

Innovations in Sustainability for Concrete Pavements Low Carbon Concrete for Airport Infrastructure



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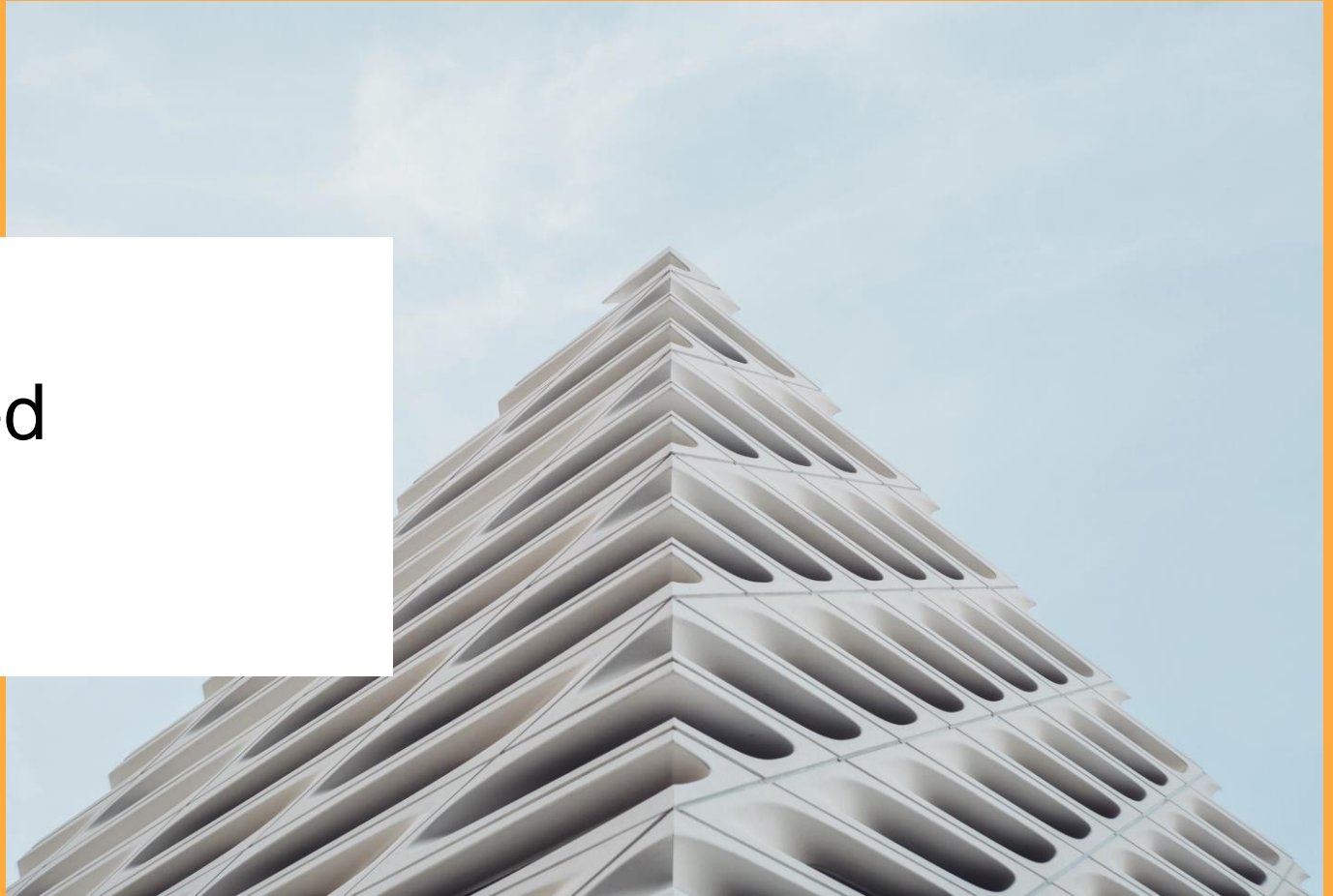
SWIFT
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- What is Embodied Carbon
- Cement, Concrete and GHG
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- Designer's and Owner's Role in Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Concrete
- What is Low Carbon Concrete
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- Low Carbon Concrete EPD Example
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Embodied Carbon



What is Embodied Carbon?

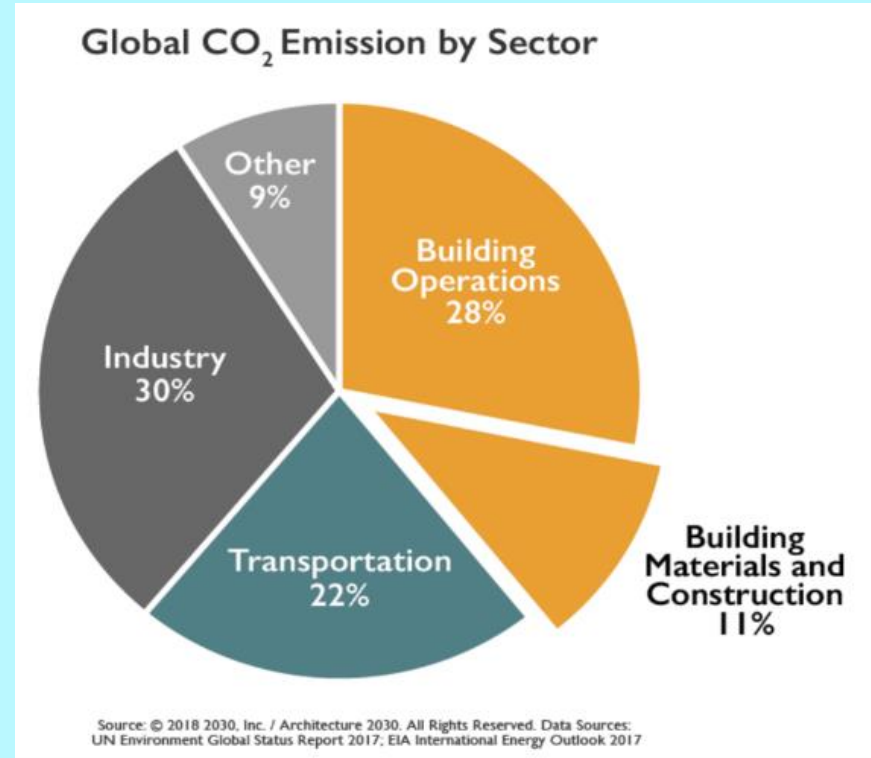
- Embodied Carbon of **Materials**
 - Extraction and manufacturing
- Embodied Carbon of **Buildings**
 - Materials + transportation, construction
 - (sometimes) end of life carbon impacts

i.e. “upfront” carbon



Embodied Carbon is a Significant Source of Emissions

- Buildings account for almost 40% of global GHG emissions
- About 25% of building emissions are associated with “upfront” carbon emissions from materials and construction activities



Cement, Concrete and GHGs

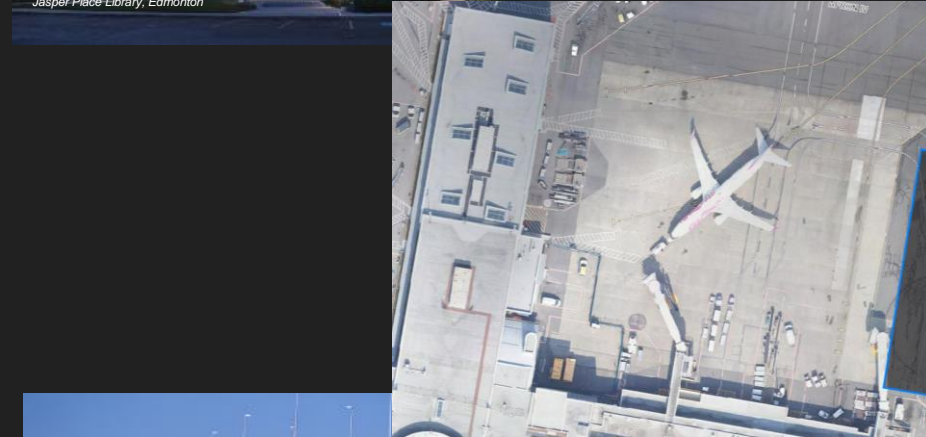


Concrete is the World's Most Important Building Material...

- Virtually all construction – above and below ground – requires concrete
- Twice as much concrete is used than all other materials combined
 - 4 billion tonnes of cement and over **20 billion tonnes of concrete** are produced globally each year*
 - Second most consumed commodity in the world, **second only to water**
- Cement is a global commodity, but concrete is inherently local



Jasper Place Library, Edmonton



Confederation Bridge, New Brunswick / PEI

... and a Significant Source of GHGs

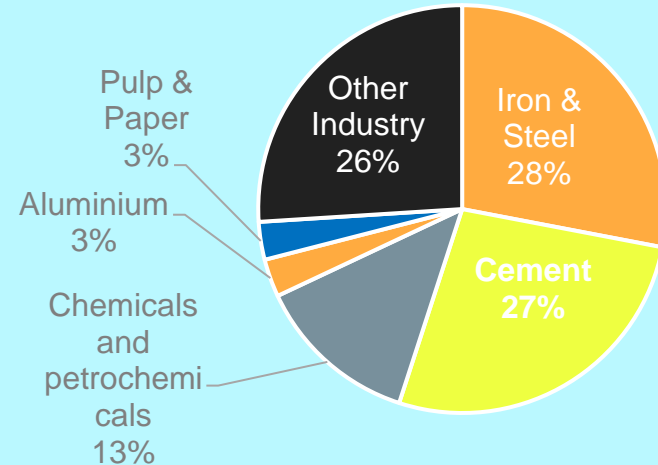
- Up to **7- 8% of global emissions** come from the cement produced to make concrete*
- **1.5%** (10.8MT) of Canada's GHG emissions in 2017**
- **Deep cement and concrete decarbonization technologies and strategies are essential to decarbonizing the built environment.**

*Andrew, R.M., Global CO₂ emissions from cement production, Earth System Science Data, 2017

**Environment and Climate Change Canada

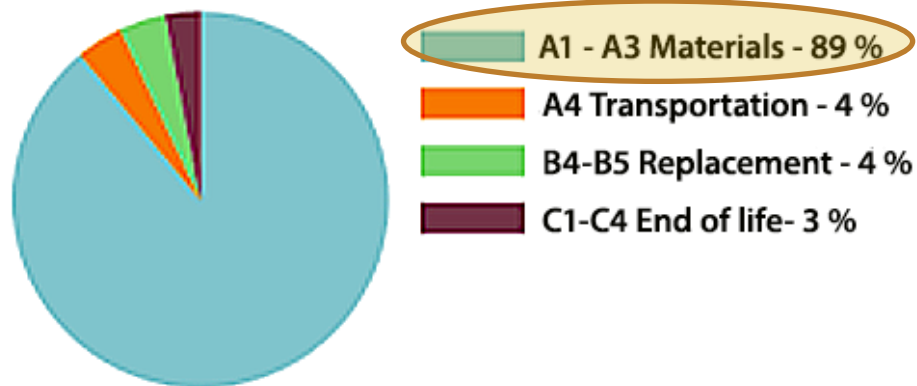


Global direct industrial CO₂ emissions (2014)



