meeting included ten presentations, a roundtable discussion, and six breakout group discussions. The material covered in all of these sessions follows.

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6 http://www.ce.ufl.edu/nanoworkshop/program.html, 2007
## Presentations

1. Snapshot of the National Nanotechnology Initiative—Dr. Clayton Teague
2. Nano House—Dr. Mike Roco
3. Nanocem—European Efforts—Vagn Johansen
4. The Future of Concrete—Dr. Felek Jachimowicz
5. Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials—Dr. Richard Livingston
6. New Functionalities for the Building Industry—Dr. Laurent Bonafous
7. The Nano-Engineering of UHPC & Structures—Vic Perry
8. Roadmap for Research—Dr. Bjorn Birgisson
Snapshot of the National Nanotechnology Initiative

Workshop on Nanotechnology for Cement and Concrete
September 5, 2007
Arlington, Virginia

E. Clayton Teague
Director, National Nanotechnology Coordination Office
National Science and Technology Council

What Is Nanotechnology?
- Research and technology development aimed to understand and control matter at dimensions of approximately 1 - 100 nanometer - the nanoscale
- Ability to understand, create, and use structures, devices and systems that have fundamentally new properties and functions because of their nanoscale structure
- Ability to image, measure, model, and manipulate matter on the nanoscale to exploit those properties and functions
- Ability to integrate those properties and functions into systems spanning from nano- to micro- to macroscopic scales

The National Nanotechnology Initiatives: Vision and Goals
- The vision of the NNI: a future in which the ability to understand and control matter on the nanoscale leads to a revolution in technology and industry
- Four goals for nanoscale science, engineering, and technology, as described in the NNI’s Supplement to the President’s FY 2007 budget and Strategic Plan:
  - Maintain a world-class research and development program
  - Facilitate technology transfer
  - Develop educational resources, a skilled workforce, and the supporting research infrastructure and tools
  - Support responsible development of nanotechnology

Broad Brush View of NNI Operations
- Management → EOP + Agencies
- Establishment of nanotechnology as high priority R&D area
- Budget creation and funding allocation to agencies
- Negotiations with Congress
- Coordination → NSET Subcommittee
- Coordinates development of strategic plan for NNI
- Providing mechanisms for interagency communication and coordination on nanotechnology R&D
- Reporting → NNCO
- Publishes reports on behalf of the NSET and the NNI for use by Congress, academia, industry, and the public
- Serves as central public point of contact for NNI
Snapshot of the National Nanotechnology Initiative

Dr. Clayton Teague

Industry Consultative Boards for Advancing Nanotech Key for development of nanotechnology, reciprocal gains:

- Electronic Industry (SRC lead), October/2003 - Collaborate in key R&D areas: 5 working groups, Periodical joint activities and reports; NSF-SRC agreement for joint funding; other joint funding

- Chemical Industry (CCR lead) - Joint road map for nanomaterials R&D; Report in 2004: 2 working groups, including one EHS Use of NNI R&D results, and one to identify R&D opportunities

- Organizations and business (RII lead) - Joint activities in R&D technology management; 2 working groups (nanotech in industry, EHS) Exchange information, use NNI results, support new topics

- Forest products industries (AFBPA lead), April 2007 - Facilitate forest products industry input to and communication with NSET Subcommittee

If you want to know more about the NNI:

www.nano.gov
Nano House

Dr. Mike Roco

Topics

- Context: global nanotechnology development
- NSF/NNI support to industry
- Nano House: research opportunities
- Funding: NSF, NNI, international
- Goals of the workshop

Several particularities for cement and concrete research

- Less investment in research, including for nanotechnology, in the last decades as compared to other major technologies
- Basic phenomena at the nanoscale (nanoparticle behavior, nanoscale processes) can be addressed now for topics such as: low-energy cement; novel binders; ductile and tougher concrete; sensors; less corrosive; coatings.
- Dynamic behavior is over several length and time scales; suitable to a multidisciplinary systemic approach
- Connected to various application domains: houses, sensors, energy, materials (polymers, ceramics, etc.)
- Begin with nanoscale in terminology and standards

Timeline for beginning of industrial prototyping and nanotechnology commercialization: Four Generations

1st: Passive nanostructures
   Ex: coatings, nanoparticles, nanstructured metals, polymers, ceramics
   ~ 2000

2nd: Active nanostructures
   Ex: 3D transistors, amplifiers, targeted drugs, actuators, adaptive structures
   ~ 2005

3rd: Systems of nanosystems
   Ex: guided assembling; 3D networking and new hierarchical architectures, biological, evolutionary
   ~ 2010

4th: Molecular nanosystems
   Ex: molecular devices, by design, self-assemble, emerging functions
   2015-2020

Example 1st generation – platform for passive nanostructures

Nanotechnology at General Electric

Benchmark with experts in over 20 countries

"Nanostructure Science and Technology"

Book Springer, 1989

Nanotechnology is the control and restructuring of matter at dimensions of roughly 1 to 100 nanometers (from atomic size to about 100 molecular diameters), where new phenomena enable new applications.
Nano publications per year
1990 - 2006

- USA
- Japan
- China
- Germany

Over half of highly cited papers

NSE patents at USPTO by country group
Assignee country group analysis by year, 1976-2006 (title-claims search)

Context – Nanotechnology in the World
National government investments 1997-2006 (est. NSE)

- W. Europe
- Japan
- USA
- Others
- Total

USA 1230
EU-25 ~1050
Japan 930
China ~ 350
Korea ~ 230
Taiwan ~ 110

Industry R&D ($6B) has exceeded national government R&D ($4.6B) in 2005

FY 2008 NNI Budget Request
$1,445 million

Average rate of increase since 2000: over 30% per year
using bottom-up project based approach

Fiscal Year NNI
2000 $276M
2001 $464M
2002 $697M
2003 $862M
2004 $989M
*2005 $1.206M
2006 $1.303M
2007 $1.392M
R 2008 $1.445M

* Includes Congressionally directed additional funding
February 1, 2007

NSF – discovery, innovation and education in Nanoscale Science and Engineering (NSE)

FY 2006 Request: $390M ~1/4 of Federal and ~1/12 of World investment

- Fundamental research - seven PCAs with new priorities
- Establishing the infrastructure - over 3,000 active projects;
  24 large centers, 2 user facilities (NINN, NCN), multidisciplinary teams
- Training and education - over 10,000 students and teachers/yr

FY 2006-2008 NNI areas of investment
“Program Component Areas”

1. Fundamental Nanoscale Phenomena and Processes
2. Nanomaterials
3. Nanoscale Devices and Systems
4. Instrumentation Research, Metrology, and Standards for Nanotechnology
5. Nanomanufacturing
6. Major Research Facilities and Instrumentation Acquisition
7. Societal Dimensions

One of the 9 NNI Grand Challenges in 2001 was:

- Economic and Safe Transportation
Nano House

Dr. Mike Roco

Nanotechnology Initiative

- Grand challenges / PCAs to create the technology base
  - Nanomanufacturing – NSF program >$20 million/yr. since FY 2002
  - MARCO center: government – university – industry; NIST – Facilities
- Infrastructure for instrumentation, tools, laboratories
  - Ex.: 5 DOE labs, NSF’s NNI and NCE: over 70 centers and networks;
    NCI: NIST metrology and standards; NSF instrumentation program
- Prepare the workforce at all levels
  - Ex.: NCLT, Technological, Community Colleges and in PA (PFI award)
- Various mechanisms for interaction with industry
  - Ex.: Fund collaborations with industrial partners (GOAL center collab)
  - Provide the NNI results to industry (ex. with SIA, CCR)
  - Provide user facilities; Assistance for instrumentation, standards,
    manufacturing, Direct technology transfer and funding industrial
    projects: SBIR/STTR awarded by all agencies (>70 million)

NII-Industry Consultative Boards for Advancing Nanotech

Key for development of nanotechnology, Reciprocal gains

- NII-Electronic Industry (SRC lead), 10/2003
  - Collaborative activities in key R&D areas
    - 5 working groups: Periodical joint actions and reports
    - NSF-SRC agreement for joint funding; other joint funding
- NII-Chemical Industry (CCR lead)
  - Joint road map for nanomaterials R&D; Report in 2004
    - 2 working groups, including on EHS
    - Use of NII R&D results, and identify R&D opportunities
- NII – Organizations and business (IERI lead)
  - Joint activities in R&D technology management
    - 2 working groups (nanotech in industry, EHS)
    - Exchange information, use NII results, support new topics
- NII – Forestry and paper products (FSI lead), 10/2004
  - Workshop / roadmap for P&D
    - 2 working groups (nanotech in industry, EHS)
    - Exchange information, use NII results, support new topics

Sampling of Current Regional, State, & Local Initiatives in Nanotechnology

2005 NCMS Survey on nanotechnology in manufacturing industry (594 companies)

Commercialization timelines indicate many new nanoproducts introductions in 2007-2011, and the high level of expectation in long-term

Reference: National Center for Manufacturing Systems, 2006

NII- Electronic Industry CBAN

Five consultative working groups (CWG), 2003 -

I - Post CMOS information processing technologies
II - Novel materials and assembly methods for extending charge-based technology to its ultimate limit
III - Multi-scale, multi-phenomena modeling and simulation
IV - Novel nano-architectures
V - Nano – Environmental, Health and Safety

Six priorities:
- Computational state other than electron charge
- Non-equilibrium systems
- Novel short range IT mechanisms
- Nano architecture
- Nanoscale thermal management
- Directed self-assembling

Nano - House

- related interest -

- CSIRO project in Australia
- EC project, Denmark project
- NSF: programs and awards ENG/CMIMI and MPS/DMR
- Potential interest from DOE, DOT, DOD, NASA, NIST
- Potential industry partners: cement and concrete, windows, heat-electrical energy transformers, ..
Nano House

Nano - House
Where nanotechnology may be used?

