

1997 NOVA AWARD WINNER

Sika Rapid-1, Hardening Accelerator Concrete Admixture

Sika Rapid-1 is a patented new hardening accelerator concrete admixture that allows the development of very early high strengths in concrete using common mix components. This hardening accelerator allows placement of fresh concrete without early stiffening, followed by a period of very rapid strength gain after initial set. Sika Rapid-1 is non-chloride (non-corrosive) and will not limit the long term strength gain of concrete that is often sacrificed when using set accelerators. The advantages and benefits amount to a placeable concrete for improved production with less manpower and very early high strengths achieved without performance tradeoffs.

In addition to the benefits for ready mixed concrete, the hardening accelerator offers advantages to precast/prestressed concrete producers. Sika Rapid-1's interaction with the cement hardening process occurs during the hydration phase after initial set, and results in additional internal heat generation. This heat is used to reduce or eliminate the cost of steam curing, and/or shorten curing times. Highway contractors can place full-depth concrete that is ready for traffic or paving operations in under six hours.

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