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NEWS ITEMS

Calendar of Events

- ACI Convention**, Hyatt Regency, New Orleans, LA. Information: Conventions and Meetings, American Concrete Institute, P.O. Box 19150, Detroit, MI 48219-0150 USA **November 3-8, 1996**
- 5th NCB International Seminar on Cement and Building Materials**, New Delhi, India. Information: The Organizing Secretary, Fifth NCB International Seminar, National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Post Box No. 3885, P 21 South Extension II, New Delhi - 110 049, India. **November 25-9, 1996**
- Fall Meeting of the **Materials Research Society**, Boston, MA. Information: Merry N. Geil, Materials Research Society, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-6006. Tel: (412) 367-3004, ext. 301; Fax: (412) 367-4373; E-mail: geil@mrs.org. **December 2-6, 1996**
- Symposium (HH) on **Structure-Property Relationships in Hardened Cement Paste and Composites**, during the Fall Meeting of the Materials Research Society, Boston, MA. Information: Della M. Roy, 217 Materials Research Laboratory, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802 USA. Tel: (814) 865-1196; Fax: (814) 863-7040. **December 2-6, 1996**
- Annual Meeting, **Transportation Research Board**, Washington, DC. Information: Tel: (202) 334-2933; Fax: (202) 334-2299. **January 12-16, 1997**
- Biomaterials North Federation meeting on **The Influence of the Ca/P Ratio on the Properties of Calcium Phosphate Biomaterials**, Berck/Mer, France. Information: B. Langlois, IRMS, Institut Calot, 61608 Berck sur mer Cedex, France. Fax: (33) 21 89 20 21. **March 19-21, 1997**
- 7th meeting on **Injectable Bone and Joint Substitution Materials**, Berck/Mer, France. Information: B. Langlois, IRMS, Institut Calot, 62608 Berck sur mer Cedex, France. Fax: (33) 21 89 20 21. **March 19-21, 1997**
- ACI Spring Meeting**, Warwick Hotel, Seattle, WA. Information: Conventions and Meetings, American Concrete Institute, P.O. Box 19150, Detroit, MI 48219-0150 USA. **April 6-11, 1997**

99th Annual Meeting, **American Ceramic Society**, Cincinnati, Ohio. Information: Tel: (614) 794-5810; Fax: (614) 794-5812.

May 4, 1997

18th Biennial Conference on **Concrete 97: Concrete for the Future**, Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, Australia. Information: Conference Manager, Concrete Institute of Australia, P.O. Box 452, Hindmarsh, 5007, South Australia. Tel: (61-8) 346 9722; Fax: (61-8) 346 9215.

May 14-16, 1997

10th International Congress on **The Chemistry of Cement**, Gothenborg, Sweden. Information: 10th ICC Organizer, c/o Congrex, Box 5078, S-402 22 Gothenburg, Sweden. Fax: +46 31-20-36-20.

June 2-7, 1997

ASTM Symposium on **Soundness of Hydraulic Cements**, St. Louis, Missouri, USA. Information: Symposium Co-Chair Waldemar A. Klemm, Construction Technology Laboratories, 5420 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077-1030, Tel: 847-965-7500, ext. 541, Fax: 847-965-6541, E-mail: wklemm@c-t-l.com; and Lawrence D. Adams, Southwestern Portland Cement, Special Products, 16888 North E Street, Victorville, CA 92392-0623, Tel: 619-245-1681, ext. 228, Fax: 619-245-0191.

June 15-20, 1997

4th CANMET/ACI International Conference on **Durability of Concrete**, Sydney Hilton Hotel, Sydney, Australia. Information: V.M. Malhotra, CANMET, 405 Rochester St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0G1. Fax: (613) 992-9389.

August 17-22, 1997

5th CANMET/ACI International Conference on **Superplasticizers and Other Chemical Admixtures in Concrete**, Venice, Italy. Information: V.M. Malhotra, CANMET, 405 Rochester St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0G1. Fax: (613) 992-9389.

October 8-10, 1997

Call for Papers

19th International Conference on **Cement Microscopy** will be held April 27-May 1, 1997 in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA. Topics for the papers include: 1) Microscopic structures of building materials; including clinker, cement, hydration products, lime, gypsum, light and heavyweight aggregates, concrete, slag, fly ash, etc. 2) Application of different types of microscopes for the quality control of clinker, cement, concrete, etc. 3) Effect of additives and admixtures on the microstructure of cement and concrete and the relationship between the microstructure and concrete performance. 4) X-ray diffraction analysis of Portland cement and related materials and the relationship between the microstructure and the mineralogical composition.

Perspective authors of papers on Cement Raw Materials, Clinker, Cement and Other Building Materials are requested to submit their abstracts (one original and one copy) to: Mr. Louis A. Jany, Bulk Materials International Co., 3303 E. Columbia Street, Whitehall, PA 18052 USA. Tel: (610) 261-4429 (o), (610) 261-1075 (h); Fax: 610-261-4430. Abstracts on Concrete and Concrete Admixtures (one original and one copy) to: Mr. Arturo Nisperos, Construction Technology Laboratories, Inc., 5420 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077-1030 USA. Tel: (847) 965-7500 (o), (847) 960-2293 (h); Fax: (847) 965-6541. Abstracts must be received no later than November 15, 1996. The text, typed according to the instructions included in the proceedings of the International Cement Microscopy Association is due February 15, 1997.