- Materials for construction:
  - for house, roads, infrastructure
  - in nanostructured materials, coatings, windows...
- Energy: heat exchange, lighting, solar/heat energy
- Life cycle and environment
- Sensors
- Coatings
- Connecting to electronics
- Water filtration

Reasons for Nano-House
(CSIRO website)

- Energy Efficiency
- Sustainability
- Quality of life
- Mass Customization

From BBC website, March 2007

Examples of active NSF awards (September 2007)

Workshop on Nano-modification of Cementitious Materials

Recommendations
U. Florida, NSF support, 2006; http://www.cse.ufl.edu/nanoseminar/program.html

- High performance nanomaterials: reduce shrinkage, higher tensile strength, self-healing micro-cracks
- Sustainable and safe concrete: controlling heat of hydration, moisture movement, electrical conductivity, harsh environments
- Intelligent concrete materials: sensors for recording loadings on roads and bridges, chemical sensors for earlier warning, use IT
- Novel concrete materials: functional nanoparticles, composites, control rheology
- Nanoscale based multiscale modeling of concrete: predicting behavior and test new solutions (see NSF-industry functional nanomaterials workshop in October 2007)
Five ways nanotechnology will change business

1. **Competitive advantage** by improved products now
2. **Create S&T nanotech platforms** for revolutionary new products (over 50% of new chemical/electronic/pharmaceutical advanced materials products by 2015)
3. **Opportunities for innovation**: Convergence with biomedical, electronics, cognition, others
4. **New organization and business models** - “horizontal” information, S&T clusters, distributed production
5. **Global governance**: strong collaboration and competition; address multi-stakeholders and responsible development

This workshop

- Timely contribution for application of nanotechnology in cement and concrete applications
- Address basic concepts specific for nano: research opportunities, necessary infrastructure, education, and sharing information
- Need for collaborative effort: industry-academe-government; interagency, various professional communities; international
**NANOCEM**

**European Efforts**

Vagn Johansen

Industry Workshop on Nano Technology for Cement and Concrete
September 5, 2007, Arlington, VA

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**European Technology Platform, ETP**

European Technology Platforms (ETPs) have been set up in a number of areas where Europe's competitiveness, economic growth and welfare depend on important research and technological progress in the medium to long term. They bring together stakeholders, under industrial leadership, to define and implement a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). The ETPs have contributed to the definition of the themes of the FP7 Cooperation programme, in particular in research areas of special industrial relevance. The implementation of the SRA will be supported by the Cooperation programme.

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**European Construction Technology Platform**

A project group led by the Aalborg Portland Group's Research and Development Centre and also participation from NANO in Athens and Aalborg universities, as well as Denmark's and Greenland’s Geological Survey (DEUS), have been awarded EURO 1.3 million ($1.76 million) to develop the cement of the future based on nanotechnology.

FUTURECEM, as the project is known, has a combined budget of EURO 2.6 million ($3.6 million) and runs over three years. The purpose is to utilise nanotechnology to develop new types of cement and additives to concrete. The new products are to be created from Danish raw materials.

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**NANOCEM**

An Industrial Academic Partnership for Fundamental Research on Cementitious Materials

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**23 Academic partners**

Scientific expertise self-financed research projects

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**14 Industrial partners**

Practical expertise
Concrete is complex because it is made from natural raw materials which have many impurities and variability. However, it obeys well-established physical and chemical laws—e.g., thermodynamics.

We now have the experimental characterisation techniques and the computational tools to tackle this complexity from a fundamental scientific standpoint rather than relying on empirical reasons.

Example: Effect of ions on cohesion and structure of C-S-H at Nano-scale

Atomic resolution
20x20 mm²

Scope of Nanocem
- Basic Research
- Applied R&D
- Product Development

Objective
- Basic research creating foundation for breakthrough innovation
- Marketable products

Nanocem is pre-competitive and not aimed at delivering commercial products.
Nanocem - European Efforts

Vagn Johansen

Types of projects

Presently there are 4 Core Projects and 23 Partner projects under way.

In addition a EURO 3.2 million ($4.3 million) EU funded project under the Marie Curie Programme has started March 2006. This consists of 15 PhD and Post Doctoral projects each involving several Nanocem partners and all linked to the Thematic Areas.

Core projects

Core projects aim to bridge the gaps between the independent research of the different academic partners. They typically fund 1-2 PhD students working across 2-4 partner institutions.

The first core projects were chosen after a series of workshops organised by thematic area.

Thematic areas

Projects arising from workshops by thematic area

Focus on real needs, rather than latest trends

Core Project 1

New approaches to quantification of cement hydration

- development of a generic approach - based on thermodynamics - to predict the qualitative and quantitative phase development of hydrated cements with user-specified compositions
- Reduction of experimental work by simulation of complex reactions (formulation of focused experiments to validate calculations)
- provide toolkit to focus and improve research and development

Prof Fred Gillies Dr Barbara Lothenbach
PhD student Thomas Matschei

Stimulation of knowledge transfer by calculation of selected examples relevant to industry.
Nanocem - European Efforts

Vagn Johansen

Core Project 1

Development of a self consistent database
- A self-consistent database for cement hydration was developed. Literature data were critically assessed and new experiments completed. The database contains entries for the main hydrate phases of commercial Portland and blended cements, e.g., AFm, Aft, hydrogarnet and C-S-H.
- It was found that except for the sulfate and hydroxide the several AFm phases do not form solid solutions. Thus cements may contain several coexisting AFm phases, depending on anion balances.
- Data were completed and allow the user to do calculations in the range 1 to 90°C.
- The database was successfully applied to case studies, e.g., to predict the role of carbonate in cement hydration.

Core Project 1 – Example I

Mineralogical distribution of sulfate and carbonate in hydrated Portland cements

Calcite (limestone) causes significant changes to paste mineralogy.

Core Project 1 – Example II

Modelling the interaction of sodium sulfate with Portland cement

Zonation in the course of sulfate attack and change of solid volumes (6.15 mol Na2SO4/kg - 14g SO4/l; for complete reaction)

Achievements of Core Project 1

Knowledge transfer based on thermodynamic calculations:
- Determination of the distribution of sulfate and carbonate in hydrated Portland cement and prediction of coexisting phases as a function of cement composition. Systematic investigations to the role of calcite (limestone) in cement hydration (Manzello et al. ZAW 2006 and CCR 2007).
- Calculations of the interaction of sodium sulfate with Portland cement.
- Prediction of phase assemblages of Portland cement paste undergoing carbonation.
- Potential for application to a wide range of problems including identification of kinetic restraints/mechanisms.

Approach continued under Marie Curie RTN
Nanocem - European Efforts

Vagn Johansen

Publications from Core project 1


Cone Project 2

Prof Jean-Pierre Korb
Prof Peter McDonald
Dr Jonathan Mitchell

PhD student Luc Monteillet

Magnetic Resonance analysis of water-cement pore interactions in cement paste
- MR probes protons in water molecules and so investigates pores in undried cement paste

Surface physics and chemistry

T₂ is the NMR signal lifetime following excitation in an experiment:
It is very sensitive to H² molecule motion and confinement.

Discrete size capillary structures

Gel porosity

Quarter diagonal: T₁=4T₂

Exchange

Portable (in-situ) MRI

In-situ MRI

Proto-type surface GARField
Nanocem - European Efforts

Vagn Johansen

Core Project 2

Achievements of Core Project 2

- New methodology for NMR experiments with T1-T2 correlations allows quantification of protons in different pore populations and study of the exchange between these populations
- Technique is very sensitive to changes in processing:
  - Temperature of curing
  - Availability of water
  - Pre-hydration
- Discrete pore structure — New information related to "mesosstructure" of C-S-H
- Prototype of portable equipment (UNIS, partner project)

Approach continued under Marie Curie RTN

Publications from Core Project 2


Core Project 3

Dr Jean-Baptiste d'Espisoue
Dr André Nonat
Dr Robert Flatt
Prof Heeri van Damme
Dr Angelique Vichot

PhD student Claire Lelain

Organic Aluminate Interactions

- Super plasticizers are widely used to improve workability of concrete and facilitate reduction of water to cement ratio (HPCs)
- Interactions between the organic and the aluminates in cement can lead to cement-mortar incompatibility

Consumption

Chemical reactions with admixtures

General methodology

Preparation of organo aluminates with polymer present at start or added later

Synthesis procedure

1. Coprecipitation of C3A with A11 poly acrylamide polymer
2. Ionic exchange of OH- by polymer in the Al-M phase (delayed addition)

Results

Reflection in plan still exist

Intercalation of polymer in the Al interlayer space

Phase disappear
Nanocem - European Efforts

Vagn Johansen

Organo-mineral phases

$^{27}$Al Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

- Polymer = Modification of all $^{27}$Al environment at molecular scale
- No dependence with time of polymer addition

monocarbonate
intermediate solution of polymer A
delayed addition of polymer A 2

Next steps

Further studies to determine the conformation of the polymers in the AFm phases

Interaction of organo-aluminate phases with sulfate ion in solution

Core Project 4

Prof. Karen Scrivener
Dr. Jørgen Skibsted
Dr. Mette Geiker
PhD students Vanessa Kocaba
Soren Poulsen

Independent measurement of degree of reaction of SCM and clinker in blended cements

