



American Concrete Institute®  
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## Innovations in Chemical Admixture Technology as Related to Sustainability, Part 2

ACI Spring 2012 Convention  
March 18 – 21, Dallas, TX



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Combinations of poly carboxylate ethers and lignosulfonates in chemical admixtures for special performance.



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### OUTLINE

- Sustainable concrete
- Materials for chemical admixtures
- Combinations of Lignosulfonates and Polycarboxylate Ethers
- Experimental work
- Results and discussions
- Conclusions
- Path forward



### CONCRETE

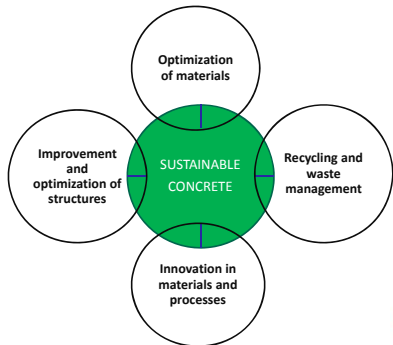
- Combination of
- Organic (Synthetic) and
- Natural ingredients
- Cast and Cured with / without
- Reinforcement in the
- Environment using
- Technology and
- Effective human resources



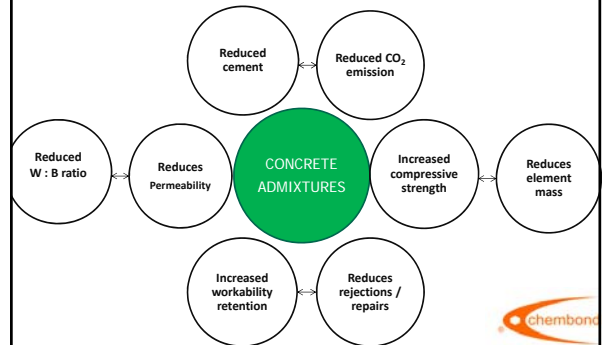
### SUSTAINABLE CONCRETE



## – HOW TO



## ROLE OF CONCRETE ADMIXTURES

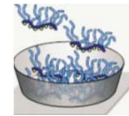
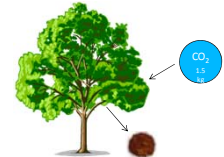


## MATERIALS



## LIGNOSULFONATES (LS)

- Green and sustainable chemical
- Carbon content of LS is 400 gm. / kg.
- 1.5 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> is withdrawn from atmosphere/kg of LS
- Steric + Electrostatic repulsion.
- Excellent compatibility with SNF, SMF and PCEs.
- Most grades are compatible with Alternative Cementitious Materials.



## SULFONATED NAPHTHALENE FORMALDEHYDE (SNF)

- Made using Naphthelene, Formaldehyde and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.
- Works well for concretes up to 60 MPa.
- Better initial slump than LS.
- Compatible with most retarders and LS
- Long retention of slump is possible.
- Generally not compatible with PCEs.



## POLYCARBOXYLATE ETHERS (PCE)

- Excellent dispersion helps high strengths
- Steric repulsion results in good water reduction at very low dosages.
- SCC can be made most of the times, without the use of VMAs
- Opens opportunities to obtain results with variety of cement types and ACMS.
- Dosage is very sensitive.
- Compatibility with retarders and defoamers is critical.



## COMBINATIONS OF LIGNOSULFONATE AND PCE's



## ASPECTS

- Synergy
- Cost
- Versatility
- Foaming tendency
- Compatibility
- Workability
- Strength development
- Cement compatibility



## SCOPE

- Study Ca-LS and Na-LS combinations with PC-WR. The results are compared with SNF : LS combinations
- Na-LS from 2 different sources, PCE's from 3 different sources and Ca-LS from single source
- Concrete trials at two different dosages



## EXPERIMENTAL WORK

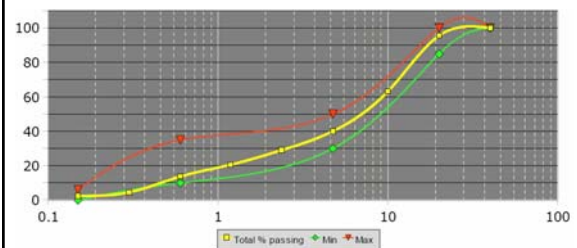


## CONCRETE PROPORTIONS

Material	Material Type & Source	Dry Wt	Moist.	W.A.	SSD
		Kg / M <sup>3</sup>	%	%	Kg / M <sup>3</sup>
Cementitious	Ultratech OPC 53	416			416
	Fly Ash	78			78
	Microsilica	26			26
Aggregates	CA2: 20 MM	709	0	0.65	704
	CA1: 12 MM	472	0	0.85	468
	FA2: R. SAND	638	0	1.00	632
	FA1: C.SAND	0	0	0.00	0
Admixture	Sample 4	3.6			3.6
Water	Local Source	158			173
Theoretical plastic density - =		2501			2501
Water / Cement Ratio =		0.30			