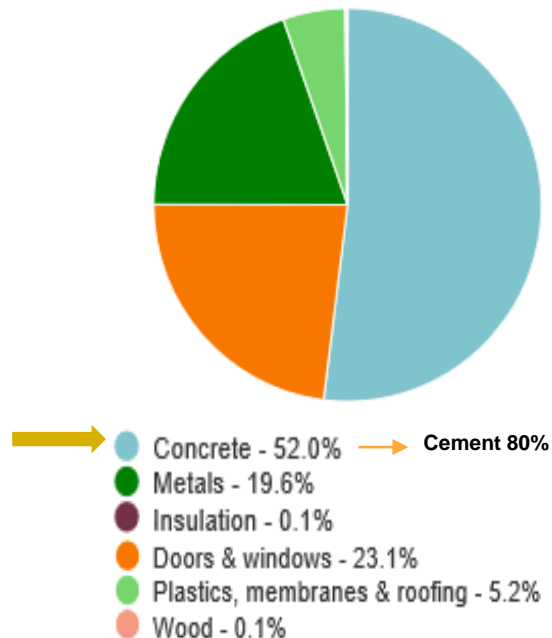
Example: Office Building

Embodied carbon by life-cycle stage

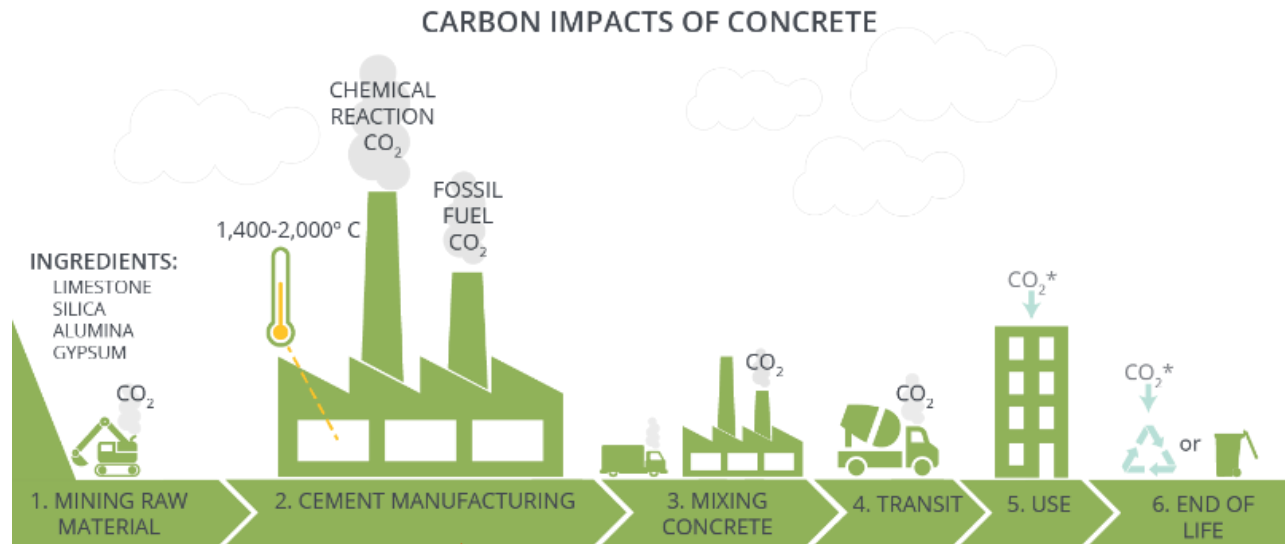


Global warming, kg CO₂e - Resource types

This is a drilldown chart. Click on the chart to view details



Concrete Carbon Lifecycle



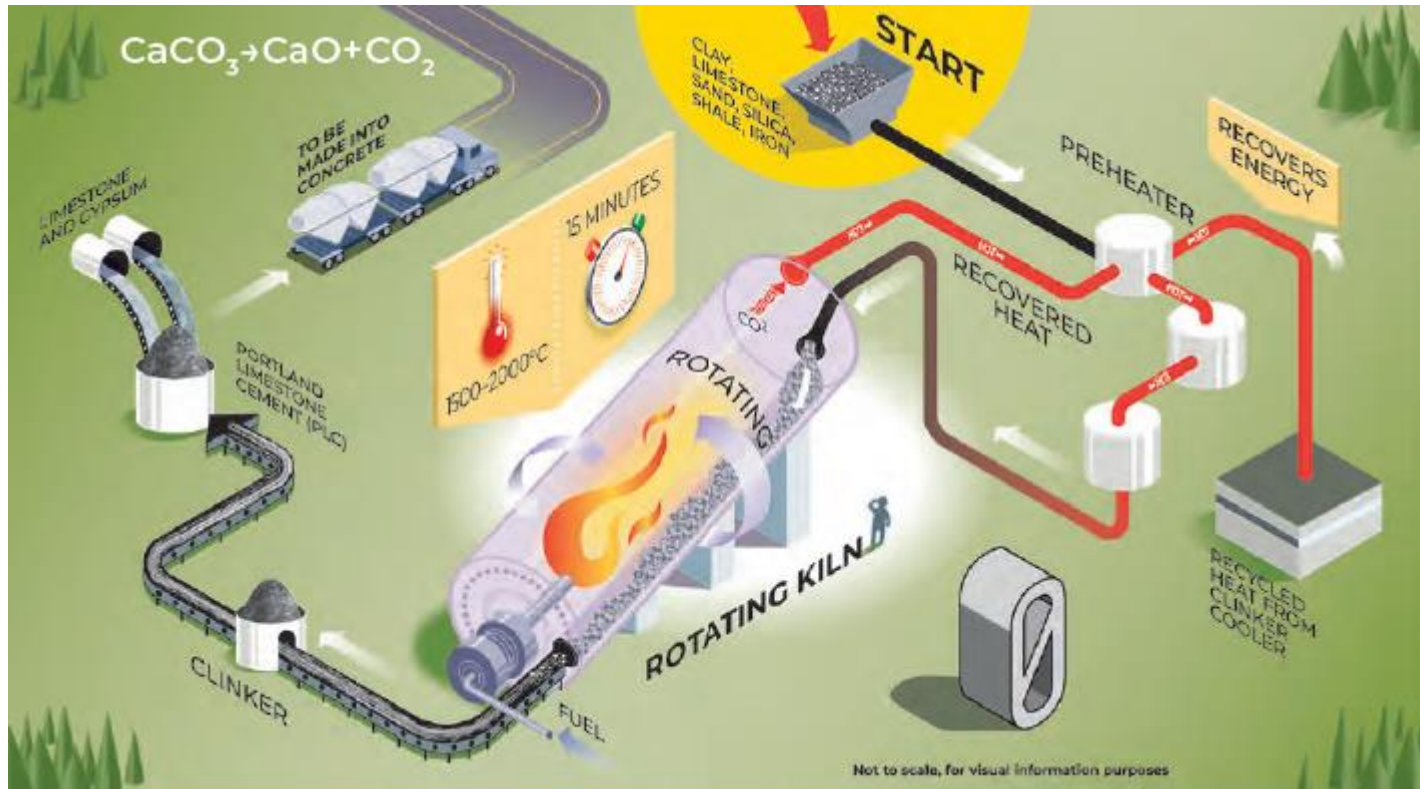
Despite representing only 10-15% of the concrete mix, cement contributes 80-85% of the total carbon footprint

END OF LIFE:
Over 95% of concrete is recycled at the end of its useful life, either ground up to make concrete aggregate or even new concrete

Example Mix – with air

A 30MPa concrete mix has a GWP of 329.02 kg eCO₂/m³,
cement representing 260-280 kg eCO₂/m³

Cement Manufacturing



Cement is a Small Part of the Concrete Recipe, but Responsible for Most of Concrete's Embodied Carbon

Concrete

- Typically 7-15% cement added to water, sand and gravel
- Cement comprises up to 85% of concrete's carbon footprint

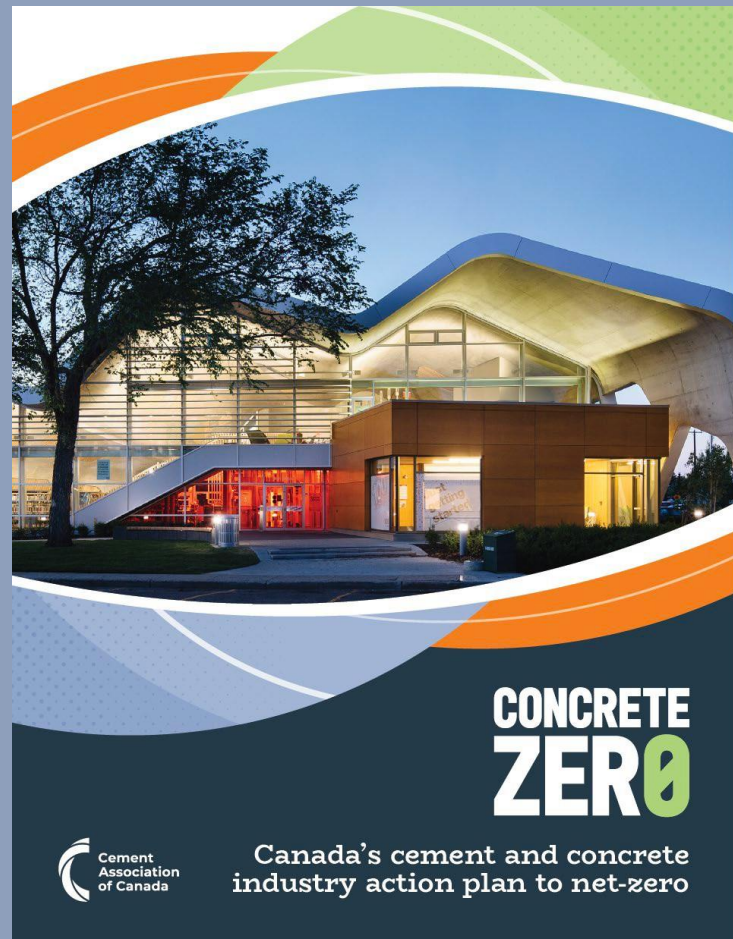


Cement and Concrete's Action Plan to Net-Zero



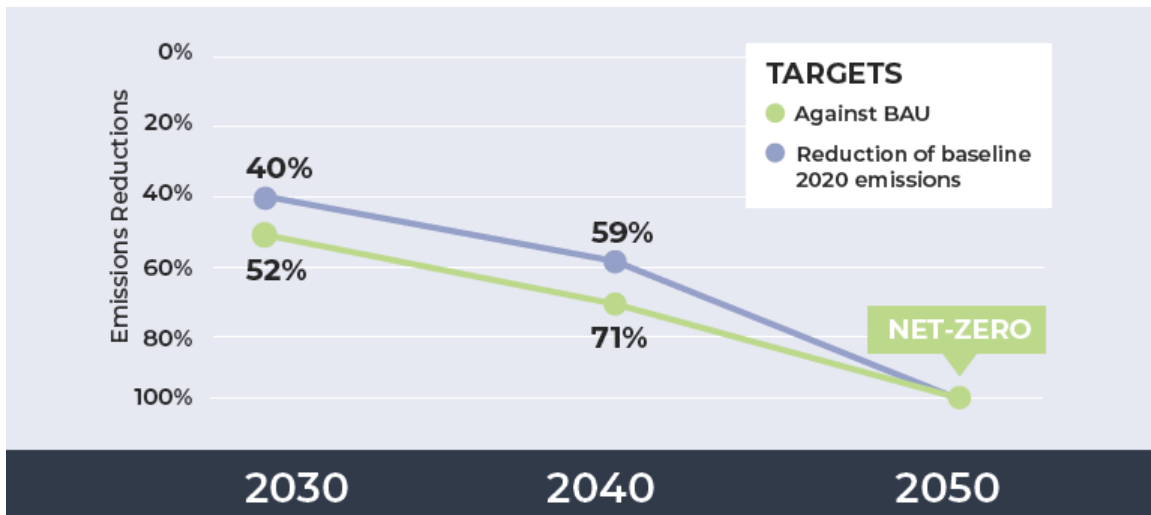
Action Plan to Net Zero

- Outlines the steps that the Canadian cement and concrete sector will take to help Canada achieve its net-zero carbon goals.
- Released on May 2nd, 2023.
- Supported and featured contributions from our members, and provincial and national concrete producers' associations.
- Contributions and reviewed by Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations, including the Transition Accelerator, Clean Prosperity Institute, and the Canadian Climate Institute.