- Supplementary cementitious materials (SCMs) such as slag, fly ash and silica fume are increasingly important as substitutes for clinker to reduce environmental impact
- In order to support the use of increased levels of substitution an accurate method for the measurement of the reactivity of these phases in blended materials is needed
- Comprehensive information on the hydrates formed, to compare with the thermodynamic predictions of CPT will also be provided

Core project 4

Marie Curie Projects

Started Autumn 2000

- Yeal undried structure
- Yeal dried structure
- Yeal NMR
- Yeal

0. transversal
1. Sulfate attack
2. Mechanical
3. Innovation
4. State of water by NMR
5. C-S-H
6. Early organo-aluminates
7. Blended Cements and corrosion
8. Available ALOs
9. Phase Asperities
10. Early detection
11. Organocomposite
12. Nanocomposites
13. Nanoelastic properties
14. Nanoindentation
15. Appearance
16. Quality
17. Blending
18. Leaching

Ongoing workshop process

For example:
- X-ray structure of C-S-H: EPFL 16.17 April
- Alkal activated systems
- Partial hydration
- X-ray/Molecular scale modeling: November
- Expansive forces in cementitious systems
- Kinetics

INTEGRATION INTO WEB BASED KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK
Thank you
The Future of Concrete

Workshop on Nanotechnology for Cement & Concrete

Grace Construction Products

Cement Consumption

More Big Numbers

WW Cement production 2005: 2.3B MT (Gt)
WW Concrete production: 108 M
US 114 cement plants: 96.5MM MT
US 6,660 Ready Mix plants
US Concrete Industry: 220,000 employees

R&D $’s - Small Numbers!

Concrete - Material of Choice for Construction

Advantage
- Availability
- Affordability
- Unrestricted geometries
- Durability
- Environmental friendliness

Opportunities
- Cost
- High Labor
- Density (Weight)
- Low ductility, weak in tension (Brittle)
- Durability (Cracking)
- Environmental load (CO₂)

Drivers for Change

Initial costs
- Materials (Cement, Aggregates, Water)
- Labor & Time of construction
- Energy (cement)

Total cost of ownership - Durability
- Repair, restoration, renovation
- Maintenance

Environmental load - Environmental pressures and regulations
- CO₂ reduction
- Declining quality of raw materials
- Cement
- Aggregates
The Future of Concrete

Dr. Felek Jachimowicz

Drivers for Change - Initial Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>Placement &amp; Finishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forma</td>
<td>Form work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PKG</td>
<td>R-bare placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 45%       | 11%     | 55% 

Concrete construction in US; $104B

Labor - Challenges

Concrete flow properties (simplify placing and finishing operations)
Curing/Finishing (reduce labor and improve quality (durability and appearance) of concrete after casting/placement)
Reinforcing steel (strength concrete - saving on rebar labor, simplifying placing and reducing environmental load (waste))

Concrete Placement Technology - Challenges

Raw Materials

Enabling the use of challenging raw materials for normal and high performance concrete
- Cement: blended cement
- Aggregates: fines, marginal aggregates
- Water: water management (recycled water)

Raw Materials

Cement - Challenges

Energy and CO₂

Use of secondary fuels
- Six-fold increase in the last ten years
Increased use of SCM’s (CO₂!!!)
- EU 11%, AP 34%, Russia 55%, NA 7% - to stay at 0 level of CO₂ emission increase
Limestone blended cements (6-35%)
The Future of Concrete

Dr. Felek Jachimowicz

Cement – CO2!!

Possible Solutions

- Clinkers with less CO2 emissions
  - BCASF (bollite, calcium sulfoaluminate and calcium aluminoferrite)
  - Emits 25% less CO2 than OPC
  - Raw materials readily available everywhere
- CO2 sequestration
  - Economics

Aggregates - Challenges

- Declining availability of quality aggregates
  - Growing problem around the world
- Development of technologies to enable the use of marginal (clay, fines) aggregates

Total Cost of Ownership - Durability

Problem

- Britteness - cracking
- Dimensional stability
- Thermal and hydraulic
- Permeability
  - ASR & DEF
  - Sulfate attack
- Corrosion
- Freeze/thaw

Solution strategies

- Improve ductility
- Reduce shrinkage
  - Improve curing (self-curing)
- Reduce permeability
  - Integral waterproofing
  - QC of raw materials
  - Self-repairing
  - Admixtures
- Self-monitoring

Durability & Ductile Concrete

Water transport: Root-Cause of the concrete durability problem

Durability & FRP

New generations of fibers will transform concrete from a strain-softening material to a strain-hardening material

Workshop on Nanotechnology for Cement and Concrete

Dr. Felek Jachimowicz

Presentation 4
The Future of Concrete

Dr. Felek Jachimowicz

Durability & FRC

Building code will adapt advanced modeling tools to design with ductile concrete

- Seismic improvement
- Reduction of conventional reinforcement
- Thinner sections
- Crack control and prevent
- Durability

Engineering Modeling Tools

Output of design tools with input for reduced shrinkage and strain softening:
- steel-reinforced, average-stress, w/c=0.38 concrete
- 7.5m
- 0.22mm
- 220.21mm
- new fiber
- (No crack)

Curing & Durability

Proper curing improves all properties of concrete!

- Physical properties of the top layer (10mm)
  - Strength
  - Permeability
  - Abrasion resistance
  - Freeze/thaw resistance
- Cosmetics
  - Bug holes
  - Texture

Curing

In US less than 2% of concrete is cured according to standards

Lack of standard methods to verify curing adequacy
Labor intensive, time consuming
Curing is the field is critically important to the durability of concrete

Curing - Directions To Go

Address:
- Evaporation – environmental conditions
- Self-desiccation – low w/c concretes
- Labor intensive process delaying construction cycle
- Performance standards for curing in the field

Concrete & Esthetics

Dramatic improvement in the aesthetic appeal of concrete

Self cleaning concrete TiO2
Transparent concrete
Image printing
The Future of Concrete

Dr. Felek Jachimowicz

Future - Interactive/Smart Concrete

- QC — (e.g., monitoring of w/c in place)
  - Electronic & chemical sensors
  - In-place non-destructive testing
- Self repair
  - Triggered inorganic reactions
  - Triggered organic/biological reactions

Future

- Ductile, flexible, breathable, permeable or impermeable. Properties on-demand
- Blast-in-set, strength, permeability, etc.
- Engineered materials: Maximize what you have locally, avoid unnecessary transport
- Immune to freeze-thaw, corrosion, sulfate and other environmental attacks
- Specialty: (blast resistant, conductive...)

Nano & Concrete

Understanding of cement chemistry and concrete microstructure
- Dynamic properties — hydration
- Static (durability)
- Elevating concrete’s toughness (ductility)
  - Nano reinforcement
  - Nano-bridging of organic and cementitious materials
- Reduce permeability
- Interface management

Barriers and Issues

- Lack of adequate R&D funding
- Slow adoption rates of new technologies
- Low-level of collaboration for multidisciplinary problems
- Prescriptive vs. performance based standards
- Low-level of QC technologies
- Lip service to life-time costs
- Poor image of cement-based materials

What Can Government Do?

Designate more funds for basic research
- Predictive modeling
- Nano-scale manipulation of cement hydration and microstructure
- Mechanistic understanding at the molecular level
Encourage elevation of QC of concrete

What Can Industry Do?

- Aggressive approach to codes and specifications
- Embrace “green”
- Focus on performance standards
- Strengthen enforcement
- Accelerate development/introduction of new technologies
The Future of Concrete

- What Can Science Do?
  - Understanding of cement chemistry at the molecular level
  - Understanding of microstructure at the nano level
    - Dynamic (minutes to days)
    - After major hydration is over
  - Predictive models
    - Rational concrete mix designs
    - Durability
  - Non-destructive testing methodologies

- What Can Technology Do?
  - Reduce CO₂ load
    - Increase the SCM in concrete - less clinker/m²
  - Alternative cementing materials
  - Technologies for robust SCC
  - Automated QC (sensors) methodologies
  - Increase durability – reduce propensity for cracking
    - Creep
    - Ductility
    - Permeability

- What Can We Do?
  - Elevate the image of cement based materials!!!
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Richard A. Livingston
Office of Infrastructure R&D
Federal Highway Administration

Workshop on Nano Technology for Cement and Concrete
September 5, 2007

Outline

- Introduction
- Cement Hydration Kinetics
- Fly Ash Reactivity
- Nano-composites
- Self-Healing Materials
- Conclusions

High Performance Materials

- Higher strength
- Greater durability
- Increased speed of construction
- Reduced environmental impact
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Dr. Richard Livingston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Admixture</th>
<th>Standard Specifications</th>
<th>Desired Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air-entraining admixture</td>
<td>ASTM C 292 and C 231</td>
<td>To create microscopic bubbles in concrete, which can provide freeze-thaw resistance and improve resistance to wear and scaling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water reducing admixture</td>
<td>ASTM C 494 (ASHPMD M 194)</td>
<td>Reduce the water content by 5 to 10%, while maintaining slump characteristics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-range water reducer</td>
<td>ASTM C 494 (ASHPMD M 194), ASTM C 1017</td>
<td>Reduce the water content by 5 to 10%, while maintaining slump and avoiding retardation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retarding admixture</td>
<td>ASTM C 494 (ASHPMD M 194)</td>
<td>To increase the rate of hydration of cement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerating admixture</td>
<td>ASTM C 494 (ASHPMD M 194)</td>
<td>To increase the rate of hydration of cement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air-entraining retarders</td>
<td>ASTM C 494 (ASHPMD M 194), ASTM C 1017</td>
<td>Reduce shrinkage, drying shrinkage, and related cracking, in concrete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRH-reducing admixtures</td>
<td>ASTM C 1580</td>
<td>Reduce or eliminate deleterious expansion due to alkali-silica reaction.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Free Water

Water of Hydration

Hydroxyl Group

Nucleation and Growth model

$$\beta(t) = \beta(t_0) + A \left(1 - \exp \left\{-k \left(t - t_0\right)^m\right\}\right)$$

- $\beta(t)$ = boundwater fraction
- $t_0$ = induction time
- $A$ = asymptotic volume fraction
- $k$ = rate constant
- $m$ = dimensionality

The BWI for a C_3S sample at 30° C

The elastic component (structural water) tracks the heat evolved.