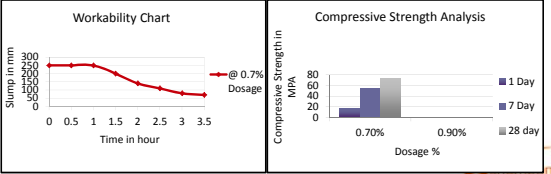


## COMBINED GRADATION



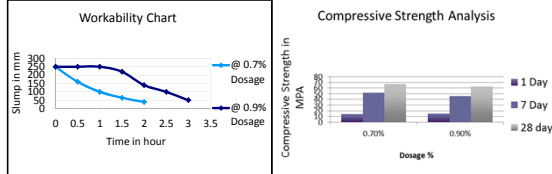
### Sample 1

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix	(%)	% NVM	40.33	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	52
PC-WR 1	56	SG @ 25 °C	1.1	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	52
PC-SR1	24	pH @ 25 °C	6.52	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	52
Water	20	VISCOSITY FCB4 25 °C	52		
Total	100				



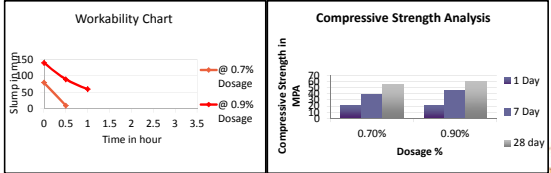
### Sample 2

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix	(%)	% NVM	40.54	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	45
PC-WR 1	40	SG @ 25°C	1.13	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	47
Na Ligno B	21.6	pH @ 25°C	5.62	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	46
Water	38.4	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	45		
Total	100				



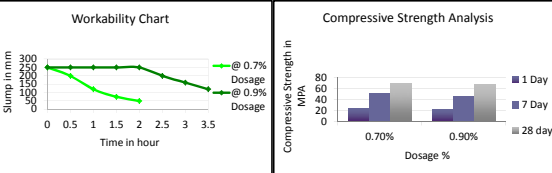
### Sample 3

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix	(%)	% NVM	39.97	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	32
PC-WR1	24	SG @ 25°C	1.15	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	35
Na Ligno	30	pH @ 25°C	5.3	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	34
Water	46	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	32		
Total	100				



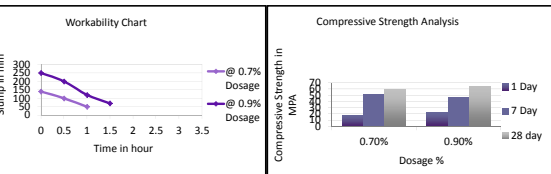
### Sample 4

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix	(%)	% NVM	40.12	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	52
PC-WR1	56	SG @ 25°C	1.12	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	55
Na Ligno B	12.8	pH @ 25°C	6.03	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	55
Water	31.2	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	52		
Total	100				



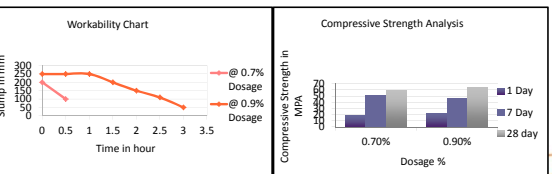
### Sample 5

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix	(%)	% NVM	39.81	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	54
PC-WR1	40	SG @ 25°C	1.14	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	54
Ca Ligno B	21.6	pH @ 25°C	5.77	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	55
Water	38.4	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	54		
Total	100				



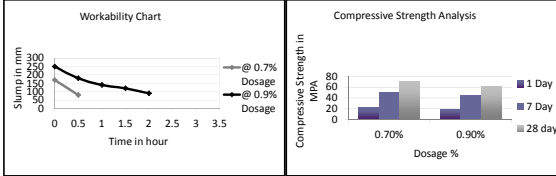
### Sample 6

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix	(%)	% NVM	39.93	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	65
PC-WR1	40	SG @ 25°C	1.13	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	71
Na Ligno R	21.6	pH @ 25°C	5.6	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	70
Water	38.4	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	65		
Total	100				



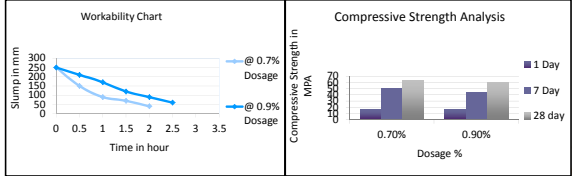
### Sample 7

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix (%)		% NVM	40.28	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	44
PC-WR2	33.2	SG @ 25°C	1.14	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	45
Na Ligno	21.6	pH @ 25°C	4.79	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	43
Water	45.2	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	44		
Total	100				



