

Understanding today's cements for concrete mixtures

Hydraulic Cement Seminar November 18, 2003 Scheman Building Ames, Iowa

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY is hosting this first-in-the-nation seminar developed by the FHWA.

The seminar is designed for city, county, and state engineers, consultants, contractors, and concrete producers. It will be particularly useful for technical and quality control personnel who specify or approve the use of cementitious materials in mix designs for concrete.

For centuries portland cement was the primary hydraulic cement in concrete mixtures for pavements. Today's admixtures and blended cements significantly complicate the chemistry and technology of cements and concrete.

This workshop will help participants understand the

- terminology of hydraulic cements,
- chemical reactions during cement manufacturing and concrete mix hydration that affect concrete pavement performance,
- potential benefits and drawbacks associated with various cements,
- quality control data, including mill test reports, and
- energy and environment issues affecting the production of hydraulic cements.

For more information contact Harold Smith, 515-294-4218, hsmith7@iastate.edu.

Enrollment is limited. To register, contact Lori Wildeman, 515-294-1866, lwild@iastate.edu. A registration brochure is online, www.ctre.iastate.edu/calendar/.



Quality control at the plant is critical to using admixtures and blended cements successfully in concrete mixtures for pavements.

Learning the latest about signing

Tom McDonald, Safety Circuit Rider

IN AUGUST 2003, more than 140 engineers, technicians, and other professionals from state and local agencies and the private sector attended CTRE's biennial signing conference in Ames.

The program featured expert presentations. For example, Pete Rusch, a safety engineer with the FHWA, discussed current and potential changes in the MUTCD and explained specific concerns of older drivers. Dr. Paul Carlson, from the Texas Transportation Institute, presented timely information about retroreflectivity requirements for signs and possible effects of future national standards on transportation agencies.

A highlight of the conference was concurrent sessions presented by experienced practitioners on topics ranging from characteristics of sign supports and sheeting types to fabrication practices and crash testing traffic control devices.

For more information, contact Tom McDonald, 515-294-6384, tmcdonal@iastate.edu.



Conference attendees saw signing vendors' latest and greatest products.