The constrained water tracks the surface area measured by TANS.

Arhennius Plot of Quasi-elastic Results
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Dr. Richard Livingston

C₃S vs w/c ratio

Alto/Bellio Ratio

European Portland Cements

Fly Ash Effect on Microstructure Using SANS

Nuclear Resonance Reaction Analysis (NRRA)
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Dr. Richard Livingston
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Dr. Richard Livingston

Nanoparticles

- Nanosilica
- Ca(OH)$_2$
- CaCO$_3$
- TiO$_2$
- Carbon nanotubes
- Nanoclays
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Dr. Richard Livingston

Optimized Microstructure – Concrete Interfacial Transition Zone (ITZ)

Self-Healing Approaches

- Shape memory alloys
- Tri-block co-polymers
- Embedded microcapsules

Other Nanomaterials

- Asphalt
- Steel
- Coatings

Illinois Rt. 83 over the Canadian National Railroad tracks, Lake Villa, IL
Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials

Dr. Richard Livingston

Conclusions

- Highway materials are nanostructured
- Nanoscience knowledge is still incomplete
- Nanoscience investigations require advanced materials characterization methods
- Nanomodified steel has achieved field use
- Other nanomodified highway materials still at the laboratory stage
6. New Functionalities for the Building Industry

Dr. Laurent Bonafous

Now functionalities for the building industry: some examples related to photocatalytic technology

Workshop on Nanotechnology for cement and concrete
Washington, September 5, 2007

Nanotechnology: the impressive engineering art

Nanotechnology: a new wording part of an historical trend toward smaller objects design and characterization

- Protein (critical conformation - nano size)
- Metallic clusters supported on alumina wafer for petroleum cracking (nano size related electronic band structure)
- Building industry field:
  - Limestone in cement (nano size nucleation effect)
  - Silica gel slurry as a mineral addition (nano reactivity)
  - Latex (nanoparticle size)
  - Polycarboxylate (nano size design)

Nanotechnology: a new wording part of an historical trend toward smaller objects design and characterization

- CSH grown on C3S, Scanning tunneling microscopy (STM)

TiO₂ microparticles made with nanocrystals

Paint pigment: TiO₂ micro particles with nano thick silica coating

Published by Andrew Lambert Photography Science Library
6. New Functionalities for the Building Industry

Dr. Laurent Bonafous

- Anti-fog and self-cleaning surface properties due to super hydrophilic glass
- Bactericide tile’s surfaces

- Self cleaning PVC fabric
- Dives en Misericordia Church: self cleaning concrete

- Depolluting, self-locking paving blocks
- Depolluting Self-locking paving blocks: detailed results

> NOx abatement rate, calculated on the basis of average results recorded was found to be 45%.
6. New Functionalities for the Building Industry

Dr. Laurent Bonafous

The Principle of Photocatalysis

- Pollutants (and stains) are destroyed through molecular adsorption and oxidative reaction processes
- Ultimate products: CO₂, H₂O, NO₃⁻, SO₄²⁻, O₂, Cl⁻, ...
- Catalyst remains indefinitely

Stains and Pollutants Destruction

- Published claims of some chemicals oxidized by photocatalysis

Inorganic Compounds:
- NOx; SOx; CO; NH₃; H₂S

Organic Compounds
- Alcohol, Acids, Aikens, and Aromatic Compounds (phenol, toluene...)

Chlorinated Organic Compounds:
- Chloro Alkans, Bisoxins, Chloro Benzene and Chloro Phenol

Precast concrete panels with a face mix

- Project: Air France Headquarters Roissy - Charles de Gaulle International Airport - Paris, France
  - Owner: Air France
  - Architects: Denis Vallode and Jean Fisstra

RMC covered with active stucco

- Project: Ciments du Maroc Headquarters - Casablanca, Morocco
  - Owner: Ciments du Maroc
    - Architect: Rachid Andaloussi

Inorganic paint for restauration

- Church in Cittanova, Italy

Photocatalytic concrete pavers

- Church in Cittanova, Italy
6. New Functionalities for the Building Industry

Dr. Laurent Bonafous

Photocatalytic sound barriers

Porpora Street Tunnel – Milan, Italy

Photocatalytic concrete roof tiles

Benefits to using photocatalytic technology include:
- Reduced levels of several environmental pollutants.
- Continuous oxidizing action results in a clean building for the lifetime of the structure.
- Lower lifecycle maintenance costs.
- Potential for numerous LEED point credits

And opening towards future developments
- Research in nanotechnologies has been progressing for over three decades.
- The technology is adaptable to existing design and systems.
- Nanotechnology new applications will continue to appear with time, becoming more and more available and cost effective.

Nanotechnology – prospective
7. The Nano-Engineering of UHPC & Structures

What do Concrete and Oranges have in common?

The Challenge of Consumption

SUSTAINABILITY

Definition/VALUE

- Use Less
- Higher functionality
- Last Longer
- Lower Maintenance
- Less “Loss of Use”

Characteristics

- Higher Strengths
- Improved ductility
- Improved durability
- Improved recyclability

Mechanical Properties

- Compressive strength
- Tensile strength
- Shear strength
- Ductility/toughness
- Impactability
- E-Modulus
- Abrasion

Progress on the Concrete Front

The Indentation Test

- Instrumented indentation Test

Force P applied

Accuracy, 0.1 nm = 10^-10 m
7. The Nano-Engineering of UHPC & Structures

Vic Perry

This is not an Egyptian Pyramid, nor...

- But the nano-mechanical signature of concrete

A Genomic Code of cementitious materials?

- Ordinary Cement Paste: w/c = 0.5

Ordinary Concrete

- 1900-1965 Industrialization/Standardization

A Genomic Code of cementitious materials?

- High performance concrete (w/c = 0.4)

High Performance Concrete

- 1965-95 Re-discover Diversity

The Nano-Granular Nature of C-S-H*

- HD C-S-H
- LD C-S-H


Filling the Voids
7. The Nano-Engineering of UHPC & Structures

**The Nano-Granular Nature of C-S-H**
- What concrete and Oranges have in Common?

**The Nano-Granular Nature of Bone**

**The True Challenge of Sustainable Development**
Economic Growth – Social Progress – Minimizing Ecological Footprint

**UHPC Bridge for US Highways**
- Prototype Development with MIT, Lafarge and FHWA
  - Project: “Bridge of the Future”
  - Max L/H = 35
  - Weight Reduction: 30%
  - Durability (Low Maintenance)
  - Rapid Construction (circulation)
  - Construction: Prestress Services, Kentucky
  - Material: DUCTAL®

**UHPC Design**
Monitoring the Temperature during Hydration

**Nano Engineer the Performance**
"Shake-em-up" the Hydrates

Vic Perry
7. The Nano-Engineering of UHPC & Structures

**Prototype Development**
- Tested in May 2005 by FHWA (Turner-Fairbank, Virginia)

*From Nano-to-Structures: Nano Engineering of Concrete*
1st Implementation Iowa 2007/08

**Impact on Architectural Design**
- Shell Structure Revival

*Shawinigan LRT Station, Canada, AB*
Architect: Enzo Vicenzino (U.S. Group of Architects and Engineers Ltd.)
Contractor: Walter Construction Ltd.
Engineering Design: Structures, Montreal
Design Verification: MIT

**UHPC Shell Structure Revival**
- With Software from Space Shuttle Design

**Shawinigan LRT Station, Canada, AB**

*Further images of architectural designs and structures*
8. Roadmap for Research

Dr. Bjorn Birgisson

Presentation 8
Roadmap for Research

Nanotechnology in Concrete-Based Materials
Dr. Bjorn Birgisson, P.E., Professor and Division Chair of Highway and Railway Engineering
School of Civil & Architectural Engineering
The Royal Institute of Technology (KTH)
Stockholm, Sweden

Pending Infrastructure Crisis

Transportation Infrastructure:
- ASCE (2003) estimated it would cost $1.3 trillion dollars and in 2006 ASCE estimated it would cost $1.8 trillion dollars to upgrade infrastructure to acceptable levels.
- AASHTO (2007) estimates that yearly capital outlays by federal & state governments would have to increase by:
  - 41% to reach the "Cost to Maintain Level;"
  - 58% to reach the "Cost to Improve Level;"
- The federal transportation bill for 2009 (SAFETY+LU) authorized around $43 billion for the nation's highway programs.
- AASHTO (2007) predicts a 4 billion dollar shortfall in the National Highway Trust Fund by 2009, which could lead to a cut in federal-aid highway program from a planned obligation level of $41.2 billion to $26.7 billion for fiscal year 2009.