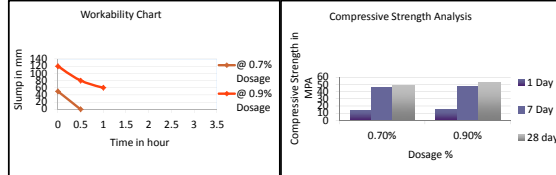
### Sample 8

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix (%)		% NVM	40.36	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	43
PC-WR3	40	SG @ 25°C	1.14	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	44
Na Ligno	21.6	pH @ 25°C	5.12	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	44
Water	38.4	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	43		
Total	100				



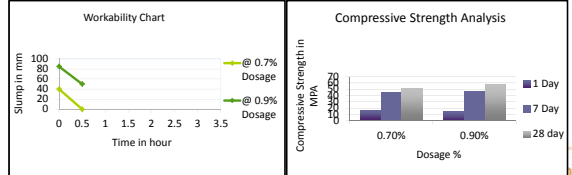
### Sample 9

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix (%)		% NVM	40.41	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	18
Na Ligno	21.6	SG @ 25°C	1.2	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	19
SNF (42%)	47.6	pH @ 25°C	6.6	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	20
Water	30.8	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	18		
Total	100				



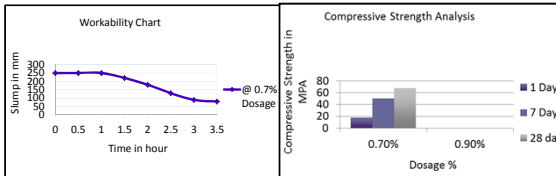
### Sample 10

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix (%)		% NVM	39.98	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	17
Na Ligno	12.8	SG @ 25°C	1.2	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	18
SNF (42%)	66.8	pH @ 25°C	6.15	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	18
Water	20.4	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	17		
Total	100				



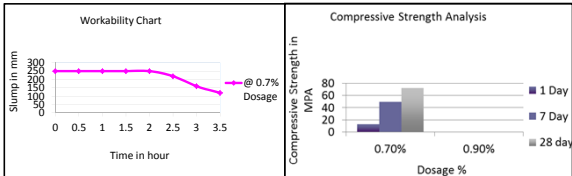
### Sample 11

Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix (%)		% NVM	40.2	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	51
PC-WR1	80	SG @ 25°C	1.1	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	51
Water	20	pH @ 25°C	6.5	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	51
Total	100	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	51		

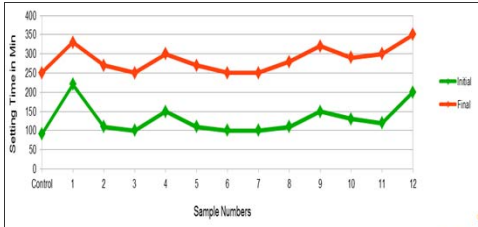


### Sample 12

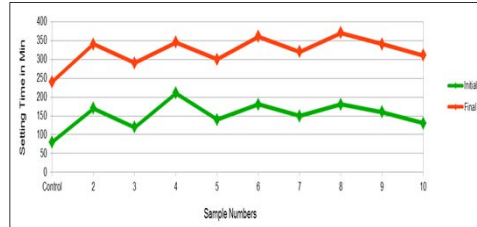
Admixture Formulations		Physical Properties		Compatibility	
Test Mix (%)		% NVM	40.01	Viscosity After 24 Hrs at 25 °C	38
PC-SR1	80	SG @ 25°C	1.1	Viscosity After 7 Days at 25 °C	38
Water	20	pH @ 25°C	6.51	Viscosity After 30 Days at 25 °C	38
Total	100	VISCOSITY FCB4 25°C	38		