Carbon Reduction Targets

- Ultimate target is net-zero by 2050.
- Additional reduction targets of 40% by 2030 and 59% by 2040 (using a 2020 baseline).
- Our Action Plan is about “true net-zero” – we aren’t accounting for the purchase of offsets or avoided emissions.

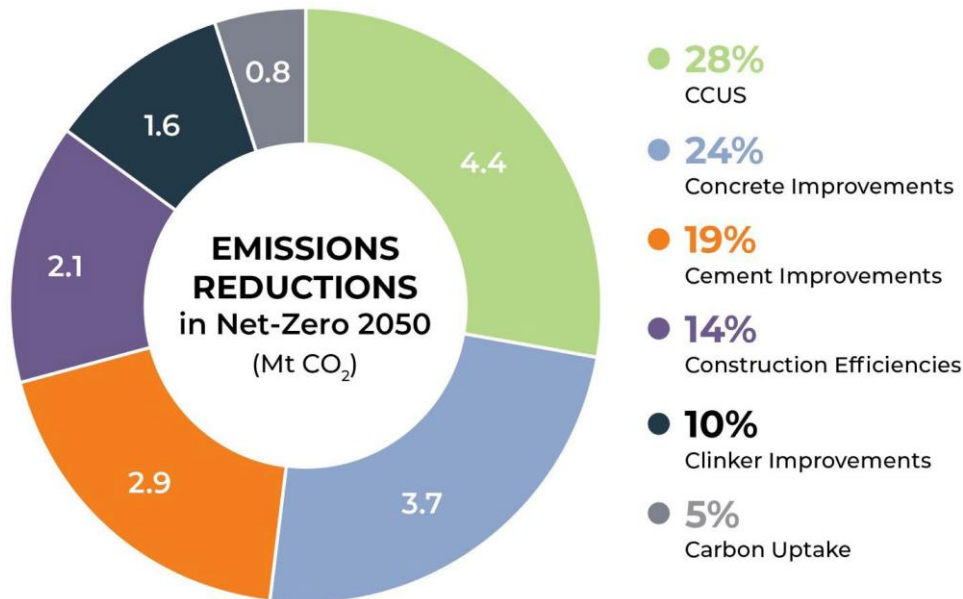


BAU = Business as usual



The Path to Net-Zero

- There is no silver bullet, no one magic solution that will get us to zero. Rather it will take many actions.
- This Action Plan focuses on existing, proven technologies and we will update the plan as more technologies and solutions become commercially available.
- Focus on the 5 C's (clinker, cement, concrete, construction, and carbon uptake)



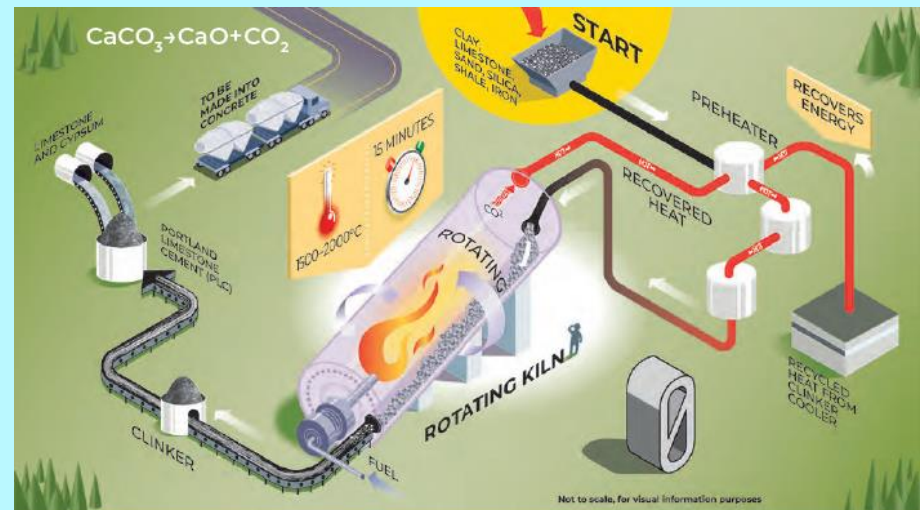
Multiple Pathways Needed to Reduce Emissions

1/3rd combustion emissions

- Can be addressed using lower carbon fuels

2/3rd industrial process emissions

- Can only be addressed with:
 - Clinker substitution (blended cements)
 - Cement substitution (SCMs)
 - Material efficiency (optimized design)
 - Carbon capture technologies (which can target the combustion emissions as well)



Canadian Cement Industry Partnering with Fed. & Prov. Gov'ts. to Lower Carbon Footprint

- 1. Canada's Cement Industry and the Government of Canada have partnered to establish Canada as a global leader in low-carbon cement and to achieve net-zero carbon concrete.*
- 2. Working together, a reduction of 15 Megatonnes of GHG's needs to be achieved by 2030. Then on-going additional reductions of 4 Megatonnes annually.*
- 3. We are proud partners of an Industry-Government Working Group that includes the NRC, the SCC, and ISED that are working collaboratively on several activities including broad adoption of Green Procurement Rules with the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat.*

NRC – Natural Resources Canada,

SCC – Standards Council of Canada,

ISED – Innovation, Science and Economic Development



The 5 C's - Cement and Concrete Value Chain

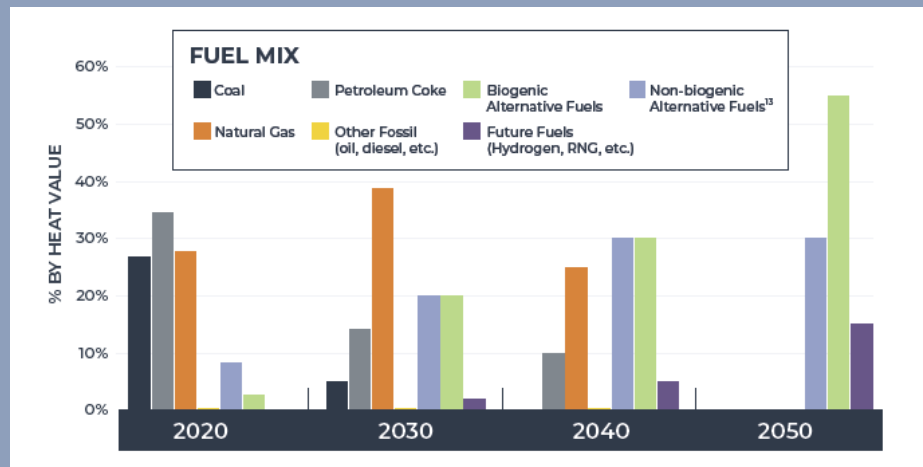


Clinker

- Clinker is the key ingredient that gives cement it's binding properties.
- The most GHG-intensive component of cement.

How we'll reduce clinker emissions:

1. Replacing fossil fuels
2. Clinker substitution
3. Carbon Capture
4. Thermal efficiency
5. Decarbonated raw materials
6. Novel clinker chemistries



Cement

- The most energy-intensive phase of the concrete value chain occurs at the cement plant

How we'll reduce cement emissions:

1. New cement blends:

- Portland-limestone cement
- Supplementary cementitious materials
- Blended cements

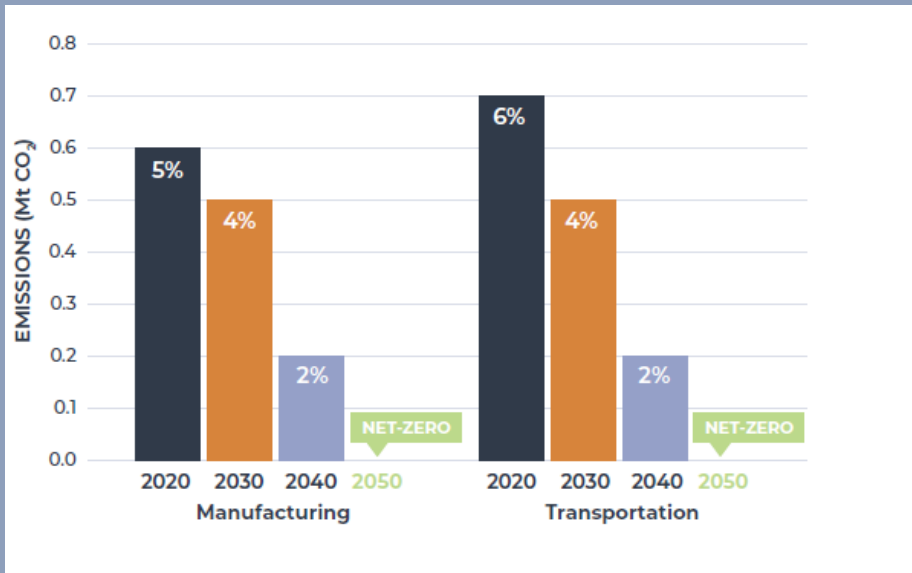
2030	2040	2050
Blended Cements (% of market)		
25%	35%	50%
SCM in Blended Cement (%)		
20%	20%	20%
CO₂ Burden of SCMs (Mt CO₂)		
0.09	0.1	0.2

Concrete

- As an essential building material, concrete must be produced to ensure quality and performance while reducing emissions.

How we'll reduce concrete emissions:

1. Concrete mix optimization
 - Larger aggregate to minimize paste
 - Aggregate gradation optimization
 - Recycled concrete aggregate
 - Utilize chemical admixtures
2. Optimized concrete design to ensure not over specifying strength and durability requirements
3. Powering concrete with clean energy



Construction

- There are opportunities to reduce and avoid the volume of emissions associated with concrete use through design and construction.

How we'll reduce construction emissions:

1. Optimization in design

- Consider material efficiency (i.e. voided slabs, column spacing, etc.)
- Avoid over designing

2. Waste reduction

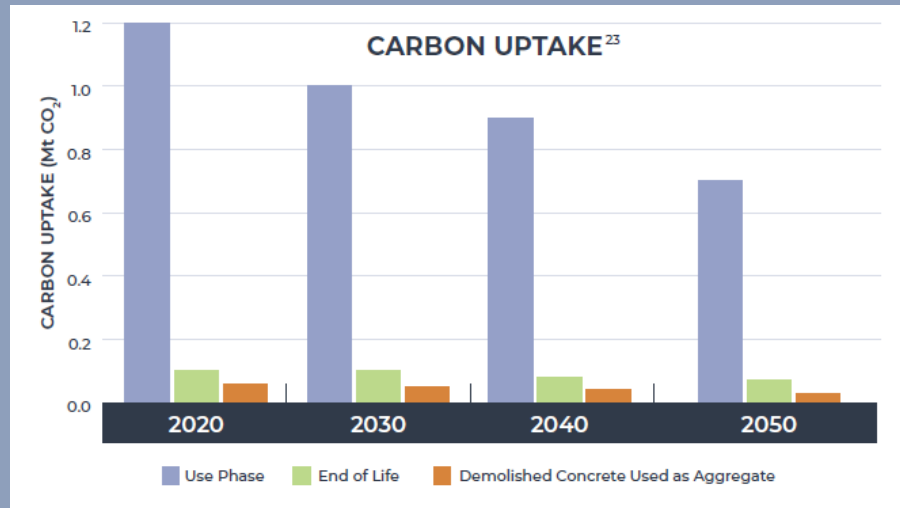
Achieving emissions reductions in construction is outside of the direct control of the cement and concrete industry and requires a shared commitment to achieving net-zero, together.