Nanotechnology for Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure

- Slowly deteriorating transportation infrastructure due to lack of sufficient funds implies a strong need for:
- Developing advanced technologies that allow for the intelligent replacement of our transportation infrastructure with materials and systems that last at least twice as long as current bridges and pavements.
- Developing of effective long term monitoring techniques for warning of - Early material/structural degradation - Potential safety hazards
8. Roadmap for Research

Dr. Bjorn Birgisson

The NINE GRAND CHALLENGES in the Original National Nanotechnology Initiative Plan

1. Nanostructured Materials by Design
2. Nano-electronics, Optoelectronics, and Magnetics
3. Advanced Healthcare Therapeutics and Diagnostics
4. Nanoscale Processes for Environmental Improvement
5. Efficient Energy Conversion and Storage
6. Microspherecom exploitation and industrialization
7. Bio-nanosensors for Communicable Disease and Biological Threat Detection
8. Economic and Safe Transportation
9. National Security

Initial Efforts
Modification of Concrete

Why concrete?
The most heavily used construction material in the world
We currently use more than one cubic yard per person per year

The basic building blocks of concrete are nanosize (C-S-H crystals are about 5 nm long)
- lends itself to nanomodification and "bottom-up" engineering

PARTICLE SIZE SCALE RELATED TO CONCRETE

Nanotechnology in Cement Science

Understanding and manipulation of materials on the nanoscale from 0.1 nm to 100 nm.

Pre-Workshop Meeting
Orlando, July 26th, 2006

Participants

- Univ. of Florida
- Northwestern Univ.
- Iowa State Univ. (NCPT Center)
- Army Research Center
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Florida DOT
- Transportation Research Board (TRB)
- American Concrete Pavement Assoc. (ACPA)
- Florida Concrete & Products Assoc. (FCPA)

NSF Workshop, August 8-11, 2006

Objective: Develop a National Roadmap for Research in this emerging area
Co-sponsored by:
- University of Florida
- The Defense Threat Reduction Agency
- The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
- RILEM
- Portland Cement Association
- Florida Concrete and Products Association
Affiliated Agencies:
- Federal Highway Administration
- The Florida Dept. of Transportation
Twenty Nine Presentations
Participants from the United States, Europe, Canada, Mexico
All major federal agencies, the military, industries, and academic interests are represented
8. Roadmap for Research

Dr. Bjorn Birgisson

ROADMAP

- The Roadmap will serve to support the identification of resources needed to facilitate the technical innovation that will lead to:
  - the creation of new technologies
  - addition of knowledge-based and high tech jobs/companies,
  - associated technology transfer of the research findings to other fields, including homeland security.

ROADMAP FEATURES

- Under each of these key outcomes are listed a number of research focus areas and topics.
- These research areas are arranged according to their time horizon to completion from today:
  - “Short term” activities lasting less than 5 years.
  - “Intermediate term” activities lasting between 5 and 15 years, and
  - “Long term” activities with a time horizon greater than 15 years.

IDENTIFIED TECHNOLOGY OUTCOMES FOR CONCRETE

- High Performance Cement and Concrete Materials as measured by their:
  - mechanical.
  - durability, and
  - shrinkage properties.
- Sustainable and Safe Concrete Materials and Structures through:
  - engineering concrete for different adverse environments,
  - reducing energy consumption during cement production, and
  - enhancing safety with nano-engineering of concrete materials.
- Intelligent Concrete Materials through integration of nanotechnology-based:
  - self-sensing and self-powered materials, and
  - cyber infrastructure technologies.

- Novel Concrete Materials through:
  - nanotechnology-based innovative processing of cement and cement paste (Ex: cement-based ceramics, etc)
- Fundamental Multi-scale Model(s) for Concrete through advanced characterization and modeling of concrete at the nano, micro-, meso-, and macroscales.
8. Roadmap for Research

Dr. Bjorn Birgisson

**Collaborative Approach to Research**

- Establish a TRB Task Force on Nanotechnology-Based Concrete Materials
- Establish a consortium for research in Nanomodification of Cementitious Materials to:
  - Develop and maintain a research roadmap
  - Generate knowledge in a more efficient way, and
  - Provide means for comprehensive communications of research findings.
- Apply systematic, coordinated, and collaborative approach to research.
- The research has to be both properties and product driven and cost effective.
- Establish benchmarks to measure success.
8. Roadmap for Research

Dr. Bjorn Birgisson

- Close interaction and sharing of information through specialty conferences and symposiums.
- Coordinate technical activities with NSF, ARMY ERDC, DTRA, FHWA, AASHTO, TRB, ACI, PCA, NRMCA, RILEM, and other research organizations and industry associations.

Thank You
Roundtable Discussion

A roundtable discussion was held over a one-hour period, facilitated by Dr. Krishna Rajan. The aim was to allow all those present the opportunity to express their opinion/position on the needs of the construction industry (including some prioritization), and to identify those needs that could be met using nanotechnology and nanoscience. The discussion points can be divided into three categories: constraints, background, and needs. Each of these categories is summarized below.

Constraints

It is perceived at present that any work conducted or innovations developed will likely be constrained by the following before they will find broad application in the construction industry:

- Concrete is a commodity material, typically sold and placed under low-bid contracts. This means that the system is extremely cost sensitive, particularly with respect to first cost.

- Despite the emphasis on first cost from a budget standpoint, attention must be paid to the full life cycle of a concrete mixture, including disposal or recycling costs from a sustainability point of view.

- People involved in making and placing concrete generally do not understand the material well; therefore, the mixture has to be insensitive to mistakes and variability, and education has to accompany changes in technology.

- Contracts tend to be inflexible, often limiting the acceptability of innovative approaches or materials. For example, many specifications will not allow lower cement contents in concrete, therefore removing any motivation to make cement hydration more efficient. Policy changes are needed to help remedy this constraint.

- Costs of moving bulk raw materials are high, meaning that, in general, users are constrained into using locally available materials (particularly aggregates) regardless of their technical acceptability. Educational efforts and policy directives are required to address this constraint.

- Construction tends to be labor intensive and is generally outdoors, meaning that nanomodified materials will have to be examined for their effects on health and the environment should they be released or leached from the concrete.

- Emphasis should be placed on seeking solutions that are practical and achievable in the short term.

Background

In comparison to other materials, relatively little work has been conducted on understanding the nano-and microstructure of cementitious systems in comparison to other materials. A bibliography of reported work in this field is being developed by American Concrete Institute Committee 236. It was noted that the state of knowledge has effectively been good enough for the cases where concrete materials are used. The following, better understood, materials types are analogous to hydrated cement paste and may provide a useful background for further work:
• Hydrated cement pastes may be compared to polymeric materials in their structural form in that they are complex and amorphous multiphase mixtures.

• They are also analogous to clays because calcium-silicate-hydrate has a layered structure that is sensitive to moisture movement within the gel pores.

• In contrast, cement paste is also compared to ceramic systems because it is inherently brittle with low toughness and tensile strength.

Needs

It was suggested that consideration should be given to developing the list of properties needed for a mixture and then engineering the materials to provide those properties. For the concrete construction industry to flourish, the following needs should be addressed:

• Test methods and tools to assess the quality and state of a mixture are essential. If suitable tests and limits are available, then specifications can move toward calling out performance requirements and away from recipe book approaches.

• Control systems to modify the performance of a mixture on the fly are desirable.

• A better understanding of cementitious materials and their hydration mechanisms is required if they are to be fundamentally and scientifically modified.

• Usage of clinker has to become significantly more efficient from an environmental point of view, either by mixing with other materials, and/or by increasing the performance of the material (a 15% increase was discussed). It may also be noted that performance of cement may be measured using a number of parameters. Engineers historically depend on strength as a criterion, but this may not be appropriate when durability is likely to become a more important consideration.

• Means are needed to make concrete and its ingredients more uniform and stable. Many failures are due to unexpected materials being included in the mix or unexpected reactions occurring within it.

• Materials should be sought that reduce or control the timing of shrinkage in concrete in order to reduce the risk of cracking.

• Methods to make use of marginal aggregates are required if concrete construction is to be sustainable.

• Immediate and practical requirements are needed for improved control over workability (and how it changes with time) and durability.

• Advances in high performance computing should be taken advantage of to model cementitious systems at a nanoscale and to facilitate modifying concrete systems.
**Breakout Sessions**

Six breakout sessions were held, covering three topics: “Sustainability,” “High Performance,” and “Durability.” Each topic was discussed by two groups in order to keep the groups small and to observe similarities and differences between their findings. Individuals were pre-assigned to each group to ensure that groups included representatives from government, product manufacturers, associations, and academia. The groups met for approximately one hour, followed by an hour of reporting and discussion. Each group of approximately nine people was asked to address their topic around the following questions:

- What do we need?
- How can nanotechnology help us get there?
- Who can do it and how?
- What is the low-hanging fruit?

The following is a summary of the findings of each group.

**Sustainability 1**

**Invited**
Steve Kosmatka (Facilitator), James Alleman, Jim Armaghani, Fred Hejl, Al Innis, Vagn Johansen, Daniel Rardon, Clayton Teague, Jerry Voigt

**General**
- When developing goals, it is important to quantify the targets to assist the researchers and to inform the funding agencies.
- Innovations and new developments must be cost neutral. The improvements, for instance thinner pavements, should balance higher prices for materials.
- Specifications should move away from prescriptive to performance-based approaches to allow innovations to be implemented.
- Collaboration with other industries/government bodies will assist in finding solutions to the following issues.
- All interested parties, from manufacturers, consumers, and owners to regulators and researchers, will have to be involved in defining the needs in detail and in funding and developing the solutions to them.

