

UHPC Fresh Chloride Limit Testing

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ACI- Orlando 03/28/2022

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Outline

- Background
- Mix design proportions
- Test methodology
- Test results
- Acid and water-soluble tests
- Conclusion

FDOT Concrete Classes



*pavement [†]bridge deck [‡]Seal [•]Drilled Shaft **Special

UF

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Only tensile strength limits are for section 927: 1200 psi

Do We Need Different Strength & Durability Classes?

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Background

Fresh Chloride Limits:

- Mixes with higher cementitious values are more prone to exceeding the chloride threshold value
 - Compared to normal concrete, UHPC uses too much admixtures

Maximum water-soluble chloride ion (Cl-) content in concrete, % by

mass of cementitious materials

Exposure Class	Nonprestressed Concrete	Prestressed Concrete				
C0: Concrete dry or protected from moisture	1.00	0.06				
C1: Concrete exposed to moisture but not to an external source of chlorides	0.30	0.06				
C2: Concrete exposed to moisture and an external source of chlorides from deicing chemicals, salt, brackish water, seawater, or spray from these sources	0.15	0.06				

FDOT limit is 0.4 lb/yd³ (acid soluble)

The 0.4 lb/yd³ limit for FDOT is based on a 667 lb/yd3 mix with 0.06% by mass chloride limit

• UHPC Mix Proportions

	Weight (lb/yd ³)			Admixtures (lb/yd ³)			Calculat	ed Values	
Mix (ksi)	Sand	Type IL	Slag	Silica fume	HRWR	WRWR	SE	w/cm	cm/s
12-15	1852	1583	0	83	10.9	10.9	2.1	0.25	0.9
15-18	1811	1404	272	136	16.4	16.4	3.4	0.20	1.0
18-21	1585	1597	309	155	30.9	30.9	5.1	0.1625	1.30

	Weight (lb/yd ³)		Admixtures (lb/yd ³)						
Mix (ksi)	Sand	Type III	Silica	White	HRWR	Accelerator	RHRWR	w/cm*	cm/s*
	Duild	l ype m	Flour	Silica fume					
21+	1359	1477	369	369	46.1	23.1	40.3	0.13	1.63

*includes silica flour

		Weight (lb/yd ³)	-		
	Sand	coarse aggregate	Cement IL	w/cm	
0.44	955	1781	700	0.44	No admixtures were used

Fresh Chloride Content



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Methodology: Modified EN 480-14

Determination of the Effect on Corrosion Susceptibility of Reinforcing Steel by Potentiostatic Electro-Chemical Test

Demolded at 1 day, samples placed in lime solution for 1 day, then tested







¹⁰ 18-12 ksi Mixture Cl Content



18 ksi UHPC

Mix	Total Cl content (Ib/yd3)	Max current (µA)	Max Current density (µA/cm2)
0-A	0.64	7.8	0.82
0-B	0.64	8.3	0.87
5-A	5.0	7.8	0.82
5-B	5.0	7.8	0.82
8-A	8.0	4.6	0.48
8-B	8.0	4.6	0.48
9-A	9.0	8.1	0.85
9 - B	9.0	4.4	0.47
10-A	10.0	200	21.0
10-B	10.0	343	36.0



¹² Corrosion Rate vs Time

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¹⁴ Safe Amount of Chlorides Added to Mix- Or Are They?

Mix (ksi)	Highest Cl Level w/o Corrosion (lb/yd ³)	Highest Chloride Level w/o Corrosion (% by Mass Cement)
0.44 w/cm	11	1.57
12-15	10	0.60
15-18	13	0.72
18-21	9	0.44
21+	12	0.54

Acid and Water-soluble Tests

Mixes	Cementitious lb/yd ³	Measured Total chlorides (acid soluble) lb/yd ³	Water soluble chlorides lb/yd ³	Leached chlorides after testing lb/yd ³	Bound chlorides lb/yd ³
0.44 w/cm	704	11.79	5.64	3.87	2.28
12-15	1666	13.21	5.13	0.94	7.14
15-18	1802	16.37	6.34	1.27	8.75
18-21	2060	10.45	3.73	0.66	6.06
21+	2295	13.67	4.95	0.85	7.88

Normal concrete leaches chlorides at \sim 4 times higher than the UHPC in test Need to look at chlorides in concrete during testing rather than what went into mixture UF

¹⁶ Fresh Chloride Threshold After Accounting for Leaching

Mixes	Acid soluble Cl ⁻ for corrosion %	Water soluble Cl ⁻ for corrosion %	Bound chlorides %
0.44 w/cm	1 13	0.81	0.33
12-15	0.74	0.31	0.43
15-18	0.83	0.35	0.48
18-21	0.47	0.18	0.29
21+	0.63	0.22	0.41

Maximum water-soluble chloride ion (Cl-) content in concrete, % by mass of cementitious materials

Exposure Class	Nonprestressed Concrete	Prestressed Concrete
C 0	1.00	0.06
Cl	0.30	0.06
C2	0.15	0.06

Lower allowable Cl- limit for UHPC than normal strength concrete when normalized by % cementitious material

¹⁷ Conclusions

- Chloride binding of fresh chlorides in UHPC is similar to normal strength by % cementitious
- ACI chloride limits as a % cementitious material are non-conservative for nonprestressed UHPC
- FDOT specification of 0.4 lb/yd³ could be increased by 25% to 0.5 lb/yd³ while maintaining same level of safety factor

Acknowledgement

FDOT for funding this work.