2030	2040	2050
Savings from Material Efficiency (millions m ³ of concrete)		
3.6	5.9	7.9
CO₂ Reduced at the Construction Stage (in year concrete produced) (Mt CO ₂)		
0.7	0.9	0.8

Carbon Uptake

- Concrete naturally sequesters CO₂ from the atmosphere, permanently capturing it in a process known as carbon uptake
- Research conducted at IVL, the Swedish Environmental Research Institute, finds an average of 20% of the CO₂ calcination emissions can be permanently sequestered when a concrete structure has been built
- During the design phase of a project, a good strategy to maximize CO₂ uptake is for architects and engineers to ask to use exposed concrete wherever possible.



Industry's Role in Reducing Carbon Intensity of Concrete



Low Carbon Fuels

Objective: Displace fossil fuels with waste products destined for landfill

- Typical substitutes
 - C&D waste (i.e. urban wood)
 - non-recyclable plastics
 - non-recyclable tires
- Future:
 - Biosolids?
 - Renewable Natural Gas?
 - Hydrogen?
- **Reduction Potential: ~ 33%**



Example Mix
30MPa = 386.6 kg eCO₂/m³
25% LCF can reduce this by 30 kg
eCO₂/m³

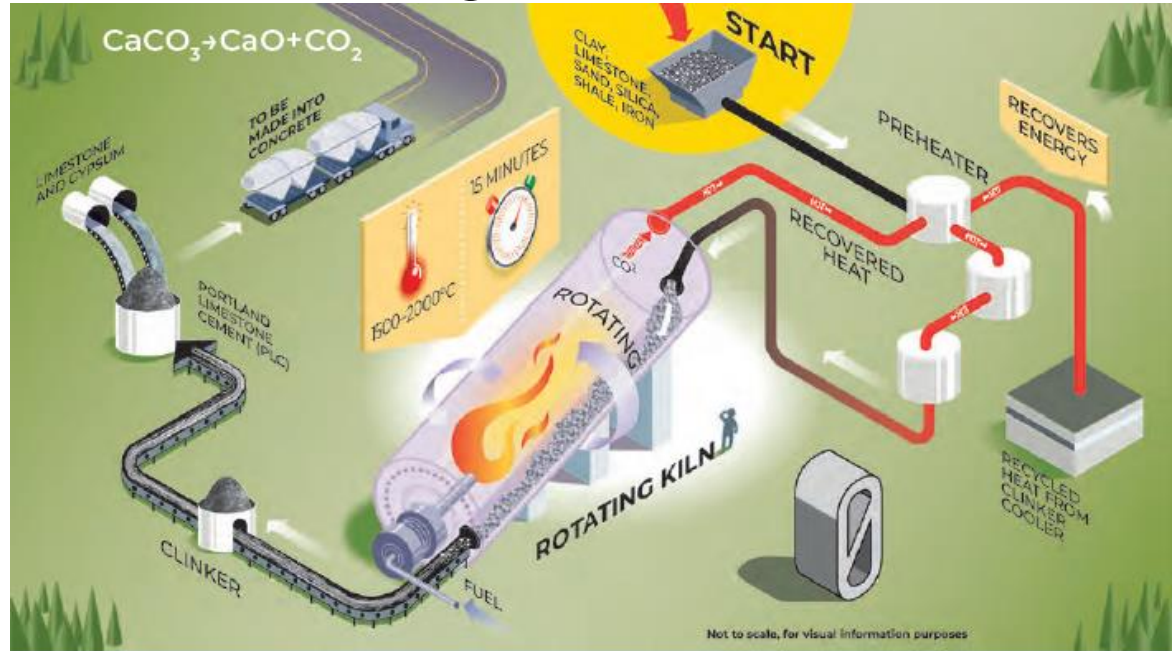
Clinker Substitution

- Objective: substitute clinker (the energy-intensive, intermediate product in the manufacture of cement) with alternative materials that display cementitious properties.
- Alternatives include:
 - Portland-limestone cement
 - Fly ash, slag and other Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs)



National Holocaust Monument – 2017

Cement Manufacturing - PLC



Regular Portland Cement	Portland Limestone Cement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● = ground clinker, precursor to cement ● = limestone (5%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● = finely ground clinker ● = finely ground limestone (15%)

Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs)

- SCMs reduce the cement and clinker content of a concrete mix, providing economic and environmental benefits
- Limits for SCMs outlined by CSA Standard A3001 – Cementitious Materials for Use in Concrete
- The blending or inter-grinding of cement or Portland limestone cement with up to three SCMs
 - Binary – 2, Ternary – 3, Quaternary – 4
- In general, mixtures perform in a manner that can be predicted by knowing the characteristics of the individual ingredients



Library and Archives Canada's New Preservation Facility

Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS)

Carbon capture at the cement plant

- Two full scale pilots under development in Western Canada

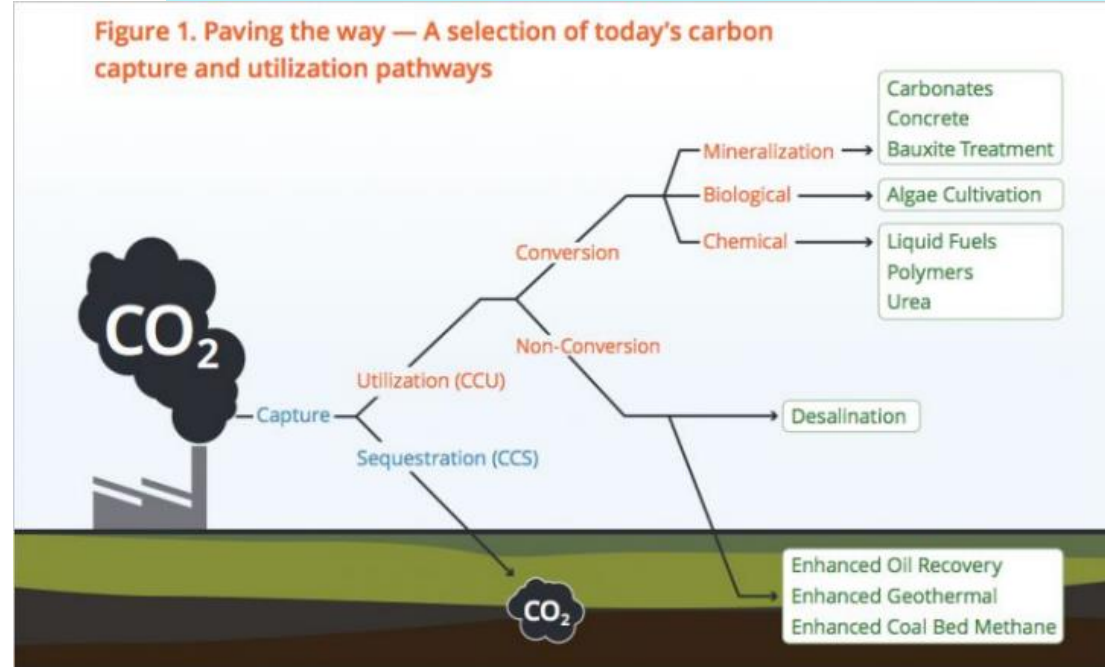
Reduction Potential: 90 – 95%

Carbon utilization in concrete

- Multiple pathways

Reduction potential: 1 – 70%

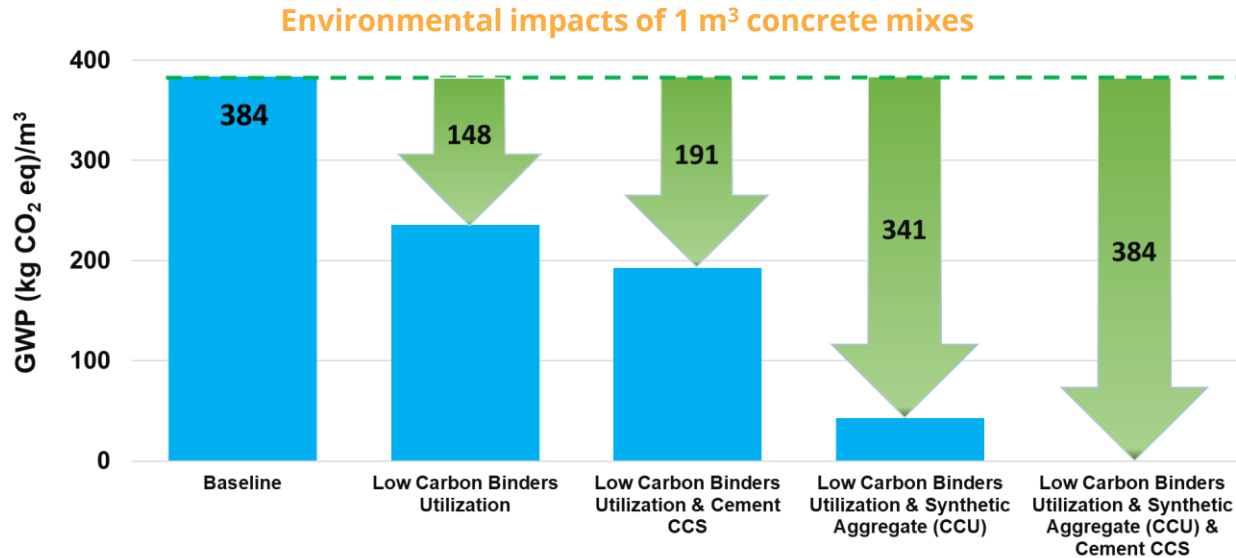
Future: > 100%??



A Selection of Active CCUS Technologies



Cumulative Impact of Reductions



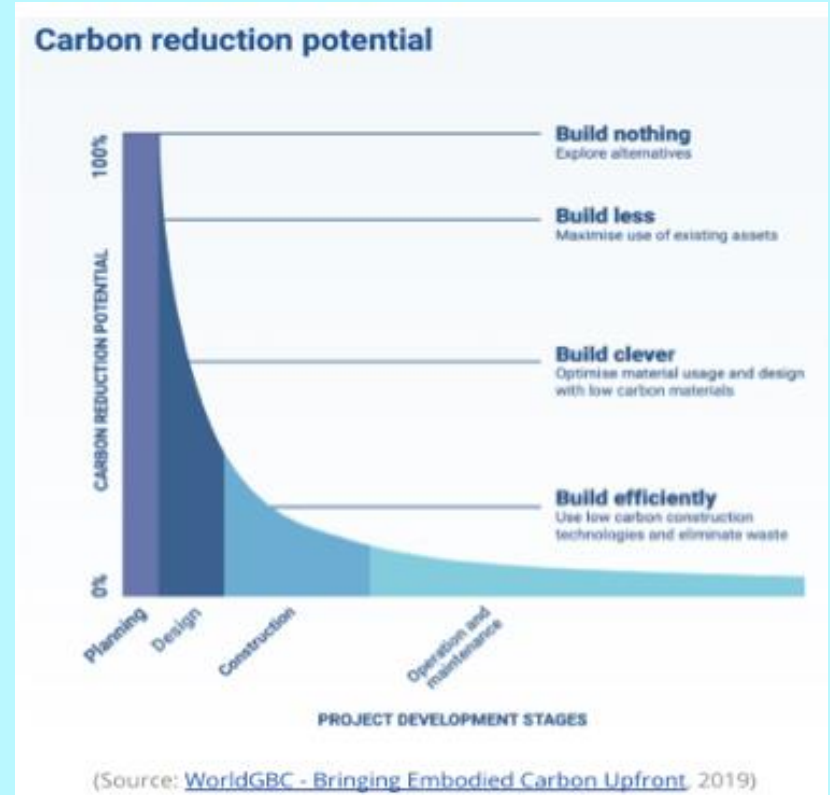
Source: *The role of concrete in life cycle greenhouse gas emission reductions of the United States buildings and pavements*. Jeremy Gregory, CSHub Webinar, August 20, 2020

Designer's and Owner's Role in Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Concrete



How Architects & Engineers Can Reduce the Carbon Footprint of Concrete

- ✓ Communicate your carbon reduction goals
- ✓ Invest in quality control by purchasing from certified concrete facilities
- ✓ Focus on **performance** rather than prescriptive mix designs
- ✓ Use Portland-limestone cement (PLC)
- ✓ Optimize the use of Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs)
- ✓ Consider material efficiency (i.e. voided slabs, column spacing, etc.)
- ✓ Optimized concrete design to ensure not over specifying strength and durability requirements
- ✓ Use concrete as a finish material to reduce material needs and promote carbonation



Performance-Based Specifications



Giving the ready mixed producers the flexibility to provide concrete that meets the specified performance criteria via the use of a CSA Performance-Based Specification approach will lead to an optimized design AND a more sustainable concrete solution.