**Need**
- There is a critical need to reduce CO₂ production from cement plants. (Cement manufacture reportedly generates about 1.5% of man-made CO₂ in the United States.) Demand on the cement manufacturers is to produce more cement with less CO₂ from the same raw materials.

**Solutions**
- Increase the life of highways and structures which will lead to lower cement consumption and thereby less CO₂ emission and lower consumption of raw materials. This would address all issues related to sustainability. Factors important for lifetime were listed as materials degradation from exposure to harsh environments, exposure to chemicals and ingress of aggressive fluids, and fatigue. Tensile failure of the paste is an important factor in deterioration; therefore, if the ratio of tensile strength to compressive strength could be

---

increased, the situation would be greatly improved. Nanotechnology could be used to improve durability (resistance to environment) and tensile strength. The technology could also be used to control, improve, and/or monitor the degree of cement hydration.

– Use CO$_2$ to carbonate concrete to modify early properties and to consume CO$_2$. Nanotechnology could be used to assist in carrying out the process and in monitoring it.

– Reduce clinker contents in concrete while maintaining desired properties, thereby using thinner concrete and less material. Nanomaterials could be used in small quantities to enhance concrete properties.

– Sequester or harvest CO$_2$ from cement plants into a useful product using nanotechnology.

– Have a nanocatalyst to split CO$_2$ into O$_2$ and C. This should be a project across many industries, including power industry. (In the September 8–14, 2007 issue, The Economist has an article about CO$_2$ capture from a power plant exhaust gas by growing algae.)

– Use nanotechnology to develop concrete surfaces with less rolling resistance, which will lead to lower fuel consumption and lower emissions.

**Need**

With increasing demand for sustainable development, it is necessary to be able to increase the use of materials (particularly aggregates) currently considered marginal or unacceptable.

**Solutions**

– Improve the quality of the paste, allowing lower grade aggregates to be acceptable. A key to this will, again, be the ability to improve the degree of hydration of the cement.

– Consider two-layer pavement construction with poorer grade materials in the lower layer and high-grade materials in the wearing surface.

– Use nanoclays to improve concrete properties.

– Investigate the concept of nanomodification of poor-quality aggregates.

**Low Fruit**

– Quantification of needed tensile strengths.

– Development of methods to monitor and control cementitious materials hydration.

– Communication of industry research goals to government.

**Sustainability 2**

**Invited**

Richard Livingston (Facilitator), John Brighton, Tom Cackler, Rita Chow, Peter Deem, Kevin McMullen, Uwe Schutz, Leif Wathne

**Needs**

– Ways to reduce CO$_2$ footprint from the production of cement.

– Methods to reduce clinker content in concrete because it is the production of clinker that produces CO$_2$ and consumes energy.
– Means of improving fuel consumption in cement manufacturing, concrete production, and in transportation systems.
– Tools to reduce energy consumption, particularly in cement manufacturing.

Solutions
– Develop energy-efficient insulating construction systems in order to improve thermal characteristics in buildings, especially housing.
– Use nanotechnology to modify cements so that they are more efficient, which will lead to lower consumption rates.
– Investigate means to produce concrete with sufficient strength, flexibility, and potential durability to ensure longer life and less need for repair and replacement.
– Use nanomaterials to improve use of marginal and recycled aggregates in portland cement concrete. This would include methods to allow use of aggregates with currently excessive clay contents, poor soundness characteristics, and poor abrasion resistance.
– Develop methods to reduce the amount of water needed to wash or prepare aggregates and to make concrete mixture workable.
– Find ways to use “gray” or recycled water by using nanotechnology to control the amounts of contaminants in the water, or to limit their effects.
– Improve CO₂ sequestration properties of concrete to reduce the total CO₂ burden.
– Ensure that concrete can be recycled at the end of its functional life.

High Performance 1

Invited
Kevin MacDonald (Facilitator), Mike Beacham, Bjorn Birgisson, Laurent Bonafous, David Carson, Brian Green, Randell Riley, Mike Roco, Tyson Rupnow

General
– Method specifications are less desirable in this context than performance specifications.
– We need to get the information from the academic world to the real world quickly.
– HPC is defined as concrete fit for its intended use.

Needs
– Control shrinkage in concrete by modifying the nature of the hydrated cement paste.
– Produce a more uniform and controlled hydration product.
– Use marginal aggregates or reclaimed concrete aggregates.
– Control rheological properties of fresh concrete.
– Control concrete surface characteristics for skid resistance and noise characteristics.
– Develop innovative procedures for measurement of key parameters such as potential durability.
– Modify portland cement concrete processing to make it less sensitive to human error.

**Solutions**
– Use nanomaterials as uniformly distributed nucleation seeds for hydration.
– Use nanomaterials incorporating color change for indicating water control during early hydration in order to flag when sawing, texturing, or curing can start or end.
– Beneficiate aggregates by coating them with nanomaterials to improve bonding characteristics and inhibit deterioration mechanisms.
– Use clays to modify hydration product structures.

**Who**
Cement and admixture companies, ACPA, FHWA, NSF, anyone with funding and/or problems to solve.

**Low fruit**
We need to identify what is available in the nano world now and take from those industries and apply to transportation/infrastructure needs.

**High Performance 2**

**Invited**
Suneel Vanikar (Facilitator), Clark Cooper, Geoffrey Holdridge, Jack Holley, Felek Jachimowicz, John Melander, Krishna Rajan, Joe Tedesco, Don Weir

**Needs**
– Enhanced mechanical properties.
– Greater consistency in raw materials and in process control.
– Improved characteristics of raw materials.
– Improved constructability.
– Greater cost-effectiveness.
– Ability to recycle.

**Solutions**
– Develop affordable nanomeasurement technologies to monitor, control, and minimize water content in cement and concrete.
– Use embedded sensors in raw materials and finished concrete to enhance production consistency, predictability, and robustness.
– Identify nanoparticles for enhancement of mechanical properties.
– Establish computational nanotechnology techniques for modeling hydrated cementitious systems.

**Who**
– Consortia.
– Group/Industry/Academia.
– Semiconductors and Semiconductor Research Corporation.
– Trained workforce.

**Low Fruit**
– Self-healing, self-curing concrete.
– Dimensional stability.

**Durability 1**

**Invited**
Colin Lobo (Facilitator), Mike Byers, Vic Perry, Bruce Blair, Panneer Selvan, Ed Garboczi, Jim Grove

**Needs**
– Improved paste quality to limit water transport through the paste.
– Control of degradation mechanisms in aggregates.
– Significantly extended life until the first major rehabilitation.
– New quality control means to monitor the pavement during and after construction.
– Tests to predict performance based on understanding the mechanisms that cause the deterioration.
– Improved mixing and curing techniques and monitoring methods.
– Reduced shrinking and cracking.
– Greater use of marginal aggregates.
– Improved knowledge about the properties required for durability and the mechanisms behind them.

**Solutions**
– Monitor the rheological properties of fresh concrete with nanomonitors.
– Use nanomonitors to understand and monitor the migration of water in concrete.
– Use nanomaterials to improve self-curing.
– Use nanomaterials to create self-healing mechanisms when cracks occur.
– Use nanotechniques to develop better understanding of freeze-thaw, sulfate attack, and alkali silica reaction mechanisms.
– Develop nanoinstruments to monitor the mechanisms of degradation.
– Use nanoscale devices to monitor and modify concrete performance.

**Who**
– Multidisciplined consortia to do the work.
– NSF funding is needed.
– Liaison with Nanocem to prevent overlap.

**Low Fruit**
– Development of sensors and high-tech equipment.
– Chemistry and computational nano-level modeling.
The Workshop on Nanotechnology for Cement and Concrete: Durability 2

**Invited**
Peter Taylor (Facilitator), Perumalsamy Balaguru, Teck Chua, Julie Garbini, Gary Henderson, Gary Knight, Shashi Nambisan

**Needs**

– Test methods that can be used to rapidly predict performance and correlate results with the life of the system.
– Improved understanding of attack mechanisms—alkali silica reaction, delayed ettringite formation, sulfate attack
– Improved understanding of fluid transport in concrete
– Improved understanding, control, and monitoring of cement hydration
– The ability to turn on and off the hydration process as desired
– Better control of entrained air stability
– Improved dimensional stability measurement and control
– Improved durability for new and existing structures
– The ability to fill or seal cracks and micropores
– Concrete that has a limited functional life.

**Solutions**

– Nanotracking and nanoinstrumentation can help address issues related to understanding hydration in the lab.
– Nanosensors could be used to measure various properties in the field. These would include monitoring mechanisms such as cracking and infiltration of aggressive chemicals.
– Nanomaterials could also be used for activation of desired processes such as improved curing/hydration.

**Priorities**

– Test methods based on better understanding of attack mechanisms.
– Improving durability of in-place existing structures through filling micro cracks and voids.
– Improved understanding of hydration systems.
– Faster, better durability test methods using nano-sensing.
– Turn on and off hydration of cement.
– Control percent hydration of concrete.
– Forced internal curing.

**Summary**

In collating the information from the groups, it was found that some themes were common to many of them. Likewise, several topics were only addressed by some groups, but they are critically important to the future of the concrete construction industry. The following sections summarize both of these sets of topics.
Reduction of CO₂ loading on the environment

As a significant producer of CO₂, the cement industry is under considerable pressure to reduce the amount of CO₂ they release to the atmosphere. This can be achieved by doing the following:

- Increasing efficiency of cement along with improving the quality and durability of concrete, leading to lower consumption.
- Supplementing clinker with other materials.
- Accounting for or encouraging sequestration of CO₂ into hardened concrete.
- Capturing and beneficiating CO₂ during the manufacturing process.

