




American Concrete Institute®
Advancing concrete knowledge

The Economics, Performance, and Sustainability of Internally Cured Concrete, Part 2

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WEB SESSIONS




Wilasa Vichit-Vadakan is a Senior Researcher at Siam Research and Innovation Co. Ltd., a research company owned by SCG Cement, Thailand's oldest and largest cement manufacturer. Her research interest lies in two major areas: optimization of specialized Portland cement and the use of superabsorbent polymers in Portland cement-based systems. Both of these areas overlap in that their mechanisms can be used to explain and improve the durability of concrete and mortar. Prior to coming to SCG, she was a Clare Boothe Luce Assistant Professor at the University of Notre Dame. She holds a Ph.D. from Princeton University, M.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and B.S. from Cornell University, all in civil engineering.

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Mass Production and Utilization of Self-Curing Cement in Thailand

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Outline


- Background
- Laboratory Experiments
- Commercialization
- Field Results
- Conclusions

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Background



SCG was established in 1913 following a royal decree of His Majesty King Rama VI to produce cement, a main building material for infrastructure projects that greatly contributed to the progress of the country during that period. The Group has diversified into five core businesses which include SCG Chemicals, SCG Paper, SCG Cement, SCG Building Materials, and SCG Distribution.



SCG, the sustainable development role model, has been ranked as Sector Leader in DJSI Building Materials & Fixtures by SAM. SCG has been in 'Gold Class', the highest group, for 4 consecutive years.

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Background




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Our interests...

ช้าง
นมโครสถา

เสือ
ถั่วขาว

SCG CEMENT

Superabsorbent Polymers

Huh?

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Background on Polymerization

ASTM C 150
Type I OPC

Superabsorbent polymers

ช้าง
นมโครสถา

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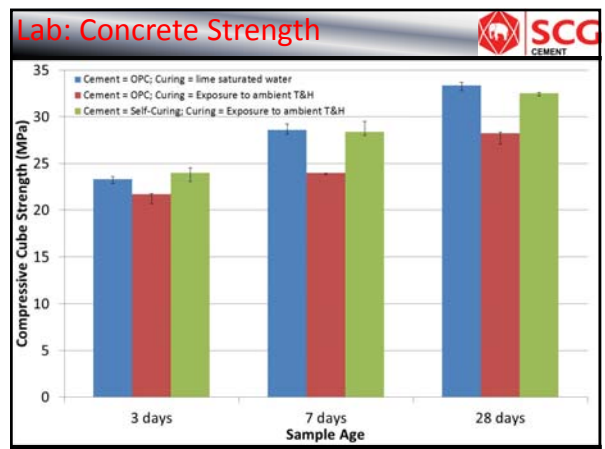
Lab: Mix Design

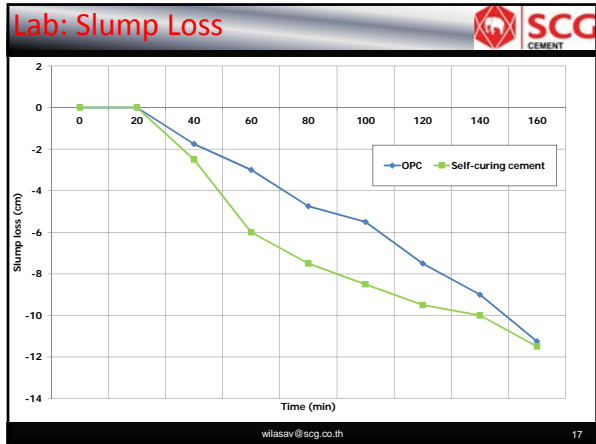
Self-curing cement: Type I OPC entrained with superabsorbent polymers

Component	Quantity
Water	190 kg
Cement	300 kg
Fine aggregate	730 kg
Coarse aggregate	1160 kg

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Typical Site Layout



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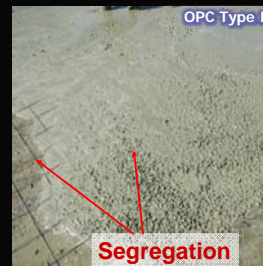
Slump Test



