

Proposed ASTM guide for testing concrete performance

A proposed ASTM International guide will help concrete professionals use mortar mixtures to compare the relative performance and compatibility of concrete materials.

The guide standardizes procedures used for many years in material-performance investigations, says ASTM International member Ara Jeknavorian of Jeknavorian Consulting Services. “This diagnostic tool will provide concrete technologists with useful defined mortar procedures to help anticipate an incompatibility of previously untested material combinations or to troubleshoot unexpected concrete performance,” he says.

The new *Guide for Comparing Performance of Concrete Materials Using Mortar Mixtures* (WK40615) is being developed by ASTM International’s Committee C09 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates.

Jeknavorian says that technologists can use one of the guide’s mortar tests to compare the relative workability, workability retention, set time, strength, and air content of two or more combinations of cement, sand, admixture, and fly ash.

Test results could indicate that a change in material properties could either favorably or unfavorably affect concrete performance. Results could also flag a potential material incompatibility that could become evident from poor concrete workability, a high air content, or delayed set times.

“Should a discrepancy occur between parties on whether a particular material may be responsible for an unexpected concrete performance, the guide will enable two or more labs to conduct the same test procedures to help come to a consensus cause of the problem,” Jeknavorian says.

—Source: ASTM International

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2018 DBIA Design-Build in Transportation Conference Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek, Orlando, Fla.	March 21–23, 2018
ACI Spring 2018 Convention Grand America and Little America, Salt Lake City, Utah	March 25–29, 2018
Structures Congress 2018 Fort Worth, Tex.	April 19–21, 2018
3rd International Conference on Transportation Infrastructure and Materials (ICTIM2018) Tianjin, China	June 1–4, 2018
ASBI/AASHTO Annual Reception Sheraton Burlington, Burlington, Vt.	June 25, 2018
9th International Conference on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management (IABMAS2018) Melbourne, Australia	July 9–13, 2018
2018 AASHTO Annual Meeting Westin Peachtree, Atlanta, Ga.	September 20–24, 2018
Fifth International <i>fib</i> Congress: Better – Smarter – Stronger Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia	October 6–12, 2018
ASCE 2018 Convention Denver, Colo.	October 12–15, 2018
ACI Fall 2018 Convention Rio All-Suites Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nev.	October 14–18, 2018
SynerCrete '18 Funchal, Portugal	October 24–26, 2018
30th Annual ASBI Convention Loews Chicago O'Hare, Chicago, Ill.	November 6–7, 2018
Greenbuild McCormick Place, Chicago, Ill.	November 14–16, 2018
TRB 98th Annual Meeting Washington, D.C.	January 13–17, 2019
ACI Spring 2019 Convention Quebec City Convention Centre and Hilton Quebec, Quebec City, QC, Canada	March 24–28, 2019
<i>fib</i> Symposium 2019: Innovations in Materials, Design and Structures Krakow University of Technology, Krakow, Poland	May 27–29, 2019
2nd International Interactive Symposium on Ultra-High-Performance Concrete Hilton Albany, Albany, N.Y.	June 2–5, 2019