Performance-Based Specifications

PRESCRIPTIVE

It is highly discouraged to specify any mix proportions, including material quantities (e.g., admixtures, aggregates, cementitious materials, and water), as the mix design becomes prescriptive, and the owner assumes full responsibility for the concrete performance.

Using prescriptive mix designs can not only negatively impact the performance of the concrete but can also very likely negatively impact the realization of carbon reduction goals on the project since the specifier will not be aware of the raw materials used by each individual concrete producer or plant.

PERFORMANCE

Performance-based specifications offer the specifier the ultimate peace of mind that the ready mixed producer is responsible for the performance of the concrete as delivered.

They also give the ready mixed producer flexibility in optimizing mix designs.

This flexibility becomes critically important when a ready mixed producer needs to use multiple CSA-approved approaches in designing mixes to meet a variety of requirements including strength, durability, constructability, and carbon/sustainability.

Performance-based specifications are critical to specifying low carbon concrete AND to achieving low carbon concrete.

CSA Standards

CSA A23.1 & A23.2-19

Definitions of C,F,N,A and S Classes of Exposure

- C –2 Non-structurally reinforced concrete exposed to chlorides and freezing and thawing

Requirements for C,F,N,A and S Classes of Exposure

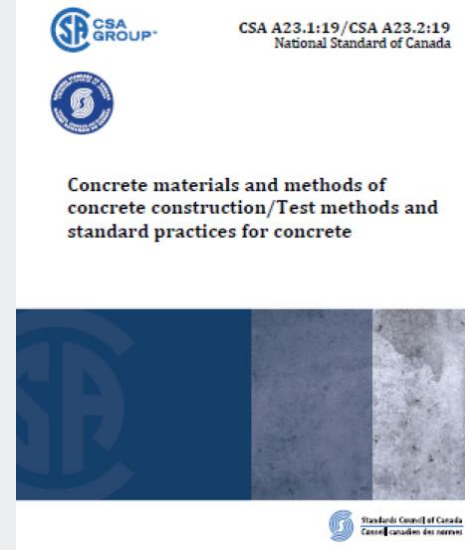
- 0.45 maximum water-to-cementing materials ratio
- 32 MPa minimum specified 28 d compressive strength
- 1 air content category

Requirements for the Air Content Categories

- 5 – 8 % for 14 – 20 mm maximum size aggregate
- 4 – 7 % for 28 – 40 mm maximum size aggregate

CSA A3000-18

- Cementitious materials compendium allows the use of PLC in concrete mixes



Exposure Classes



CSA A23.1:19/CSA A23.2:19
National Standard of Canada



Concrete materials and methods of
concrete construction/Test methods and
standard practices for concrete



Standards Council of Canada
Conseil canadien des normes



Table 1

Definitions of C, F, N, A, S and R classes of exposure

(See Clauses 3, 4.1.1.1.1, 4.1.1.1.3, 4.1.1.5, 4.1.1.8.1, 4.1.2.3, 6.1.4, 6.6.7.6.1, 7.1.2.1, 9.1, L.3, and R.1, Tables 2, 3, and 17, and Annex L)

C-XL	Structurally reinforced concrete exposed to chlorides or other severe environments with or without freezing and thawing conditions, with higher durability performance expectations than the C-1 classes.
C-1	Structurally reinforced concrete exposed to chlorides with or without freezing and thawing conditions. Examples: bridge decks, parking decks and ramps, portions of structures exposed to seawater located within the tidal and splash zones, concrete exposed to seawater spray, and salt water pools. For seawater or seawater-spray exposures the requirements for S-3 exposure also have to be met.
C-2	Non-structurally reinforced (i.e., plain) concrete exposed to chlorides and freezing and thawing. Examples: garage floors, porches, steps, pavements, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters.
C-3	Continuously submerged concrete exposed to chlorides, but not to freezing and thawing. Examples: underwater portions of structures exposed to seawater. For seawater or seawater-spray exposures the requirements for S-3 exposure also have to be met.
C-4	Non-structurally reinforced concrete exposed to chlorides, but not to freezing and thawing. Examples: underground parking slabs on grade.
F-1	Concrete exposed to freezing and thawing in a saturated condition, but not to chlorides. Examples: pool decks, patios, tennis courts, freshwater pools, and freshwater control structures.
F-2	Concrete in an unsaturated condition exposed to freezing and thawing, but not to chlorides. Examples: exterior walls and columns.
N	Concrete that when in service is neither exposed to chlorides nor to freezing and thawing nor to sulphates, either in a wet or dry environment. Examples: footings, walls, and columns.
N-CF	Interior concrete floors with a steel-trowel finish that are not exposed to chlorides, nor to sulphates either in a wet or dry environment. Examples: interior floors, surface covered applications (carpet, vinyl tile) and surface exposed applications (with or without floor hardener), ice-hockey rinks, freezer warehouse floors.

Requirements for Various Classes of Exposure

Table 2
Requirements for C, F, N, A, and S classes of exposure

(See Clauses 4.1.1.1.1, 4.1.1.1.3, 4.1.1.3, 4.1.1.4, 4.1.1.5, 4.1.1.6.2, 4.1.1.8.1, 4.1.1.11, 4.1.2.1, 4.3.1, 4.3.7.1, 4.3.7.2, , 7.1.2.1, 7.5.1.1, 8.7.4.1, 9.4, 9.5, L.1, L.3, and R.3 and Table 1.)

Class of exposure ^a	Maximum water-to-cementitious materials ratio ^b	Minimum specified compressive strength (MPa) and age (d) at test ^{b, i}	Air content category as per Table 4 ^d		Curing type (see Table 19)			Chloride ion penetrability requirements and age at test ^e
			Exposed to cycles of freeze/thaw	Not exposed to cycles of freeze/thaw	Normal concrete	HVSCM-1	HVSCM-2	
C-XL or A-XL	0.40	50 within 56 d	1	*	3	3	3	< 1000 coulombs within 91 d
C-1 or A-1	0.40	35 within 56 d	1	*	2	3	2	< 1500 coulombs within 91 d
C-2	0.45 ^h	32 at 28 d	1	n/a	2	2	2	—
C-3	0.50	30 at 28 d	n/a	*	1	2	2	—
C-4*	0.55	25 at 28 d	n/a	*	1	2	2	—
A-2	0.45	32 at 28 d	1	*	2	2	2	—
A-3	0.50	30 at 28 d	2	*	1	2	2	—
A-4	0.55	25 at 28 d	2	*	1	2	2	—
F-1	0.50 ⁱ	30 at 28 d	1	n/a	2	3	2	—
F-2 or R-1 or R-2	0.55 ⁱ	25 at 28 d	2 ^f	n/a	1	2	2	—
N	As per the mix design for the strength required	For structural design	n/a	*	1	2	2	—
N-CF#s or R-3	0.55	25 at 28 d	n/a	*	1	2	2	—
S-1	0.40	35 within 56 d	1	*	2	3	2	—

(Continued)

Canadian National Master Construction Specification

- **Portland Cement: hydraulic cement, blended hydraulic cement (XXb - b denotes blended) and Portland-limestone cement types:**

- .1 GU, GUb, GUL and GULb - General use cement.
- .2 MS, MSb and MSLB - Moderate sulphate-resistant cement.
- .3 MH, MHb, MHL and MSLB - Moderate heat of hydration cement.
- .4 HE, HEb, HEL and HELb- High early-strength cement.
- .5 LH, LHb, LHL LHLb - Low heat of hydration cement.
- .6 HS, HSb and HSLb - High sulphate-resistant cement.

- **Fly ash types:**

- .1 F - with CaO content maximum 8%.
- .2 CI - with CaO content 15 and 20%.
- .3 CH - with minimum CaO content of 20%.

- **Other Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCM) types:**

- .1 S-GGBFS - Ground, granulated blast-furnace slag.
- .2 N – Natural pozzolan.
- .3 SF – Silica fume with minimum silicon dioxide (SiO_2) content of 85%.
- .4 SFI – Silica fume with silicon dioxide (SiO_2) content between 75% and 85%.
- .5 GL – Ground glass with maximum total alkali (NaEq) content of 4%.
- .6 GH – Ground glass with total alkali (NaEq) content between 4% and 13%.



Cast-in-Place Concrete, Section 03 30 00

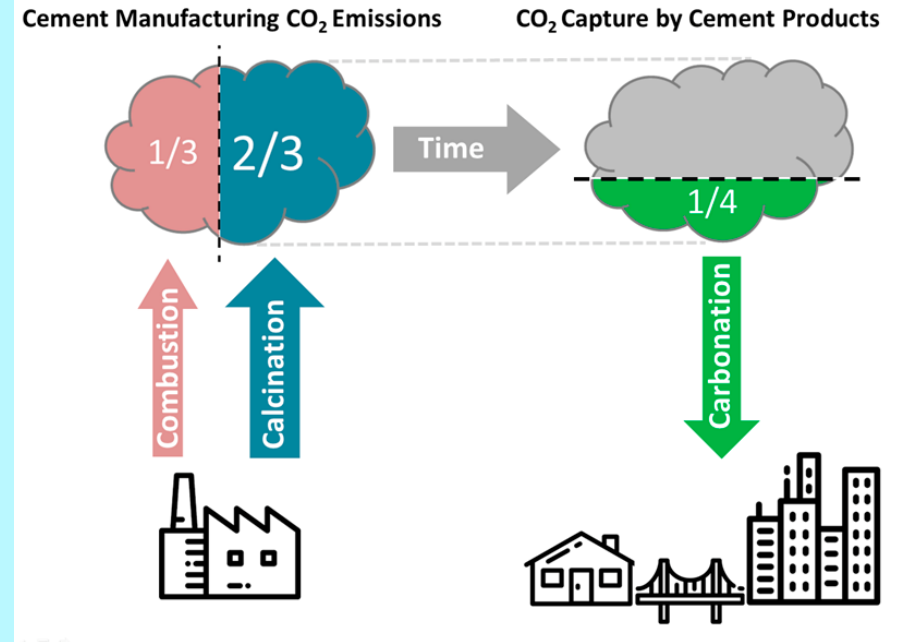
National Model Codes

- PLC / GUL / GULb recognized in the updated editions of the 2020 Building, Plumbing, Fire and Energy Code of Canada