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Resistance to Segregation



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Field Test: Workability



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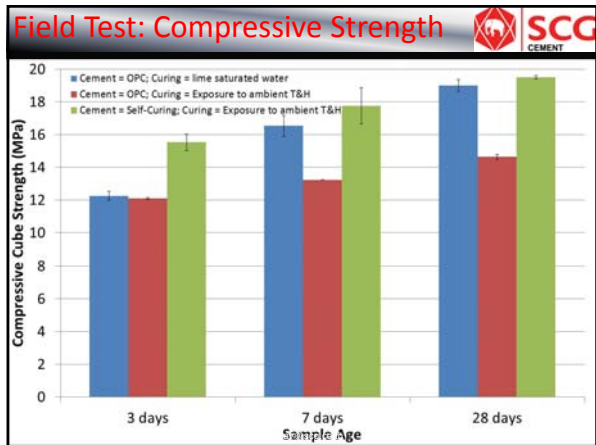
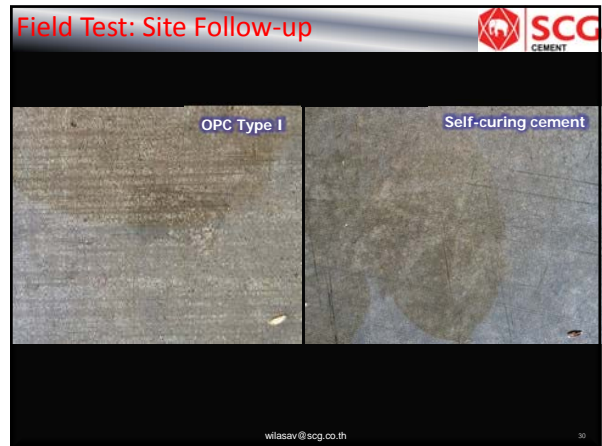
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Field Test: Follow-up



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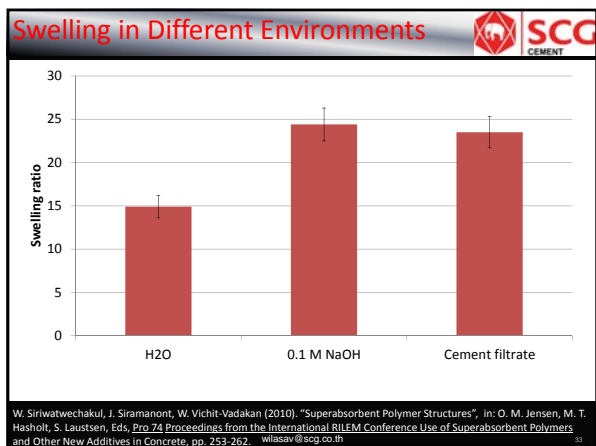
Ionic Polymer

- At high pH
 - NH₂ group in acrylamide is deprotonated
 - leading to electrostatic repulsion

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_2 - \text{CH} \\ | \\ \text{C} = \text{O} \\ | \\ \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \right]_n$$

Basic condition

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Swelling Behavior

Type of SAP	In Ca(OH) ₂ solution	
	At 1 h	At 24 h
Solution polymerized SAP	21.5 + 0.6	28.5 + 1.2
Microemulsion polymerized SAP	17.6 + 0.1	22.9 + 0.3
Ratio of microemulsion polymerized SAP: Solution polymerized SAP (%)	82	80

Type of SAP	Initially in Ca(OH) ₂ solution and transferred into Na(OH)	
	At 1 h	At 24 h
Solution polymerized SAP	60.1 + 1.6	62.4 + 4.3
Microemulsion polymerized SAP	46.7 + 0.5	50.3 + 4.0

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Swelling Behavior



Type of SAP	In NaOH solution	
	At 1 h	At 24 h
Solution polymerized SAP	24.7 ± 0.4	54.1 ± 1.5
Microemulsion polymerized SAP	19.4 ± 0.6	44.3 ± 1.6
Ratio of microemulsion polymerized SAP: Solution polymerized SAP (%)	79	82

Type of SAP	Initially in Na(OH) solution and transferred into Ca(OH) ₂ solution	
	At 1 h	At 24 h
Solution polymerized SAP	31.6 ± 0.2	33.4 ± 4.5
Microemulsion polymerized SAP	24.9 ± 2.1	23.0 ± 0.6

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Ion Filtration Behavior



Type of SAP	Initially in Ca(OH) ₂ solution and transferred into Na(OH)	
	Ca ²⁺ + (%)	Na + (%)
Solution polymerized SAP	0	81
Microemulsion polymerized SAP	0	80

Type of SAP	Initially in NaOH solution and transferred into Ca(OH) ₂ solution	
	Ca ²⁺ + (%)	Na + (%)
Solution polymerized SAP	77	0
Microemulsion polymerized SAP	85	0

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Conclusions



- Internal curing can be integrated into a cement
 - Favorable strength gain
 - No negative impact on fresh properties: slump loss or setting time
 - Positive impact on fresh properties: tendencies to segregate
- Mechanisms for the use of SAPs in cement is starting to be quite clear
 - Observed benefits even at high w/c
 - Observed early strength gain

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