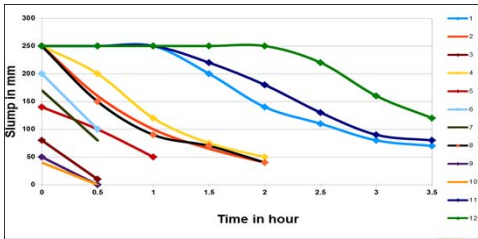
### SETTING TIMES AT 0.7% DOSAGE



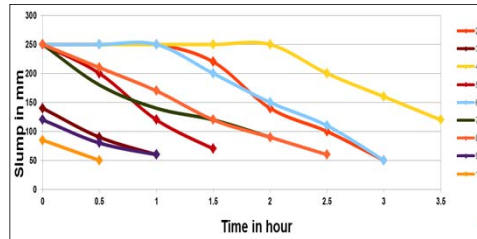
### SETTING TIMES AT 0.9 % DOSAGES



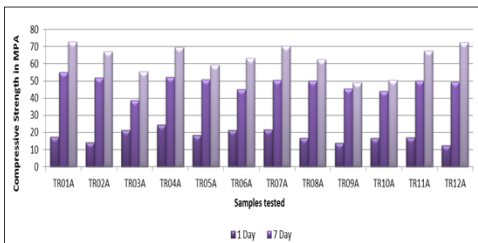
### WORKABILITY AT 0.7 % DOSAGE



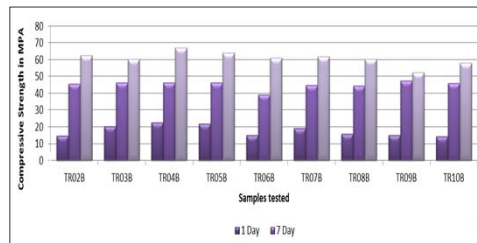
### WORKABILITY AT 0.9% DOSAGE



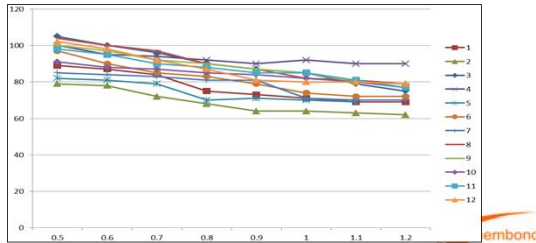
### COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS AT 0.7% DOSAGE



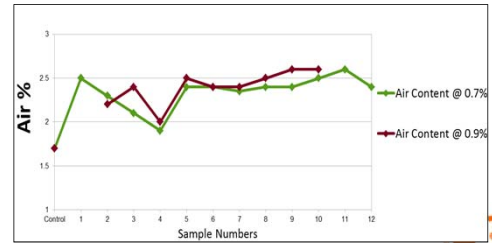
### COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS AT 0.9 % DOSAGE



## MARSH CONE RESULTS



## AIR CONTENT



## RESULTS & DISCUSSION



### COMPATIBILITY, SETTING TIME AND WORKABILITY

- Compatibility of PC-WR and LS combinations has been established.
- At 25°C, all formulations at 0.7 and 0.9 % dosages are near to the requirement of ASTM C-494 type G, for setting time.
- As the dosage is low retardation is under control.
- At 0.7% PC-WR : PC-SR and their combination, gives good workability retention.
- 50 : 50 combinations of PC-WR and NAL's give good initial workability but the slump drops quickly after 30 minutes.



### COMPATIBILITY, SETTING TIME AND WORKABILITY

- PC-WR : NAL's 75:25 combination retains slightly better than 50:50 combination.
- At 0.9% both PC-WR and Na-LS as well as Ca-LS provide good retention.
- Na-LS combination gives better retention.
- PC-WR and Na-LS 75:25 combination provides best slump retention.
- It is obvious that the retention of SNF : Na-LS combinations is no way near PC-WR : Na-LS combination. This could be due to a very low W/B ratio of 0.3.



### COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH AND AIR CONTENT

- Best compressive strength achieved @ 0.7% dosage.
- Compressive strengths
  - At 0.7% dosage
    - Pure PCE's > 75:25 PCE : LS > 50:50 PCE : LS.
  - At 0.9% dosage
    - 75:25 PCE : Na-LS > 50:50 PCE : Na-LS
    - 25:75 PC-WR : Na-LS > 75:25 SNF : Na-LS
- Air content of all the mixes has not varied much due to lower dosages.



## CONCLUSIONS

- Combinations of PCEs with LS will add a significant value to concrete sustainability.
- LS has good compatibility, with all the PCE molecules used in this study.
- PCE : LS combination are most desirable where SNF:LS combinations fail or require higher dosages.
- The synergy of PCE: LS combinations, have opened up an excellent option for Admixture formulators.
- Good workability retention and comparatively higher strengths achieved, suggest that significant cost and material savings may be obtained, using PCE : LS combinations.



## PATH FORWARD

- Work In Progress
  - Study involving GGBFS and different cement brands.
  - To check other PCE molecules.
- Further Studies
  - Long term compatibility and compatibility with various cement types.
  - At higher dosages and higher W/B ratios.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- ACI INTERNATIONAL
- My Organization - CHEMBOND CHEMICALS LIMITED
- My colleagues across the organization at Chembond for supporting my study in various capacities
- Borregaard India Limited for providing samples and details on LS
- Ultratech cement for providing valuable support in testing cement samples



THANK YOU



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