All of these have potential solutions through the use of nanotechnology.

Use of marginal and recycled materials

This topic encompasses modification of aggregates and recycled materials that would otherwise interfere with the fresh properties (constructability) or the long-term properties (durability) of the concrete. It is believed that nanotechnology will be able to provide systems to coat or modify problem systems so that they become usable. This will have a significant effect on sustainability of construction as traditional sources of high-quality materials are consumed.

Shrinkage

Volume change in concrete due to temperature changes and moisture loss over time accounts for a large percentage of defects observed in concrete systems, particularly in pavements and slabs on grade. Shrinkage is a direct cause of cracking and warping leading to faulting and premature serviceability failure in a large number of pavements around the country. If this movement within the concrete could be prevented, reduced, or at least made more predictable in terms of timing and extent, millions of dollars would be saved in slabs being removed and replaced, or repaired. Losses to contractors and owners of pavements would be significantly reduced. It is likely that nanotechnology will be able to offer tools to monitor and/or modify the shrinkage of hydrated cement systems. It should be noted that commercially available shrinkage-reducing admixtures are available today that modify the surface tension of capillary pore fluids. These have not yet found wide acceptance in the pavement construction industry.

Permeability

All failure mechanisms associated with concrete durability involve the transportation of fluids through the concrete microstructure. At present, there are a limited number of tests appropriate for assessing these transport mechanisms, and none has found general acceptance in the construction industry. Again, the use of nanotechnology-based tools to monitor and nanomaterials to modify the permeability of a given concrete system will immediately lead to longer lasting concrete structures. Methods to help develop better understanding of some of the still intractable deterioration mechanisms, such as alkali silica reaction, will also be of great value.

Modification of cement hydration

Cement hydration is a complex set of interrelated chemical reactions leading to stiffening of the fresh concrete, followed by strength gain and decreased permeability. This system of
reactions is relatively poorly understood and generally uncontrolled once it has been initiated. Rates are affected by the materials within the system and by the environment to which it is exposed. Unexpected changes in stiffening and or strength gain regularly impact the quality of finished products. Development of a better understanding of the processes involved, associated with tools to monitor hydration and, preferably, means to control the rates of hydration, will significantly enhance construction reliability and efficiency.

**Curing**

A property associated with hydration is the provision of so-called “internal curing” to cementitious systems. Hydration of portland cement is relatively slow compared to other industrial materials, and the need to keep a concrete wet and warm for several weeks often runs counter to the construction schedule and economics. Curing is required to provide an environment for hydration to continue. If nanotechnology is able to provide a means to effectively provide moisture for hydration from internal sources rather than external, then the use of concrete for construction will be significantly simplified.

**Computational Modeling and Nanodevices and Sensors**

Hydrated cement paste is heterogenous and complex both at a nanometer scale and at a meter scale. A large amount of computing power is required to properly model the material across several orders of magnitude. Such computational resources are now becoming available, allowing for the development of more rigorous models that describe and predict the performance of different cementitious systems. Work is needed to continue developing and validating these models in order to improve understanding of the materials and predict future performance. Tied to these models is the need to characterize and monitor the critical performance parameters. Once again, development of nanodevices that can report the in-situ properties of a system as hydration progresses will greatly ease the ability to build and maintain durable concrete structures and pavements.

**Closing**

All of these topics were identified in the roadmap developed at the workshop held in 2006. This session has been able to update the topics and priorities based on need and accessibility, largely from the point of view of materials manufacturers and users.
Outcomes

Common Themes and Priorities

Several common/important themes were apparent as immediate needs for the concrete construction industry that must be addressed through scientific exploration:

- Reduction of CO$_2$ loading on the environment,
- Use of marginal and recycled materials,
- Crack prevention (Shrinkage),
- Reduced permeability,
- Modification of cement hydration,
- Provision of curing, and
- Improved modeling of properties and performance.

It was believed that nanotechnology and nanoscience would have the means to make significant inroads into the aforementioned needs in the near term.

When prioritizing these needs, several factors need to be considered. Concrete is a heterogenous mixture of multiphase constituents. There are significant variances in composition and properties of each of the constituents, not the least of which is the paste fraction. Hydrated cement paste that forms near coarse aggregate particles tends to be weaker and more porous than that formed 50 µm away from the aggregate surface. Aggregate particles vary in size from µm sizes up to tens of mm. The “critical flaw” size of most concrete mixtures is in the tens or hundreds of µm, making the need to study nanoproperties of concrete as a whole somewhat questionable.

On the other hand, the structure and hydration mechanics of the individual phases of portland cement paste falls firmly into the realm of nanotechnology, and the tools and potential manipulations of this system may make significant contributions to addressing the needs described above.

Likewise, there appears to be great potential in investigating and modifying the raw materials of concrete. Chemical admixtures that are used to modify workability of the mixture, entrain air, or modify shrinkage behavior are ripe for nanomodification to optimize their performance. The use of supplementary cementitious materials and the study of their direct effects on hydration mechanics will likely further enhance sustainability and durability of concrete. Even cement grains may benefit from modification of their surfaces to enhance the hydration process by accelerating the phases that contribute to performance and limiting the processes responsible for unexpected stiffening. Development of improved materials to help reduce the surface permeability of concrete and so increase its durability will be invaluable.

The other arena where nanotechnology has the potential to significantly change concrete technology is in the realm of modeling and sensors. Many tests currently conducted on concrete for quality control purposes are empirical and have poor repeatability. Measurement of critical parameters, such as crack risk and durability, is unreliable. Devices that provide a means of tracking a mixture degree of hydration in real time would reduce the risk of premature
failure significantly. Tools that use numerical models to predict system performance will lead to improved reliability and more rapid development of innovative materials and combinations.

The other aspect to this consideration is that of sustainability. A car built in 2007 is significantly different from one built in 1960. The changes in design and manufacturing processes have been driven by the need for better safety and reliability, reduced emissions, and by competition from global manufacturers. The U.S. concrete construction industry is now starting to face the same demands in that CO$_2$ is now a global problem impacting many industries, aggregate sources are declining, and leading technology is being reported from elsewhere. These are likely to be the prime drivers in the near term, making the CO$_2$ issue the highest priority from the above list.

**A Vision**

A scenario for the future may be visualized by referring to one construction system—concrete slipform paving.

At present, a relatively stiff mixture is delivered to its point of placement. Because it is stiff, it has been difficult to ensure adequate and/or uniform mixing and to entrain a sufficiency of fine air bubbles needed for frost protection. Standard test methods do not reliably indicate the workability of the mixture or the state of the air void system. No means are available to confirm whether the mixture contains the correct ingredients within reasonable bounds of the designed mixture proportions. This stiff mixture is forced into its final shape using heavy equipment, and significant energy is required to fill the forms and remove large voids. Vibration is applied to remove oversized air bubbles, with the associated risk that desirable air bubbles are also removed. Only rarely are tests conducted once the paving machine moves past the concrete to confirm the state of hydration and the in-place quality of the air void system. Once the paver moves past the concrete, it is hoped that the concrete retains its shape. If the mixture is too wet, then edge slump will occur, compromising the integrity of the pavement. We are therefore walking a delicate balance between fluid enough to be handled and consolidated, but dry enough to retain shape when unsupported. If uncontrolled chemical reactions occur between the mixture ingredients, then the mixture may stiffen between the time of batching and final handling, making it difficult to consolidate.

Voids on the surface are filled (or covered over) by hand and the surface is then textured to provide skid resistance. After some time of exposure to the atmosphere, curing compounds are applied to seal in water for curing. No additional water is provided. If the weather is hot and evaporation rates are high, then cracking is probable. The mixture is exothermic and gets hot during early hydration, often causing the slab to set at well above ambient temperature. Joints are sawn into the surface a few hours later to allow the slab to shrink due to the initial temperature drop and later moisture loss. If sawing is too late, then random cracking occurs, leading to loss of serviceability. If sawing is too early, then the joints are raveled, reducing ride quality and increasing the risk of joint-related failures later. Often the decision on when to start sawing is based on an estimate by an experienced operator. No further treatment is applied to the surface to assist with permeability. Generally, it is assumed that a well-hydrated, well-proportioned mixture with an adequate air void system will be able to withstand the environment, and often this is true. However, there is no good way to be sure of this, short of waiting for several years for signs of distress.
This description has sought to indicate that slipform paving is a series of compromises and making critical decisions based on limited information, with significant implications on the life of the pavement if bad decisions are made. Adding to the risk is that these decisions are often made by people who have not received adequate training for the task, and who have limited knowledge of the complexities behind the system they are working with. However, we do manage to produce many hundreds of miles of successful concrete paving each year, and, despite the potential pitfalls, the system is economically and technically viable.

Consider then an alternative approach that may, indeed, be possible with the assistance of nanotechnology.

A very fluid mixture that has been easily mixed in transit is delivered to the point of placement. Internal monitoring nanodevices provide continual logging of the air void system and the degree of hydration. Hydration has actually been stopped by nanomaterials mixed into the concrete and the mixture is not stiffening. The mixture is handled by light equipment and relatively easily formed into its final position. Minimal vibration is required to remove unwanted large air voids, and vibration is stopped as soon as the internal nanosensors report the required air void parameters have been achieved. At this time, a signal is sent to the hydration control nanoparticles, and hydration is initiated and accelerated to cause the concrete to stiffen significantly before it is exposed by the paving machine. Edge slump does not occur. Sensors continue to report the state of the mixture behind the paver providing the basis for quality control and quality assurance. Texturing is applied and another signal further accelerates hydration to cause final setting and initial strength development.