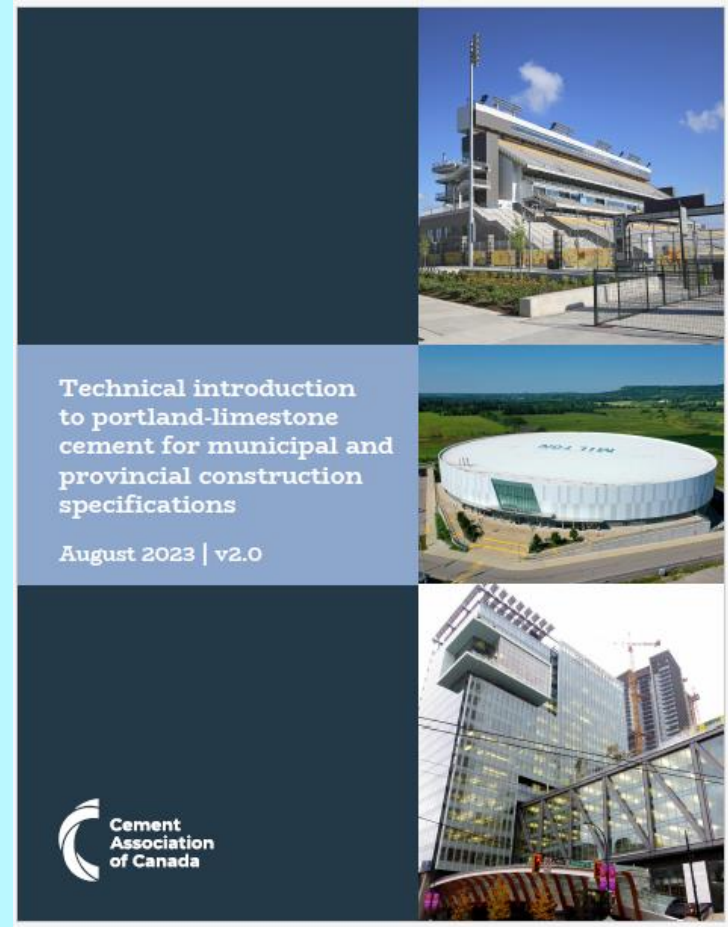
Design for (Re)carbonation (Emerging Science)

- Concrete naturally absorbs carbon over its life
- Rate of carbon uptake depends on exposure to air, atmospheric conditions, concrete composition etc.
- Could represent >20% of the industrial process emissions associated with cement content
- Exposed concrete maximizes the effect
- End of life strategies to optimize (re)carbonation are also being explored



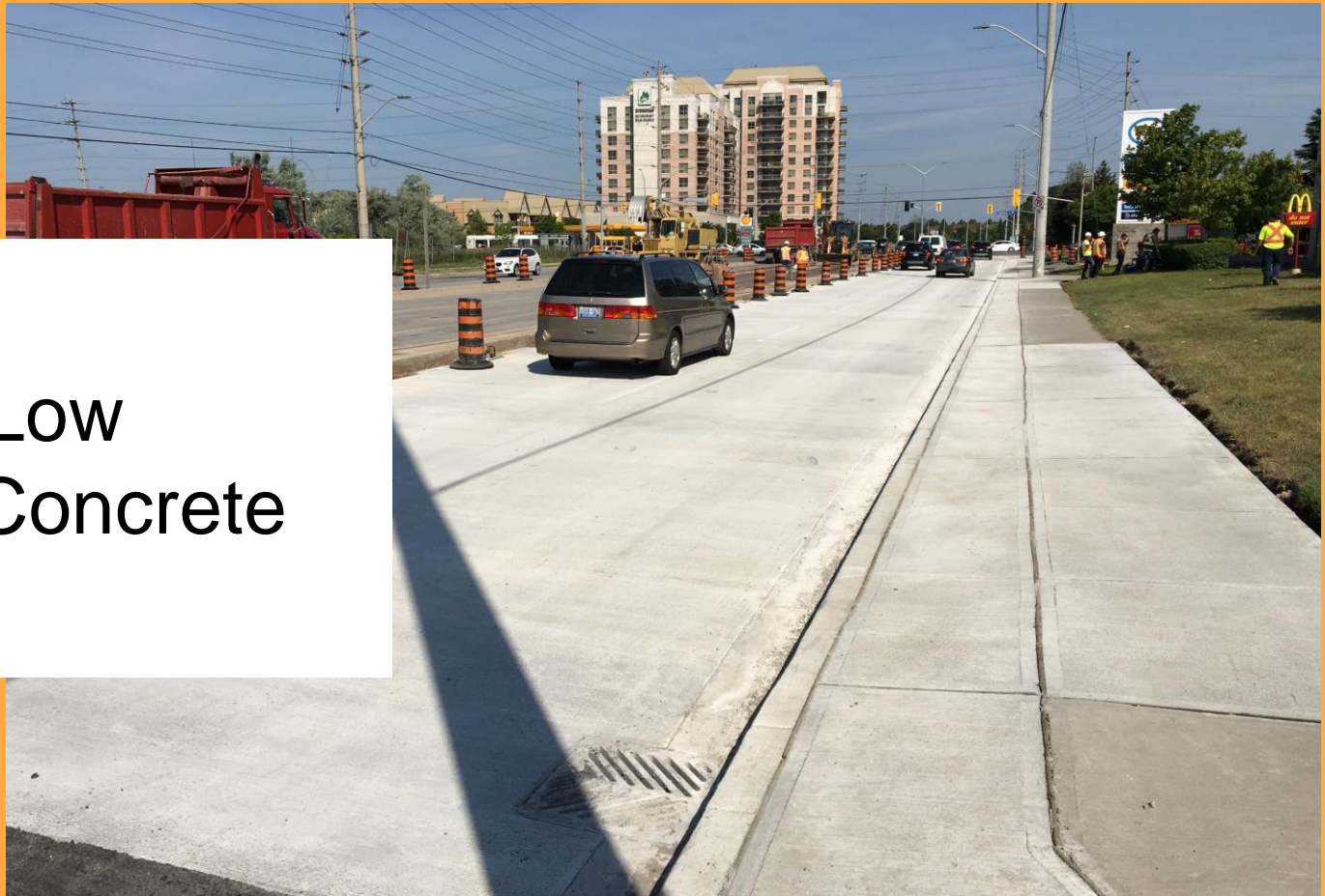
PLC Technical Summary Document

- What / why Portland Limestone Cement
- How is PLC Manufactured
- History of PLC Use
- Testing and Performance
- Use in Other Jurisdictions
- Carbon Reduction Potential
- Summary
- Key Contacts
- References
- Project Examples



<https://cement.ca/app/uploads/2023/08/Aug-2023-PLC-Technical-Summary-Report-2.0.pdf>

What Is Low Carbon Concrete



What is Low Carbon Concrete?

- Low carbon concrete refers to concrete produced with a **lower carbon footprint** than traditional mix designs, **while still meeting all relevant performance requirements**
 - Strength, permeability, durability, etc.
- To employ low carbon concrete:
 - Use available lower carbon impact materials
 - Mix design optimization (Admixtures)
 - Carbon mineralization technology
 - Tools to quantify the carbon impact (EPDs)
 - Project carbon budgeting



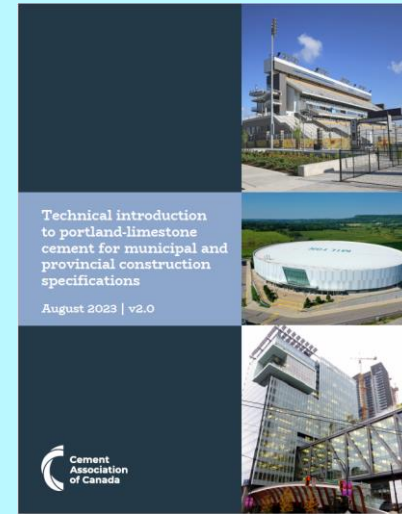
Vancouver Convention Centre – West

First convention Centre in the world to achieve **double LEED Platinum** – the first for Building and Construction (2009; for the lifetime of the building) and the second for Building Operations and Maintenance (2017; renewal in 2022)

Producing Low Carbon Concrete

Evaluating all your Raw Materials

- Utilize raw material EPDs
- Utilize local materials
- Evaluate the cement type



GU VS. GUL

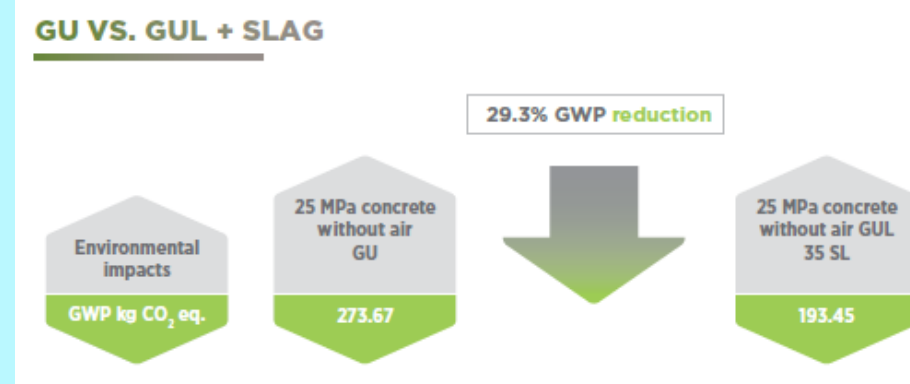
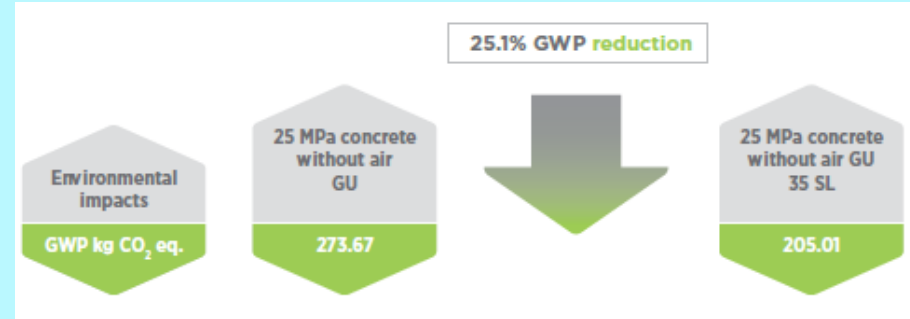


*Up to 10% reduction possible

Producing Low Carbon Concrete

Maximize the Use of Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs)

- Cement Type & SCM usage can result in dramatic reductions



Producing Low Carbon Concrete

Maximize the Use of Supplementary Cementing Materials (SCMs)

- Slag is the primary SCM in Ontario
- Fly Ash is used in Western Canada
- Silica Fume can also be used
- New & innovative products are coming to market



Producing Low Carbon Concrete

Optimize Aggregates

- Larger Aggregate Size:
 - Lower paste content versus more challenging placement conditions
- Aggregate Gradation Optimization
- Recycled Concrete Aggregates



Producing Low Carbon Concrete

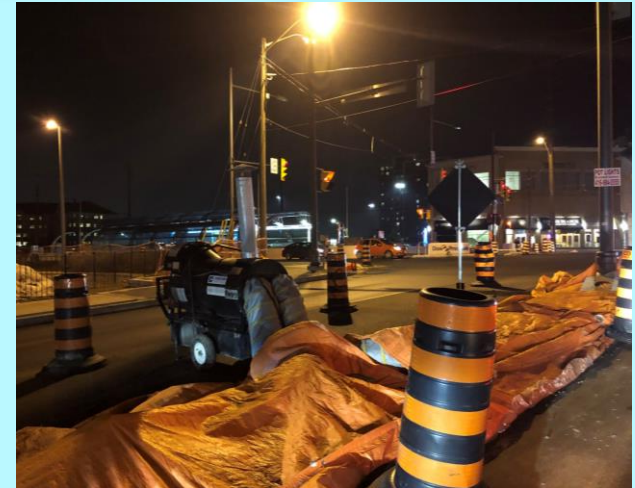
Utilize Chemical Admixtures

- Water reduction
- Improved placeability
- Innovative performance and carbon reduction products



Producing Low Carbon Concrete

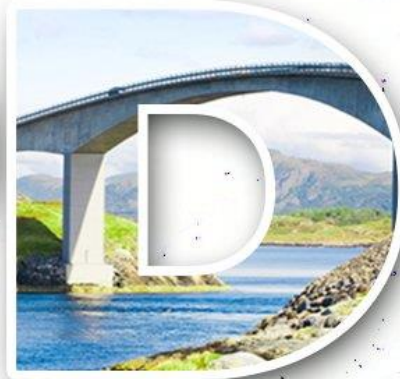
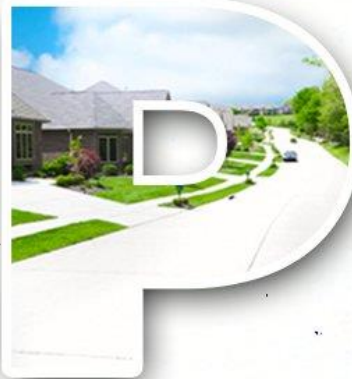
- Communication & Evaluation
 - Schedule
 - Placement method
 - Strength requirements (do you need 28-day strength or is 56-day sufficient)
 - Special applications
- Challenges
 - Cold weather concreting (Accelerated set & strength development)



What are EPD's ?



