



### Book review

***Special Inorganic Cements*; Odler Ivan, published as Volume 8 of the Modern Concrete Technology Series (A. Bentur and S. Mindess, Eds.); E&FN SPON, London and New York, 2000; 395 pp., figures, tables**

E&FN SPON and the editors of the Modern Concrete Technology Series deserve congratulations for deciding to publish a volume on *special inorganic cements*, comprising a variety of inorganic cements excluding ordinary Portland cement. The selection of Professor Odler as author is a perfect choice, as his academic *and* industrial experience enabled him to find the proper balance between scientific a real-world issues of interest to building professionals.

The book is organized in 30 chapters, devoted both to (a) chemical and mineralogical composition and the physical–mechanical performance of the discussed cements and (b) their best selection for different applications. Thus, the discussed binders (e.g., sulfoaluminate cements, phos-

phate cements, calcium aluminate cements, belite cements, etc.) are analyzed with respect to their chemical–physical nature which is subsequently related to the environments/conditions of their best use (e.g., fast-setting cements, low-heat evolution cements, oil-well cements, cements for high-temperature applications, etc.). Each chapter has a rich list of pertinent references to supplement the given basic information.

Needless to say that for an in-depth scientific study of the discussed binders, one needs to visit the appropriate recommended literature. Overall, however, the volume is an important and updated compilation of the available information, well organized and written. The book can be used to supplement textbook by universities or as a guide for practitioners. Its use by field personnel is highly recommended, for transfer of the presented knowledge into practice may aid in elimination of construction problems related to the quality and misuse of cementitious materials.

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