Sixth Euroseminar on **Microscopy Applied to Building Materials** will be held June 25-27, 1997 in the Haskolabio Congress Center, Reykjavik, Iceland. The Euroseminar will focus on the following subjects: Microscopic structure of stony building materials (concrete, natural stone, cement, bricks, mortar etc.); optical and electron microscopes and preparation techniques; Image analysis, modeling and application; cement properties (grindability, burning conditions, phase characteristics, kiln performance, etc.); and environmental attack on cement based materials. Proposals for abstracts/posters of original, non-published papers should be submitted to the Organizing Committee no later than November 15, 1996. The abstracts could be written in English with the author's name, address and affiliations on top of the page and must not exceed 250 words. The authors will be informed about acceptance of the abstracts before January 15, 1997 together with the instructions for the preparation of the final version. Final manuscripts to be published in the proceedings are requested before March 15, 1997. Send to Edda Lilja Sveinsdottir, member of the Organizing Committee, Icelandic Building Research Institute, Keldnaholt, IS-112 Reykjavik, Iceland. Tel: +354 554 1400; Fax: +354-554 1472; e-mail: incentiv@ismennt.is.

13th International Conference on Building Materials, Weimar, Germany, September 24-26, 1997. By tradition, the *ibausil* conference will devote itself to two main topics: **Binders and Concrete** and **Building Materials for Masonry**. Topics for the section on Binders and Concrete include: Frost/deicing salt resistance and secondary formation of ettringite; fly-ash in binders and concrete; special cements (microcements, expansive cements, jet cements); binders and building materials on the base of calcium sulphate; and rheology of fresh mortar and fresh concrete. Topics for the section on Building Materials for masonry include brick; mortar; and natural stone.

Authors are requested to send in abstracts of their papers (not more than one page) by October 15, 1996. Each presenter may submit only one paper, but coauthorship on other papers is possible and welcome. The conference committee will decide on the acceptance of the papers and will notify the authors by December 31, 1996. The papers accepted will be published in the conference proceedings. For this purpose the complete text of the papers must be submitted to the organizing office by May 31, 1997. Send abstracts to Dr.-Ing. H.-B. Fischer, Secretary of the Organizing Committee, HAB Weimar Universität, Orgbüro der *ibausil*, D-99421 Weimar, Germany.

Announcing the 5th International Symposium on **Brittle Matrix Composites (BMC 5)**, 13-15 October 1997, Staszic Place, Warsaw, Poland. The objective of the Symposium is to review the current status and developments on all aspects of brittle matrix composites, associated with four main groups: High strength composites; brittle polymer composites; ceramics, and cement-based materials. List of topics include: Design studies and computational methods; theoretical considerations; prediction of behaviour, durability; fracture mechanics; experimental methods and results; and applications and manufacturing

processes. The program will comprise invited keynote papers and contributed oral presentations. Accepted papers will be advancing knowledge and/or technology. All papers will be published and will be available at the Symposium. Papers will be presented and discussed in English. Scientific sponsoring of the Symposium by the RILEM is expected. To receive information about BMC 5, and to indicate interest in participation, contact Professor A.M. Brandt, IFTR, Swietokrzyska 21, 00-049 Warsaw, Poland. Fax: (4822) 269815; e-mail: abrandt@ippt.gov.pl.

Announcements

The **RILEM** (International Union of Testing and Research Laboratories for Materials and Structures) Technical Committee 119 TCE, "Avoidance of Thermal Cracking in Concrete at Early Ages," is compiling the available computer programs for evaluation of thermal stresses and cracking risk in a **database**. For this purpose, the Committee invites all authors and/or suppliers of such software to report the following information: The name of the computer program; the name and address of the responsible person to contact; the scope of computation; and reference objects to Prof. Dr. Mats Emborg, Technical University of Luleå, Division of Structural Engineering, S-97187 Luleå, Sweden. Tel: +46 920 91 000; Fax: +46 920 91 913; E-mail: mats.emborg@anl.luth.se. The data base is to be published in the RILEM State of The Art Report "Models and Methods for Computation of Thermal Stresses and Cracking Risks." If you want your have your program listed in international literature, please contact Prof. Emborg.

New Book

Ono's Method: Fundamental Microscopy of Portland Cement Clinker, Yoshio Ono, 1995. Published by Chichibu Onoda Cement Corporation, Cement and Concrete Research Laboratory, Sakura City, Chibe Prefecture, Japan. 229 pages, numerous tables, 195 color photographs. In Japanese and English. Not available commercially.

The book consists of eight chapters and five appendices. Following the chapters on clinker optical microscopy and principles of portland cement clinker formation, the subsequent five chapters deal with basic crystallography and optical properties of the main five clinker components: alite, belite, free lime, free magnesia, and the interstitial materials (including C_3A , alumino-ferrite phase; very little about alkali sulfates). The last chapter is a collection of excellent color photographs documenting the data given in the previous seven chapters.

The appendices, highlighting in a very practical way some of the fundamental issues of clinker microscopy, concentrate on the following topics: etching of clinker, clinker porosity and particle packing, Bogue calculation and accuracy of the microscopic measurements, reactions of clinker versus the three-dimensional existence of the observed clinker compounds.

Ono's new book should be an essential source of any clinker microscopist.

Jan Skalný
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