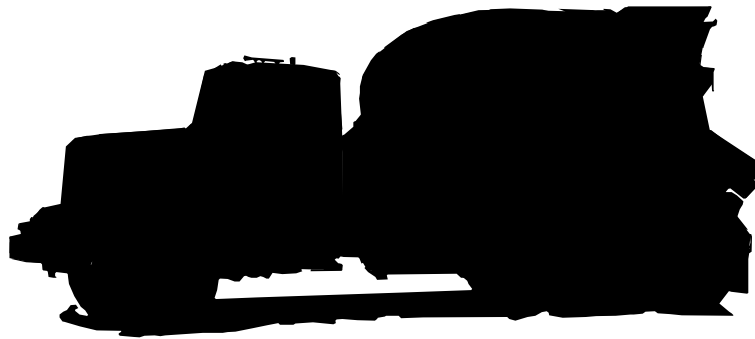




**SD Department of Transportation
Office of Research**



**Mitigation of Potential Alkali-Silica Reactivity Using
Lithium
(SHRP Concrete and Structures ASR Showcase Test and
Evaluation Project 34)**

Study SD95-21
Final Report

Prepared by
**South Dakota Department of Transportation
Office of Research
700 East Broadway Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-2586**

August, 2002

DISCLAIMER

The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors who are responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the South Dakota Department of Transportation, the State Transportation Commission, or the Federal Highway Administration. This report does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation.

TECHNICAL REPORT STANDARD TITLE PAGE

1. Report No. SD95-21-F	2. Government Accession No.	3. Recipient's Catalog No.
4. Title and Subtitle Mitigation of Potential Alkali-Silica Reactivity Using Lithium (SHRP Concrete and Structures ASR Showcase Test and Evaluation Project 34)		5. Report Date August, 2002
		6. Performing Organization Code
7. Author(s) Dan Johnston		8. Performing Organization Report No.
9. Performing Organization Name and Address South Dakota Department of Transportation Office of Research 700 East Broadway Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-2586		10. Work Unit No.
		11. Contract or Grant No.
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address South Dakota Department of Transportation Office of Research 700 East Broadwvay Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-2586		13. Type of Report and Period Covered Final; September, 1995 to August, 2002
		14. Sponsoring Agency Code
15. Supplementary Notes		
16. Abstract <p>This research involved participation in an FHWA-sponsored round robin testing program using the AASHTO TP-14 procedure for accelerated testing of Alkali-Silica Reactive aggregates. In addition thirteen Portland cement concrete pavement test sections were constructed incorporating fly ash, lithium compounds and pozzolan modified cement as mitigation techniques. These test sections will be monitored for four more years to gauge the effectiveness of the various treatments using static modulus testing and comparing all results against a control section with no treatment. Several of the treatment protocols involved the use of a combination of an F fly ash with different addition levels of lithium admixtures which constitutes the most potentially economical method for mitigation using lithium compounds. Six test sections using various amounts of neutral lithium compounds on an existing pavement suffering from severe ASR distress were also established by spraying solutions onto the slab. Initial results, based on static modulus values before and after treatment, are encouraging but further data must be collected before conclusive evidence of a positive benefit.</p>		
17. Keyword Alkali-Silica Reactivity, ASR testing, lithium admixtures	18. Distribution Statement No restrictions. This document is available to the public from the sponsoring agency.	

19. Security Classification (of this report) Unclassified	Security Classification (of this page) Unclassified	21. No. of Pages	22. Price
---	---	------------------	-----------

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Research Objectives	1
Research Tasks	1
Laboratory Tests	2
Material Sources for Laboratory Testing	2
Evaluation of T303 Test Results	3
Reactive Aggregate	3
Local Aggregate	8
Type I(PM) Test Results	9
ASR Expert Task Group Field Trip	11
Field Tests-New Concrete Construction	12
Concrete Mix Designs Using Lifetime Admixtures	12
Field Trials of Concrete Mixes	14
Lithium Based Admixtures	14
Construction of Lithium Test Sections	14
Discussion	18
Type I(PM) Test Section	18
Field Tests-Treat Existing Concrete	19
Discussion	22
Conclusions	23
Recommendations	24
References	25

