Thermal Stresses in Mass concrete addressing Owners requirements and simplification



Mass challenges



Create a simple specification



Item Change





We modified the pay adjustment formula for under strength concrete to one that is not as harsh. Example, Cost - \$650/CY.

% Rdctn	Old Pay adj	New Pay
2.5 %	\$121.57	\$ 17.62
5.0 %	\$145.03	\$ 39.60
7.5 %	\$167.88	\$ 65.95
10.0 %	\$190.13	\$96.66

Risks vs. Reward



Mass Concrete - Poorly charted territory from an application basis



Temperature cracks



Stress cracked column



Stress cracking due to Early form removal or temperature



• Run Temperature animation and Cracking probability.

Column removal



Thermal Shock



DEF Damage



DEF Damage



Alkali Silica Reaction (ASR)



Controlling ASR



How do we control the deterioration mechanisms created by heat?

- Restrict placement temperature to 75°F
- Limit differential to 35°F max
- Monitor
- Create a detailed temperature control plan

 USE CONCRETEWORKS to develop a low
 heat concrete design and develop a Thermal
 Control Plan.

Why develop plan?

- To address form stripping and reduce thermal shock cracking. Maintain temperature control methods for 4 days or to the peak of the adiabatic heat gain curve which ever is greater.
- To implement plan if high temperature is exceeded (160°) minimizing interruptions to construction.
- To implement plan if 35°F differential is not maintained minimizing interruptions to construction.

Create a low heat concrete design.



To use ACI 211 Mod which is in the ConcreteWorks program the inputs needed are as follows:

- Slump
- Air
- Strength
- Mixture deviation
- Environment
- ASTM aggregate
 gradation



What do you do to improve a mix design for mass concrete with heat problems?

- Sub. CI F fly ash for cement
- Sub. GGBFS for cement
- Lower the cement content
- Lower placement temp.
- Change aggr types
- Improve aggr gradation





Show cementitious quantities with a poor design



46 gallons of water/yd8.75 sacks of cement



Show cementitious quantity with improved design parameters



Reduced 20 gallons of water/yd

Cement content 4.88 sacks, reduced cement 3.85 sacks

Increase rock content by 520 Lbs

Evaluate - Thermal Control plan before placement. How?



Thermal Control Plan - Results

Max Temp. Difference • Max. Temp. • ASR/DEF Compliance



Cracking Risk



Cracking Risk output



Orange = High

Contractors and suppliers can optimize



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