Pergamon

Cement and Concrete Research 29 (1999) 157

CEMENT AND CONCRETE RESEARCH

Editorial

Symposium on "Advances in Materials for Cementitious Composites," The Materials Research Society, December 1–3, 1997

This issue of *Cement and Concrete Research* contains refereed papers that were presented at the Materials Research Society annual meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, December 1–3, 1997. The symposium was the latest in a long series of focused symposia on cement and concrete held at the MRS annual meetings. The symposium co-chairs were Michael Silsbee, Pennsylvania State University, Judy LaRosa-Thompson, PQ Corporation, and Choon-Keun Park, Sangyong Research Center. The organizers wish to thank the MRS for their cooperation in making this publication possible. The symposium was financially supported by the Federal Highway Administration, Hanil Cement Manufacturing Company Ltd., Portland Cement Association, and Ssangyong Cement Ind. Ltd. Debra Shay of the Pennsylvania State University provided organizational support.

Four invited speakers included Della Roy (Pennsylvania State University), J. Francis Young (University of Illinois-Urbana), Fredrik P. Glasser (University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom), and Richard Livingston (FHWA).

The use of traditional cement and the concrete manufactured from it far surpasses the consumption of any other manmade construction material. Modern construction techniques are placing increasing demands on this popular material. Increasingly, these new demands are being met by using either new materials or traditional materials in novel combinations with Portland cement. The aspiration of the symposium was to present experimental or theoretical discussions that elucidated various aspects of the structure-composition-property relationships in modern cementitious systems. Seven topical sessions included (1) waste treatment and utilization; (2) composite and reinforced concrete; (3) a poster session and reception; (4) a joint session with nondestructive testing on nondestructive characterization of cement; (5) processing and hydration; (6) novel systems and applications; and (7) characterization. The various sessions coalesced into a single theme—that an advanced understanding of the structure-property relationships in cements and concrete is leading to the development of new materials systems for the twenty-first century.

Of particular note was the attendance of a number of quality graduate students. Their participation through both presentations and discussion greatly enhanced the program.

The editor would like to thank all those who participated in the symposium, in particular his co-organizers. Thanks also go to *Cement and Concrete Research* for cooperating on this publication. Our deepest appreciation is reserved for Dr. Della Roy, without whose effort this special issue would not have been possible.

Michael Silsbee
Guest Editor

PII: S0008-8846(99)00042-3