List of Tables

Table 1: Mix Proportions for One Batch (3 bars)	3
Table 2: AASHTO TP14 Test Combinations	4
Table 3: Material Amounts for Laboratory Tests	5
Table 4: Chemical Compositions of the Materials Used in this Study	6
Table 5: AASHTO TP14 Test Results	7
Table 6: Type I(PM) TP-14 Test Results	10
Table 7: Concrete Mix Designs Using Lifetime Admixtures	13
Table 8: Concrete Mix Parameters for Test Sections	16
Table 9: Results of Concrete Tests	17
Table 10: Strength Results for Type I(PM) Test Section	19
Table 11: Lithium Test Sections US14/281 MRM 327.43 WB	20

List of Figures

Figure 1: Coefficient Plot for Reactive Aggregate	8
Figure 2: Coefficient Plot for Local Aggregate	9
Figure 3: Coefficient Plot for Reactive Aggregate (Type I(PM))	10
Figure 4: Coefficient Plot for Local Aggregate Type I(PM)	11
Figure 5: Compressive Strength Results	15
Figure 6: Static Modulus of Elasticity Results	21
Figure 7: Lithium Penetration Results	22

Introduction

Since 1980 alkali-silica reactivity (ASR) has become an increasingly critical concern with regards to the durability of concrete pavements and structures in South Dakota. The first pavement to exhibit severe ASR was a 26 mile section of continuously reinforced concrete pavement on I-90 in Lyman County built in 1972. The pavement has continued to deteriorate and become a significant maintenance problem remaining serviceable only due to the presence of the reinforcing.

To combat potential problems with ASR in future construction SDDOT adopted the use of Type II, Low Alkali cement in 1983. Contemporary wisdom contended that the use of portland cement with an equivalent alkali content less than 0.6% would eliminate ASR in concrete even if an aggregate source was deleteriously reactive. Unfortunately, confidence in the assumption has been gradually eroded by the discovery of certain aggregates, mostly volcanic in origin, which undergo ASR even in the presence of a low alkali cement and by the growing awareness of deicing salts as an external source of alkali.

Since 1983 numerous pavements statewide have exhibited various degrees of ASR. In addition, Sioux quartzite, the premiere coarse aggregate used in eastern South Dakota, has proven to be slowly reactive. The impact of ASR on concrete durability and pavement life and the need to evaluate aggregate sources and develop strategies to minimize the risk of premature deterioration of PCC pavements prompted this research. Because the use of lithium salts is a recognized method of mitigating potential ASR, and because there is a need to verify the results of the Strategic Highway Research Program research on ASR, both laboratory and field testing are necessary.

Research Objectives

- 1) Verify the SHRP laboratory test results using lithium and fly ash with reactive and non-reactive aggregate.
- 2) Monitor the effectiveness of various treatments at mitigating ASR in both new and existing concrete.

Research Tasks

- 1) Review literature pertinent to ASR and its prevention with fly ash and lithium.
- 2) Conduct laboratory tests using AASHTO TP14 to confirm the results of the SHRP work using two reactive aggregate and one nonreactive aggregate with various combinations of lithium hydroxide, C and F fly ashes and a Type IP cement.
- 3) Construct PCC test sections incorporating various experimental combinations of cement, lithium and fly ash into concrete containing aggregate which is susceptible to ASR.
- 4) Treat an existing ASR-deteriorated pavement with lithium.
- 5) Monitor all test sections semi-annually for the first two years and annually for five years.

- 6)Instrument selected test sections with vibrating wire strain gauges near joints to characterize stress buildup due to expansion prior to ASR-induced cracking.
- 7)Obtain cores from each test section for petrographic and physical testing as needed.
- 8)Conduct Falling Weight Deflectometer and Impact Echo testing on all test sections.
- 9)Provide construction and annual evaluation reports.
- 10)Provide a final report and executive summary detailing a literature summary, research methodology, conclusions and recommendations.

Laboratory Tests

AASHTO TP14 (ASTM C1260) was used to measure the expansion of various combinations of materials. Mortar bar tests were proportioned using the mix designs shown in Table 1. Twenty-eight mortar bar test combinations are shown in Table 2. A control sample of the non-reactive aggregate was run with each group of tests. All materials for these laboratory tests were supplied, as shown in Table 3. The chemical compositions of the cement and fly ash are shown in Table 4. Expansion values at 3, 7, 11 and 14 days are shown in Table 5.