“



S

are Key to Concrete's Sustainable Future”

Environmental Product Declarations

- EPDs for concrete are much like nutrition labels for common foods
- EPDs outline the impact a certain concrete mix design has on the environment
- Most important metric is the **Global Warming Potential (GWP)** which is calculated in $\text{kg CO}_2/\text{m}^3$



Food Nutritional Labels

Health Impacts

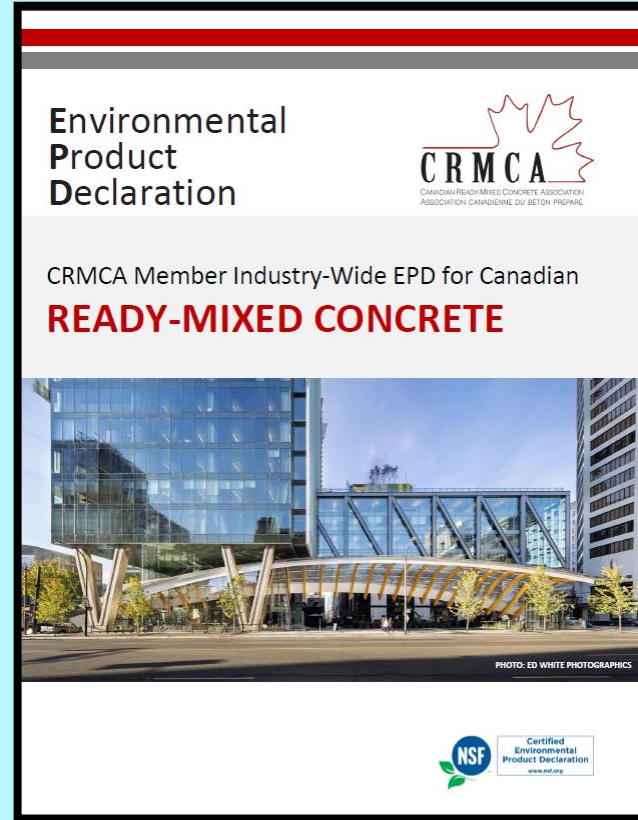
Nutrition Facts		
Serving Size 2/3 cup (55g)		
Servings Per Container About 8		
Amount Per Serving		
Calories 230	Calories from Fat 40	
	% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 8g		12%
Saturated Fat 1g		5%
Trans Fat 0g		
Cholesterol 0mg		0%
Sodium 160mg		7%
Total Carbohydrate 37g		12%
Dietary Fiber 4g		16%
Sugars 1g		
Protein 3g		
Vitamin A		10%
Vitamin C		8%
Calcium		20%
Iron		45%
* Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily value may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.		
	Calories:	2,000 2,500
Total Fat	Less than	65g 80g
Sat Fat	Less than	30g 25g
Cholesterol	Less than	300mg 300mg
Sodium	Less than	2,400mg 2,400mg
Total Carbohydrate		300g 375g
Dietary Fiber		25g 30g

Product EPDs

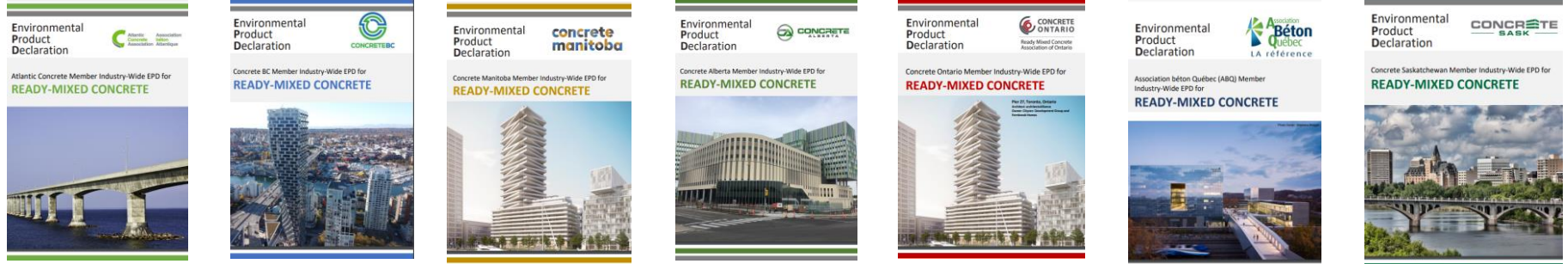
Environmental Impacts

Environmental Impacts	
Declared Product: Mix 4F05C5Q1 + Bode Plant EF50 Gen Use 4" line w/c .50 Compressive strength: 4000 psi at 28 days	
Declared Unit: 1 m ³ of concrete	
Global Warming Potential (kg CO ₂ -eq)	272
Ozone Depletion Potential (kg CFC-114-eq)	7.45E-6
Acidification Potential (kg SO ₂ -eq)	2.86
Eutrophication Potential (kg N-eq)	0.37
Photochemical Smog Creation Potential (kg C ₂ H ₄ -eq)	88.8
Total Primary Energy Consumption (MJ)	2,577
Nonrenewable (MJ)	2,564
Renewable (MJ)	73.7
Total Concrete Water Consumption (m ³)	3.65
Batching Water (m ³)	0.89
Washing Water (m ³)	6.85E-3
Nonrenewable Material Resource Consumption (kg)	2,464
Renewable Material Resource Consumption (kg)	1.87
Hazardous Waste Production (kg)	0.81
Nonhazardous Waste Production (kg)	2.76
Product Components: crushed aggregate (ASTM C33), Portland cement (ASTM C150), slag cement (ASTM C955), fly ash (ASTM C618), admixture (ASTM C494), batch water (ASTM C618)	

CRMCA Industry-Wide EPD for Canadian Ready- Mixed Concrete (Expired January 2022)



2022 CRMCA Industry-Average Regional EPDs Reports



- <https://www.astm.org/products-services/certification/environmental-product-declarations/epd-pcr.html>

Concrete Ontario Member Industry-Wide EPD for Ready-Mixed Concrete (July 2022)

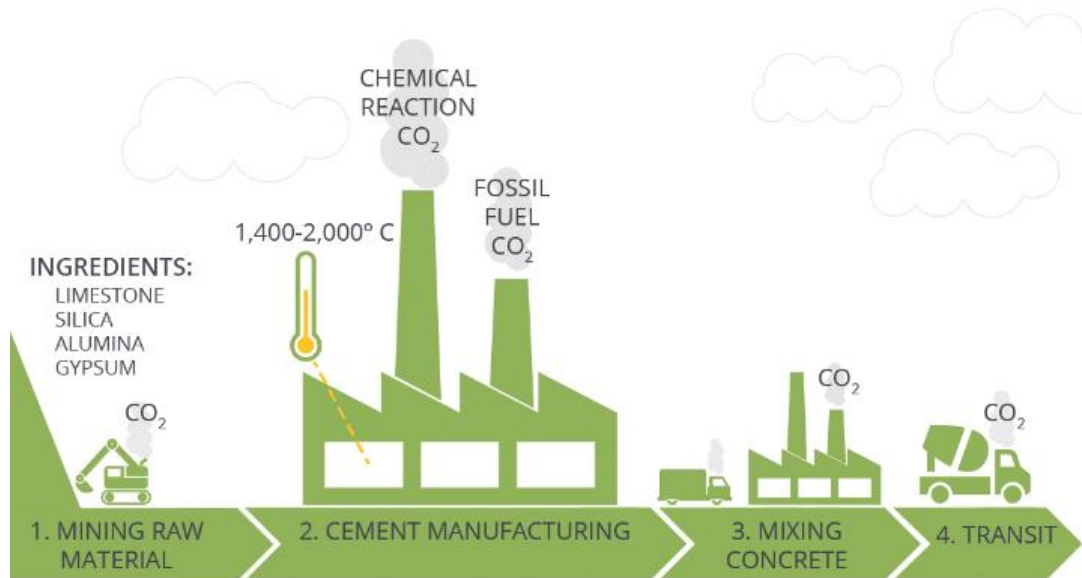


Building Life Cycle Information Modules													
Product stage			Construction Process stage		Use stage							End-of-life stage	
Raw Material supply	Transport	Manufacturing	Transport	Construction/Installation	Use	Maintenance	Repair	Replacement	Refurbishment	Operational Energy Use	Operational Water Use	De-Construction/	Disposal
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	C1	C2
												C3	C4

Figure 1: Life cycle stage schematic – alpha-numeric designations as per NSF PCR 2021

Cradle to Gate Analysis

2022 Concrete Ontario Report Scope A1-A3



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Establishing Baselines is Critical for EPDs

Table 19. LCA Results 32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2)

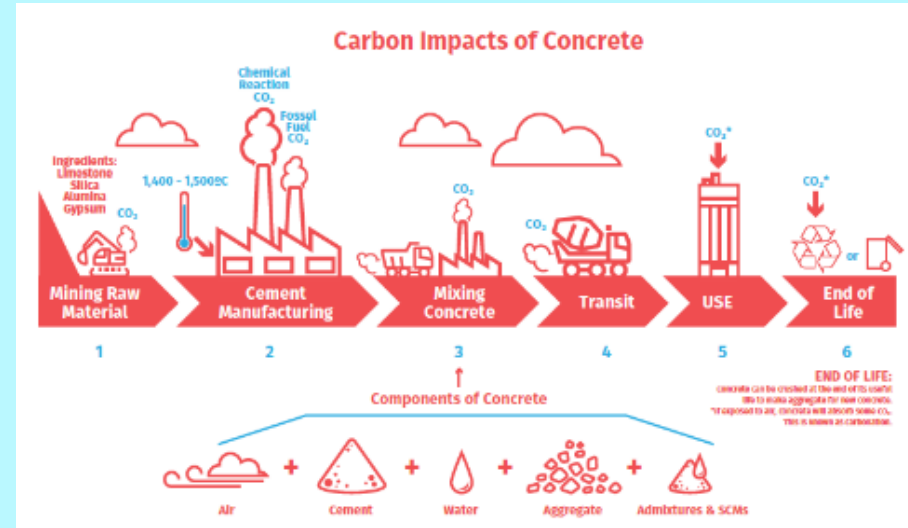
Unit		Baseline 32MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 10 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 15 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 25 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 35 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 50 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GUL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GUL 15 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GUL 25 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GUL 35 SL	32 MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GUL 50 SL
Environmental impacts												
GWP	kg CO ₂ eq.	326.46	350.57	313.40	287.30	261.19	222.03	328.90	293.29	269.55	245.81	210.20
ODP	kg CFC-11 eq.	8.24E-06	8.12E-06	8.31E-06	8.43E-06	8.56E-06	8.74E-06	7.75E-06	8.00E-06	8.16E-06	8.32E-06	8.56E-06
EP	kg N eq.	0.25	0.27	0.25	0.24	0.23	0.21	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.20
AP	kg SO ₂ eq.	1.50	1.54	1.48	1.44	1.40	1.34	1.46	1.41	1.38	1.35	1.30
POCP	kg O ₃ eq.	24.91	25.12	24.81	24.61	24.40	24.10	24.03	23.89	23.79	23.70	23.56

Baselines are critical to set and achieve carbon reduction goals

CRMCA EPD Report Benchmark	Ontario EPD Report Baseline	% Reduction
2017	2022	
25 MPa Industry Average Benchmark with air (6% SL, 4% FA) 304.52 kgCO ₂ /m ³	Baseline 25 MPa concrete with air & 0.55 w/cm (F-2) GU 10 SL 260.64 kgCO ₂ /m ³	14.4
30 MPa Industry Average Benchmark with air (6% SL, 4% FA) 349.68 kgCO ₂ /m ³	Baseline 30 MPa concrete with air & 0.50 w/cm (F-1) GU 15 SL 292.72 kgCO ₂ /m ³	16.3
35 MPa Industry Average Benchmark with air (6% SL, 4% FA) 417.05 kgCO ₂ /m ³	Baseline 35 MPa concrete with air GU 15 SL 334.49 kgCO ₂ /m ³	19.8
40 MPa Industry Average Benchmark with air (6% SL, 4% FA) 458.98 kgCO ₂ /m ³	Baseline 40 MPa concrete with air GU 15 SL 361.65 kgCO ₂ /m ³	21.2
45 MPa Industry Average Benchmark without air (6% SL, 4% FA) 426.33 kgCO ₂ /m ³	Baseline 45 MPa concrete without air GU 15 SL 349.88 kgCO ₂ /m ³	17.9

What are the Differences Between EPD Types?

