# Surface Settlement of SCC – How Critical is it on Concrete Performance?

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#### OUTLINE

- Workability functional requirements of SCC
- Measurement of surface settlement
- Selected factors affecting surface settlement
- Effect of surface settlement on SCC performance
  - Top-bar effect
  - Transport properties
- Recommendations

# Flow behavior of SCC is complex and must be optimized to secure adequate performance

low resistance to flow (low  $\tau_0$ ) high stability (moderate visc.)



high passing ability (low  $\tau_0$  + mod. visc.)





# Rheological parameters of SCC



Wallevik 2002

# SCC Functional Requirements

- Filling ability
- Passing ability

# Filling capacity

- Resistance to segregation
  - Static stability
  - Dynamic stability



# Adequate Workability



## Inadequate Workability



# Inadequate Workability



Static stability : resistance to segregation, bleeding, settlement following placement and until the onset of setting





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## Non-Contact Laser Measurement of Setlement





Khayat and Guizani, ACI Mat. Jr. July-Aug. 1997

# Effect of Welan Gum on Surface Settlement and Ext. Bleeding (H = 700 mm)



Khayat and Guizani, ACI Mat. Jr. July-Aug. 1997

#### Surface Settlement



Khayat and Guizani, ACI Mat. Jr. July-Aug. 1997

#### Predicted Surface Settlement



Khayat and Guizani, ACI Mat. Jr. July-Aug. 1997

#### Surfcae Settlement Column







### Surface Settlement



#### Surface Settlement

Acrylic plate Ø 150 mm, t= 4 mm

LVDT (Linear Variable Differential Transformer)

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### Surface Settlement and Rate of Settlement





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# Reduction in w/cm



## Effect of w/cm on Surface settlement of SCC



Khayat et al. 2005

#### Surface Settlement vs. Plastic Viscosity of SCC



Khayat et al. 2005

# Incorportaion of VMA



Speed (Rev/s)

# Effect of Welan Gum on Surface Settlement of SCC



### Surface Settlement



Hwang and Khayat, ACI SP-233, 2006

## Enhanced Stability with Fine Fillers (w/p = 0.42)



# Enhanced Stability with Fine Fillers (w/p = 0.42)



Time (min)



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# Importance of stability of SCC

- Lack of stability can result in greater risk of bleeding, segregation, and surface settlement leading to porous ITZ under coarse aggregate and reinforcement
- Lack of stability can adversely affect bond strength, mechanical properties, and transport properties



# Lack of mixture stability can weaken bond to reinforcement



# Special care is needed to produce stable SCC mixtures, especially in deep elements



## Wall Elements $1.5 \times 0.95 \times 0.2$ m



# Effect of VMA dosage on surface settlement of SCC





# Effect of VMA Dosage on Coarse Aggregate Distribution



# Effect of VMA Dosage on Coarse Aggregate Distribution













# Max. Settlement vs. Top-Bar Effect



Khayat, ACI Mat. Jr. March-April. 1998

# Rheological properties affect bond to reinforcement



H = 1.5 m

# Rheological properties affect performance of hardened concrete



Khayat, Mitchell, NCHRP Report 628, 2008

# In-situ compressive strength





Khayat, Mitchell, NCHRP Report 628, 2008

# Lack of Stability Affects ITZ Quality





#### Resistivity, R = Voltage / Intensity of current



Petrov et al. SCC 2001

Time before onset of corrosion of rebars is influenced by stability of fresh concrete (affecting quality of ITZ)



## Homogeneity In-Situ Durability



### Effect of w/cm on Surface settlement of SCC



Khayat et al. 2005

# In-situ diffusion coefficient $(m^2/s)$



# Recommendations

Static stability	MSA 9.5, 12.5 mm Surface settlement $\leq 0.5\%$ Settlement rate at 25-30 min $\leq 0.27$ %/h MSA 19 mm Surface settlement $\leq 0.3\%$ Settlement rate at 25-30 min $\leq 0.12$ %/h Column segregation index (Iseg) $\leq 5\%$ Percent static segregation (S) $\leq 15\%$
Plastic viscosity	Plastic viscosity $\leq$ 80 Pa.s
In-situ mechanical properties	Core-to-cylinder compressive strength $\ge$ 90% Bond strength modification factor $\le$ 1.4