Another set of nanoparticles are then applied to the surface. Their small size allows them to penetrate a few millimeters into the surface, where they interact with the hydrated cement paste to seal it up and prevent future fluid penetration and durability-related failure. Indeed, if a sufficiently robust sealant can be developed, then the need for entrained air may become redundant. This sealant would be below the surface; therefore, the skid resistance of the concrete would not be compromised. Internal curing molecules then promote hydration to a state where the concrete is ready to carry the intended traffic for the designed time. Other nanomaterials control the structure of the hydrated cement paste so that drying shrinkage is reduced or eliminated, thus significantly reducing the need for, or increasing the spacing of, joints and controlling warping. Ideally, methods to control temperature variations can also be incorporated to minimize thermal stresses in the slab, further reducing the risk of warping, cracking, and the need for joints. The sensors embedded in the system continue to report the state of the concrete, and should cracks or deleterious reactions occur, they can be reported early to facilitate planning for repair or mitigation.

Based on this vision, one can conceive that nanotechnology may fundamentally change the way that concrete pavements are constructed, resulting in increased reliability for all parties involved. Realistically, if we can deal with workability control, shrinkage, and permeability, then many of the failures currently occurring will be significantly reduced.

**Collaborative effort**

Based on the figures discussed in the introduction, it is not unreasonable to estimate that a savings of $7 billion per annum, worldwide, can be achieved by meeting the needs discussed in this report. In 1992, it was estimated that replacement of the deteriorating built environment
was going to cost $20.6 trillion in the US\textsuperscript{7}. Mitigation of this need in new construction by preventing premature failures would therefore be in the order of several billion per annum. Thus, the value of pursuing this work is clearly justified from an economic viewpoint alone. However, the work also offers significant environmental and societal benefits.

When considering the magnitude of the issues, it is clear that the needs can only be addressed by collaborative efforts in order to leverage the resources available. Collaboration is required between

- Funding agencies to allow sufficient resources to be available for the research to be conducted at the highest level.
- Research institutions to ensure that the best available minds and resources can be brought to bear.
- Specification authorities to allow innovations to be acceptable in contract documents.
- Education institutions to teach users of the new technologies how they may be utilized safely and effectively—both at an operator level, and for future researchers to continue the work.
- Information providers so that there is appropriate sharing of findings to ensure that seminal work is not repeated unnecessarily.
- Other industries to take every opportunity to make use of findings and approaches developed for other materials that will be of benefit to the study of cementitious systems.

The above discussion points to the need for a neutral, central, clearing-house resource where any of the above agencies can find partners and share data, resources, and needs.
Plans for the future

The following plans have been developed:

- Establish an Industry board to help steer future decisions regarding research in this field. It is planned that this board will develop into a National Nanotechnology Initiative Consultative Board for Advancing Nanotechnology (NNI CBAN) as appropriate. The board will include representatives of the cement and chemical admixture industries, ready-mix concrete industry, federal agencies, and researchers in this area.

- Establish an international university-based research consortium to promote and lead nanotechnology-based concrete research. It is extremely important to form a coalition of key research entities that bring together the broad knowledge needed for the breakthroughs in nanotechnology-based cement and concrete research. This consortium will include experts on construction materials, including concrete paving materials, material scientists with expertise in polymers and innovative material processing, as well as experts on computational modeling and thin films and coatings.

- Plan another workshop for the summer/fall of 2008 to provide an opportunity for scientists working in nanotechnology and nanoscience to discuss their work and their possible approaches to the needs raised at this workshop.

- Commence work on developing detailed work statements aimed at addressing the needs and issues raised at this meeting. This work will also include conducting extensive literature reviews of work conducted in other fields and industries to seek methods and approaches that may accelerate the proposed activities.

- Establish an Internet-based central database and clearinghouse on key research in progress and research outcomes, which will also allow secure communications between researchers during research in progress.

- Develop a consortium-based approach to foster research efforts through the international, university-based research consortium, with a focus on short-term and intermediate-term research outcomes. Organize larger consortia around grand challenge problems, such as the development of a model for the hydration process.

In addition, the key priority research areas identified in this workshop will be used as focal points for research consortia, where technical input and funding will be sought from industry and key funding agencies within the United States and Europe. The following topics will be covered by these research minicongsortia:

- Use of nanotechnology to reduce CO$_2$ loading from cement plants on the environment.

- Development of innovative technologies to enhance the use of marginal and recycled materials in portland cement concrete.

- Nanotechnology for reduced shrinkage behavior of portland cement concrete.

- Nanomodification of portland cement concrete to reduce permeability.

- Development of nanotechnology-based solutions to monitor and modify rates of hydration in portland cement concrete.

- Computational modeling and sensor systems to monitor and describe system performance.
Appendices

Appendix A: Agenda

Workshop on Nano Technology for Cement and Concrete
September 5, 2007
FDIC, 3501 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA

Sponsors: The National Concrete Pavement Technology Center and the National Science Foundation, in Cooperation with the Nanoscale Science, Engineering, and Technology (NSET) Subcommittee of the U.S. National Science and Technology Council, through the National Nanotechnology Coordination Office

Objective: Provide national direction on areas of priority interest and collaboration between industry and public agencies specifically for cement and concrete.

8:00 am – 8:30 am Coffee
8:30 am – 8:45 am Welcome
Tom Cackler, CP Tech Center, Iowa State Univ.
8:45 am – 8:55 am Snapshot of the National Nanotechnology Initiative
Dr. Clayton Teague, National Nanotechnology Coordination Office
8:55 am – 9:15 am Nano House
Dr. Mike Roco, National Nanotechnology Initiative
9:15 am – 9:25 am FHWA Perspective on Nanotechnology in Concrete
Gary Henderson, FHWA.
9:25 am – 9:45 am Nanocem - European Efforts
Vagn Johansen, Nanocem
9:45 am – 10:15 am Break
10:15 am – 10:45 am The Future of Concrete
Dr. Felek Jachimowicz, Vice President of Research, WR Grace
10:45 am – 11:00 am Nanoscience of Highway Construction Materials
Dr. Richard Livingston, FHWA
11:00 am – 11:30 am New Functionalities for the Building Industry
Dr. Laurent Bonafous – Essroc-Italcementi
11:30 am – 12:00 am The Nano-Engineering of UHPC & Structures
Vic Perry, Bruce Blair – Lafarge & Dr. Franz-Josef Ulm - MIT
12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm Round table discussion (Each participant group [agency/company] should be prepared to share brief comments [3 to 5 minutes] on main overarching themes of their agencies'/companies' areas of interest)
1:45 pm – 2:15 pm  Roadmap for Research  
Dr. Bjorn Birgisson, Royal Institute of Technology

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm  Break

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm  Breakout sessions to identify priority topics (Two groups per topic)
  • Durability
  • High Performance
  • Sustainability

3:45 pm – 4:45 pm  Reports from breakout teams (Goal is to prioritize several good topics for collaboration)

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm  Next steps: Discussion Tom Cackler, CP Tech Center

5:00 pm  Meeting Adjourned
Appendix B: Attendees

James Alleman  Iowa State University
Jamshid Armaghani  Florida Concrete Products
Perumalsamy Balaguru  Rutgers University
Mike Beacham  Pipe Association
Charles Beatty  University of Florida
Bjorn Birgisson  Royal Institute of Technology-Sweden
Bruce Blair  Lafarge
Laurent Bonafous  Essroc-Italcementi
John Brighton  Iowa State University
Jeffrey Bullard  National Institute of Standards and Technology
Mike Byers  Indiana Chapter American Concrete Pavement Association
Tom Cackler  National Concrete Pavement Technology Center
David Carson  Environmental Protection Agency
Rita Chow  Environmental Protection Agency
Teck Chua  Florida Rock Industries
Clark Cooper  National Science Foundation-Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation/Engineering
Peter Deem  Holcim
Julie Garbini  Ready Mix Concrete Research and Education Foundation
Ed Garboczi  National Institute of Standards and Technology
Brian Green  US Army Corps of Engineers-Engineering Research and Development Center
Jim Grove  National Concrete Pavement Technology Center and Transportation Research Board Task Force on Nanotechnology-Based Concrete Materials
Fred Hejl  Transportation Research Board
Gary Henderson  Federal Highway Administration
Geoffrey Holdridge  National Nanotechnology Coordination Office
Jack Holley  Lafarge
Al Innis  Holcim
Felek Jachimowicz  WR Grace
Vagn Johansen  Nanocem
Gary Knight  Heidelberg
Steve Kosmatka  Portland Cement Association
Richard Livingston  Federal Highway Administration
Colin Lobo National Ready Mix Concrete Association
Kevin MacDonald Cemstone Products
Kevin McMullen Wisconsin Chapter American Concrete Pavement Association
Shahran Mehrvarzi Federal Rail Administration
John Melander Portland Cement Association
Shashi Nambisan Iowa State University
Vic Perry Lafarge
Krishna Rajan Iowa State University
Daniel Rardon PPG Industries
Randell Riley Illinois Chapter American Concrete Pavement Association
Mike Roco National Science Foundation
Tyson Rupnow National Concrete Pavement Technology Center
Uwe Schutz St. Lawrence Cement
Panneer Selvam University of Arkansas
Peter Taylor National Concrete Pavement Technology Center
Clayton Teague National Nanotechnology Coordination Office
Joe Tedesco University of Florida
Suneel Vanikar Federal Highway Administration
Jerry Voigt American Concrete Pavement Association
Leif Wathne American Concrete Pavement Association
Don Weir Giant Cement