

Recover[®] as Wash Water Treatment

Effect on Concrete Performance

The stabilization of the Portland cement hydration process by Recover[®] is not permanent and is controlled by dosage rate. A very useful equipment maintenance application for concrete producers is the use of Recover as a wash water treatment.

The Recover treated wash water is mixed or sprayed so as to thoroughly coat the interior of the mixer. The water is used as mix water in the next batch of concrete produced, which then scours the unhardened material from the interior of the mixer

Throughout the field development and testing of Recover as a wash water additive, the effect on concrete performance was monitored. A tremendous range of mix designs, materials and conditions were studied, and in each case, the Recover treated wash water had no adverse effects on the properties of the concrete produced.

Generally, the following was observed:

Property	Effect
Initial set	± 1 hour
Air content	± 1%
1 day strength	up to 3.4 MPa (500 psi) increase
7 day strength	up to 3.4 MPa (500 psi) increase
28 day strength	up to 3.4 MPa (500 psi) increase
Finishability and pumpability	none

The only substantial trend observed was a moderate increase in strength. This increase is attributed to the cementitious contribution of the wash water. Essentially, Recover treated wash water (which is typically high in cementitious and fine material) simply acts as a coating for the mixing drum.

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GCP Applied Technologies Inc., 62 Whittemore Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140 USA.

In Canada, 294 Clements Road, West, Ajax, Ontario, Canada L1S 3C6.

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