Material Sources for Laboratory Testing

To repeat and verify the SHRP work as accurately as possible, the original material sources have been selected for the reactive and non-reactive aggregates, the cement, the fly ash, and the $\text{LiOH}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$. It is recognized however, that due to their variability, not all of the materials may be identical to those of the SHRP study. The reactive aggregate is a mixed sand and gravel composed of rhyolite to andesite from Albuquerque, New Mexico. It reacts rapidly with low alkali cement, and SHRP measured 14 day expansions around 0.87%. The non-reactive aggregate is a quarried limestone from Rock Island, Illinois. It is non-reactive with high alkali cement, and SHRP measured 14 day expansions around 0.03%. The cement is an ASTM Type I with an alkali content of 0.2%, and is from Louisville, Kentucky. The Class C fly ash has a high lime content, and is from Rock Port, Illinois. The Class F fly ash has a low lime content, and is from Rock Port, Illinois. The chemical values and other measures for this cement and fly ash are shown in Table 4. The $\text{LiOH}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ is from the FMC Corporation, and their Material Safety Data Sheet is attached. The local aggregate used in the tests is an aggressively reactive sand containing volcanic materials and known to cause visible ASR distress in concrete within 5 years of construction .

Evaluation of ASTM C1260 Test Results

Reactive Aggregate

As the results in Table 5 indicate, LiOH was capable of reducing potential reactivity in the case of the New Mexico reactive aggregate in every mix where the LiOH was added to the soak solution, with or without a C or F fly ash but the LiOH added directly to the bars did not suppress expansion adequately. The failure of the LiOH in the reactive mortar bars (Mix 6) may be do to leaching of lithium ions from the bars into the solution reducing the amount of available Li^+ ions below the threshold necessary to convert sufficient ASR gel reaction product to a non-expansive

Table 1: Mix Proportions for One Batch (3 bars)

Material Proportions for each Type of Material Combination					
	Admixture in Mortar Bar	Aggregate	Cement	Water	Admixture
1	None	990 gm	440 gm	220 gm	none
2	C flyash	990 gm	374 gm	220 gm	66 gm
3	F flyash	990 gm	330 gm	220 gm	110 gm
4	LiOH·H ₂ O	990 gm	440 gm	220 gm LiOH·H ₂ O solution	LiOH·H ₂ O mixed with H ₂ O, see left
5	C flyash & LiOH·H ₂ O	990 gm	374 gm	220 gm LiOH·H ₂ O solution	66 gm flyash (plus LiOH·H ₂ O mixed with H ₂ O, see left)
6	F flyash & LiOH·H ₂ O	990 gm	330 gm	220 gm LiOH·H ₂ O solution	110 gm flyash (plus LiOH·H ₂ O mixed with H ₂ O, see left)
7	None, bars in 0.6N	990 gm	440 gm	220 gm	none
8	None, bars in 1.0N	990 gm	440 gm	220 gm	none
9	C flyash, bars in 0.6N	990 gm	374 gm	220 gm	66 gm
10	C flyash, bars in 1.0N	990 gm	374 gm	220 gm	66 gm
11	F flyash, bars in 0.6N	990 gm	330 gm	220 gm	110 gm
12	F flyash, bars in 1.0N	990 gm	330 gm	220 gm	110 gm

form and minimize expansion. The C fly ash (Mix 4) at 20% substitution reduced expansion slightly but definitely failed to mitigate the ASR reaction. The F fly ash (Mix 12), on the other hand, significantly influenced expansion with a 14 day expansion value of 0.108 %, but this value still exceeds both the nonreactive criteria of 0.08 % (SHRP) and 0.1 % (ASTM C1260). The combination mixes employing both lithium and fly ash in the mortar bars gave mixed results, undoubtedly complicated due to leaching. The C ash/LiOH combination (Mix 14) did not work whereas the F ash/LiOH combination (Mix 16) did. These results indicate that the

use of an F fly ash with lithium in concrete for ASR mitigation is probably an effective and economical approach as it could reduce the quantity of relatively expensive lithium salt required for control of ASR. Although the Type IP cement (Mix 27) reduced the expansion below 0.2 %

it was not capable of altering the reaction sufficiently to insure protection from ASR deterioration.

