BRITISH STANDARD

BS 1881 :
Part 128 : 1997

Testing concrete —

Part 128. Methods for analysis of fresh concrete

ICS 91.100.30

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by Technical Committee B/517, Concrete, to Subcommittee B/517/1, Concrete production and testing, upon which the following bodies were represented:

Association of Lightweight Aggregate Manufacturers
British Aggregate Construction Materials Industries
British Cement Association
British Civil Engineering Test Equipment Manufacturers' Association
British Precast Concrete Federation Ltd
Building Employer's Confederation
Cement Admixtures Association
Cementitious Slag Makers' Association
Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
County Surveyors' Society
Department of the Environment
Department of the Environment (Building Research Establishment)
Federation of Piling Specialists
Institute of Concrete Technology
Institution of Structural Engineers
National House-building Council
Quality Ash Association
Sand and Gravel Association Limited
Society of Chemical Industry

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Sector Board for Building and Civil Engineering, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 October 1997

Amendments issued since publication

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
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Foreword

This Part of BS 1881 has been prepared under the direction of Subcommittee B/517/1, Concrete production and testing. It supersedes DD 83 : 1983, which is withdrawn. Three of the five different methods for analysis of fresh concrete described in DD 83 : 1983 which are in common use have been retained in this standard.

All determine the total cement content, but in only two methods can further tests be made to determine the proportions of pulverized-fuel ash (pfa) or ground granulated blastfurnace slag (ggbs) in blended cements. Water content may be obtained by calculation, or more directly on separate samples, by drying them in a microwave oven.

If the results are used to provide a water/cement ratio, it should be realized that the tolerance on accuracy will depend on the combination of the precision data for each test for cement and water contents.

Each test relies for accuracy on calibration using the materials in the concrete mix. The tests are not intended to be used for checks on random samples of concretes with unknown constituents. Although the tests refer to British Standards for sieve sizes, they will still be applicable when European Standards are adopted, however, the size limit between coarse and fine aggregate will change.

Fine aggregate is commonly known as sand in the UK and this term will be used throughout the text of this standard.

Changes to other European Standards for cements are unlikely to affect the tests.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

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