- **Industry Average** – CRMCA Ontario / Manitoba Report
- **Type II** – Facility Specific
- **Type III** – Facility Specific & Third Party Verified





Treasury Board of
Canada Secretariat

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Standard on Embodied Carbon in Construction

<https://www.tbs-sct.canada.ca/pol/doc-eng.aspx?id=32742>



- Effective **December 31, 2022**, all federal projects budgeted at or above \$10 million, using a minimum 100 m³ of ready mixed concrete
- Disclosure of Type II or Type III EPDs
- **10% reduction from the total project GHG emissions** from ready mixed concrete, using the GWPs of the baseline mixes in the Ontario Regional Industry Average Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) for the strength class of each mix and the volume of mix placed
- Where specialized concrete mixes are required for **high early strength, high or ultra-high performance, and/or cold-weather applications**, the baseline used for those mixes shall be **130% of the baseline mix** in the Ontario Regional Industry Average EPD for that strength class



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Concrete Carbon Project Budget



SWIFT

- Developing a concrete carbon project budget approach allows flexibility in the concrete mix designs used as a result of a demanding schedule and special applications

$$GHG\ reduction = CO_2e\ Baseline - CO_2e\ Project$$

Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) Baseline: The emissions calculated by the volumes of all the mixes used in the project multiplied by their regional (Ontario) average GWP

CO₂e Project: The emissions from the concrete used in the project calculated by the volumes of all the mixes used in the project multiplied by their GWP

$$\% GHG\ reduction = \frac{(GHG\ Reduction) \cdot 100}{CO_2e\ Baseline}$$

Low Carbon Concrete – EPD Example



Concrete Apron Example



Example:

Mix: 32 MPa Class C-2

Volume: 5,000 m³

Baseline: 326.46 kg CO₂/m³

Concrete placed (GUL 25% SL): 269.55 kg CO₂/m³

CO₂e Baseline

5,000 m³ x 326.46 kg CO₂/m³ = 1,632 tonnes CO₂

CO₂e Project

5,000 m³ x 269.55 kg CO₂/m³ = 1,348 tonnes CO₂

GHG Reduction: 1,632 – 1,348 = 284 tonnes CO₂

% GHG Reduction: 17.4%

Concrete Apron Example

Concrete Carbon Project Budget

Example (Cold Weather):

Mix: 32 MPa Class C-2

Volume: 5,000 m³

Baseline: 326.46 x 1.3 kg CO₂/m³ = 424.40
CO₂/m³

Accelerated concrete placed (20MPa at 48 hours):
398.04 kg CO₂/m³

CO₂e Baseline

5,000 m³ x 424.40 kg CO₂/m³ = 2,122 tonnes CO₂

CO₂e Project

5,000 m³ x 398.04 kg CO₂/m³ = 1,990 tonnes CO₂

GHG Reduction: 2,122 – 1,990 = 132 tonnes CO₂

% GHG Reduction: 6.2%

Concrete Carbon Project Budget

Example (Full Project):

Mix: 32 MPa Class C-2

Volume: 5,000 m³

% GHG Reduction: $(17.4 + 6.2)/2 = 11.8\%$

Treasury Board GHG Spreadsheet

Ready-Mix Concrete Reporting Section (Enter each mix type provided on the project)													
Ready-Mix Concrete on Project			Project Mix	Baseline GHG Calculations			GHG Calculations for Project Mixes				GHG Emissions Reduction		
Element of building or structure (for example, walls, foundation)	Special Application: Yes/No (required to be high early strength, high or ultra-high performance, or applied in cold weather conditions as per design specification)	Volume Reduction: Yes/No (where a volume of a mix is reduced, i.e. by increasing its compressive strength, without the addition of other)	Compressive Strength (MPa) @ 28 days	Life cycle assessment (LCA) results table number (This example uses the ASTM International EPD)	Baseline GWP (kg CO ₂ /m ³) per mix (using equivalent compressive strength from the regional ASTM International EPD)	Volume (m ³)	Baseline GHG emissions per mix (tonnes CO ₂) based on the baseline GWP and volume	EPD or mix design reference number for the mix provided (from the supplier's EPD)	GWP (kg CO ₂ /m ³) of the mix provided (from the supplier's EPD)	Adjusted Volume (m ³) Note: only fill where "Yes" is selected for volume reduction	GHG Emissions per mix Provided (tonnes CO ₂)	GHG Emissions reduced from the baseline per mix Provided (tonnes CO ₂)	Percentage reduction in GHG emissions per mix compared to the baseline
Wall Foundations	Yes	No	45	12	349.88	230.0	104.61	####	401.2		92.28	12.34	11.8%
Column Foundations	Yes	No	60	15	361.25	21.5	10.10	####	416.54		8.96	1.14	11.3%
Structural Slabs-on-Grade	No	No	35	10	295.46	2331.0	688.72	####	272.45		635.08	53.64	7.8%
Subgrade Enclosure Wall	No	No	35	10	295.46	207.5	61.31	####	288.16		59.79	1.51	2.5%
Floor Decks, Slabs, and	No	No	35	10	295.46	2276.0	672.47	####	254.95		580.27	92.20	13.7%
Floor Structural Frame	No	Yes	45	12	349.88	118.0	41.29	####	313.88	112.0	35.15	6.13	14.9%
Floor Decks, Slabs, and	No	No	35	10	295.46	2034.0	600.97	####	257.71		524.18	76.78	12.8%
Floor Structural Frame	No	Yes	45	12	349.88	118.0	41.29	####	313.88	112.0	35.15	6.13	14.9%
Floor Decks, Slabs, and	No	No	35	10	295.46	273.5	80.81	####	265.4		72.59	8.22	10.2%
Stair Construction	No	No	30	9	264.38	15.5	4.10	####	249.04		3.86	0.24	5.8%
Roof Decks, Slabs, and	No	No	35	10	295.46	1852.0	547.19	####	258.5		478.74	68.45	12.5%
Pedestrian Pavement	No	No	25	8	264.94	414.0	109.69	####	224.67		93.01	16.67	15.2%
Exterior Steps and Ramp	No	No	30	9	264.38	128.0	33.84	####	230.42		29.49	4.35	12.8%
Project Totals	N/A		N/A		N/A	10019.0	##REF!	N/A	N/A	N/A	####	347.81	11.2%
Reduction in GHG emissions related to the embodied carbon of ready-mix concrete supplied to the project (tonnes)										348			
Percentage reduction in GHG emissions related to the embodied carbon of ready-mix concrete supplied to the project										11.2%			

Concrete Ontario GHG Spreadsheet



Insert Row

Delete Row

Back to Step 1

Back to Instructions

View Ontario EPD Report Values

View Ontario EPD Baseline Values

Concrete Mix Design Description or Mix #	Volume Placed (m3)	Ontario Industry-Average EPD Baseline Mix	Baseline GWP (kgCO2/m3)	Special Application (High-early strength, HPC/UHPC or cold-weather)	Updated Baseline GWP (kgCO2/m3) (30% increase)	Ontario Industry
Mix #4	43.0	Baseline 32MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 10 SL	326.46	No	N/A	
Mix #3	350.0	Baseline 30MPa concrete with air & 0.50 w/cm (F-1) GU 15 SL	292.72	Yes	380.53	
Mix #2	153.0	Baseline 35MPa concrete with air & 0.40 w/cm (C-1) GU 25 SL	313.07	No	N/A	
Mix #1	20.0	Baseline 32MPa concrete with air & 0.45 w/cm (C-2) GU 10 SL	326.46	Yes	424.40	

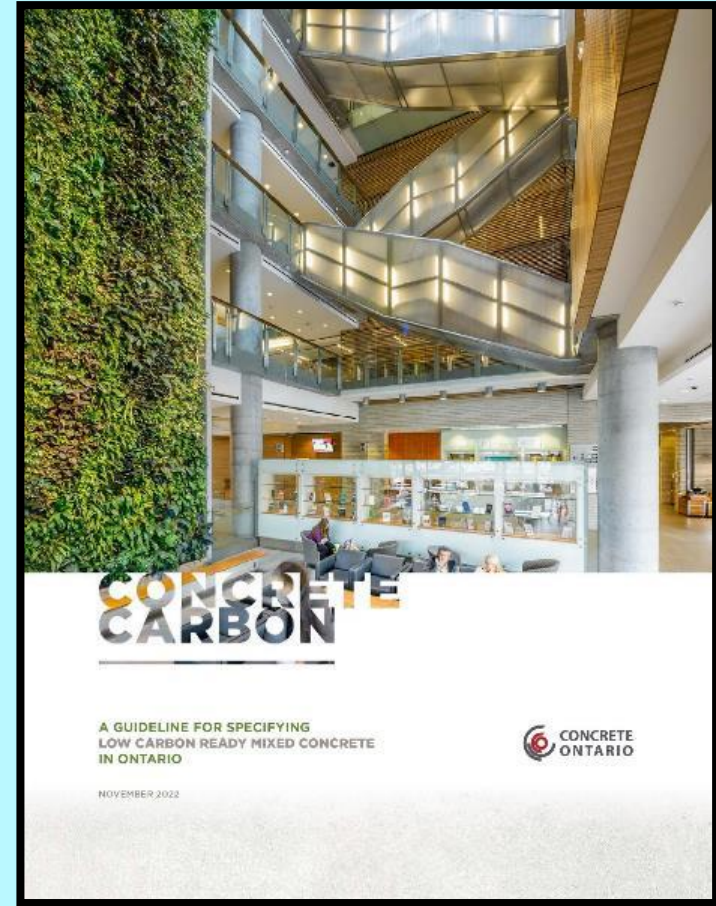
Total 566.0



CONCRETE CARBON:

Guideline for Specifying Low Carbon Ready Mixed Concrete in Ontario (November 2022)

<https://www.rmcao.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/ConcreteCarbon-November-2022-Final.pdf>



Summary

- Low Carbon Concrete is the sustainable future
- Performance-based specifications are critical
- Communication between all parties is critical
- Concrete carbon budgeting is key
- Carbon accounting will be a challenge
- Low carbon concrete is an evolving landscape and as carbon budgeting projects are completed, further information will become available
- Concrete Canada and CAC provide low carbon concrete presentations and complimentary feedback on specifications



Thank you!

SWIFT

Questions?

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