

**Flash Fill®, Flowable Fly Ash Backfill Material**

Flash Fill® is a patented, flowable backfill material that is self leveling, self compacting, quick setting, and has a controlled strength gain. The Flash Fill® design mix was developed by the American Electric Power Company, and is made from Class C fly ash, a filler material and water. Flash Fill® does not contain any portland cement, but utilizes the cementitious and pozzolanic properties of Class C fly ash. The filler material used in the design mix varies depending upon material availability, economics, material properties and mix compatibility. Some of the different filler materials used include sand, Class F fly ash, bottom ash, limestone screenings, and sand.

Flash Fill® sets up in about 20-30 minutes, and can be paved over in four hours or less, which makes it an ideal fill material for roadway cuts. Its gain in ultimate strength reaches a maximum of only 150 psi which allows the material to be re-excavated regardless of age. Its flowability, self leveling and self compacting properties make it useful backfill material for trench excavations, where it can be placed continuously and without the need for personnel working in the trench, or for additional equipment like rollers and tampers. Other applications include the filling of abandoned basements, sewers, utility tunnels, and tanks. Flash Fill® has been used successfully as backfill around retaining and basement walls, and as a filler material for filling voids and/or washouts beneath roadways, slabs, or sidewalks. It also has been used as backfill around pipe penetrations through flood levees, where vibration and/or compaction of granular fill is difficult, if not impossible.

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