Table 2: AASHTO TP14 Test Combinations

MATERIAL TEST COMBINATIONS				
	Cement	Aggregate	Admixture	Comments
1	Type I	Control, non-reactive	none	
2	Type I	Reactive	none	
3	Type I	Local	none	
4	Type I	Reactive	C fly ash	20% cement substitution
5	Type I	Local	C fly ash	20% cement substitution
6	Type I	Reactive	LiOH H ₂ O	LiOH H ₂ O in bars
7	Type I	Local	LiOH H ₂ O	LiOH H ₂ O in bars
8	Type I	Reactive	none	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N solution
9	Type I	Reactive	none	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N
10	Type I	Local	none	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N
11	Type I	Local	none	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N
12	Type I	Reactive	F flyash	20% cement substitution
13	Type I	Local	F flyash	20% cement substitution
14	Type I	Reactive	C flyash & LiOH H ₂ O	20% & LiOH H ₂ O in bars
15	Type I	Local	C flyash & LiOH H ₂ O	20% & LiOH H ₂ O in bars
16	Type I	Reactive	F flyash & LiOH H ₂ O	20% & LiOH H ₂ O in bars
17	Type I	Local	F flyash & LiOH H ₂ O	20% & LiOH H ₂ O in bars
18	Type I	Reactive	C flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N
19	Type I	Reactive	C flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N
20	Type I	Local	C flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N
21	Type I	Local	C flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N
22	Type I	Reactive	F flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N
23	Type I	Reactive	F flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N
24	Type I	Local	F flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N
25	Type I	Local	F flyash, 20%	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N
26	Type IP	Control, non-reactive	LiOH H ₂ O	LiOH H ₂ O in bars
27	Type IP	Reactive	none	
28	Type IP	Local	none	

Table 3: Material Amounts for Laboratory Tests

MATERIAL SUMMARY FOR EACH LABORATORY				
Material	Total Batches	Provided By	Total Weights	Source
Control Aggregate	up to 3	FHWA	3 kg	Illinois
Reactive Aggregate	12	FHWA	12 kg	New Mexico
Opperman Sand	12	laboratory	12 kg	South Dakota
Cement	up to 27	FHWA	12 kg	Kentucky
C Fly Ash	8	FHWA	750 gm	Illinois
F Fly Ash	8	FHWA	1 kg	Illinois
LiOH H ₂ O in bars	6	FHWA	40 gm	FMC
LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N solution	6	FHWA	425 gm	FMC
LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N solution	6	FHWA	260 gm	FMC (total 725 gm)
NaOH	up to 27	laboratory	2.7 kg	South Dakota
H ₂ O (distilled or de-ionized)	up to 27	laboratory	6 kg	South Dakota

Another approach to evaluating reactivity was applied to the data for the reactive and local mixtures based on the method of Johnston (1). The 3, 7, 11 and 14 day expansion values were fit to a exponential curve of the form:

$$\alpha = 1 + \alpha_0 - e^{-k(t - t_0)^M} \quad (1)$$

where α_0 is the degree of reaction at time t_0 when nucleation and growth become dominant and k is a rate constant which combines the effects of nucleation, multidimensional growth, the geometry of reaction products and diffusion. For expansion, α is the degree of reaction and α_∞ cannot exceed 1. A value of 3 days was selected for t_0 with the corresponding expansion value used for α_0 . The fit was determined with linear regression using:

$$\ln \ln \left(\frac{1}{1 + \alpha_0 - \alpha} \right) \quad Vs \quad \ln (t - t_0) \quad (2)$$

where $\ln k$ is the intercept and M is the slope of the regression line.

Table 4: Chemical Compositions of the Materials Used in this Study

MEASURED VALUES OF THE CEMENT AND FLY ASH

Description	Cement	Class C fly ash*	Class F fly ash*
SiO ₂	20.37	33.00	51.40
Al ₂ O ₃	4.49	18.90	18.50
Fe ₂ O ₃	3.32	5.97	16.10
Total Oxides)	28.18	57.87	86.00
CaO (lime)	62.20	27.00	4.49
MgO	3.88	5.28	1.06
SO ₃	2.76	2.60	1.43
L.O.I.	1.18	6.0 (max)	6.0 (max)
I.R.	0.12		
Na ₂ O	0.41	1.98	0.84
K ₂ O	0.90	0.39	2.34
Alkali**	1.00	2.25	2.38
C ₃ S	55		
C ₂ S	18		
C ₃ A	7		
C ₄ AF	10		
Specific Gravity	3.15	2.70	2.42

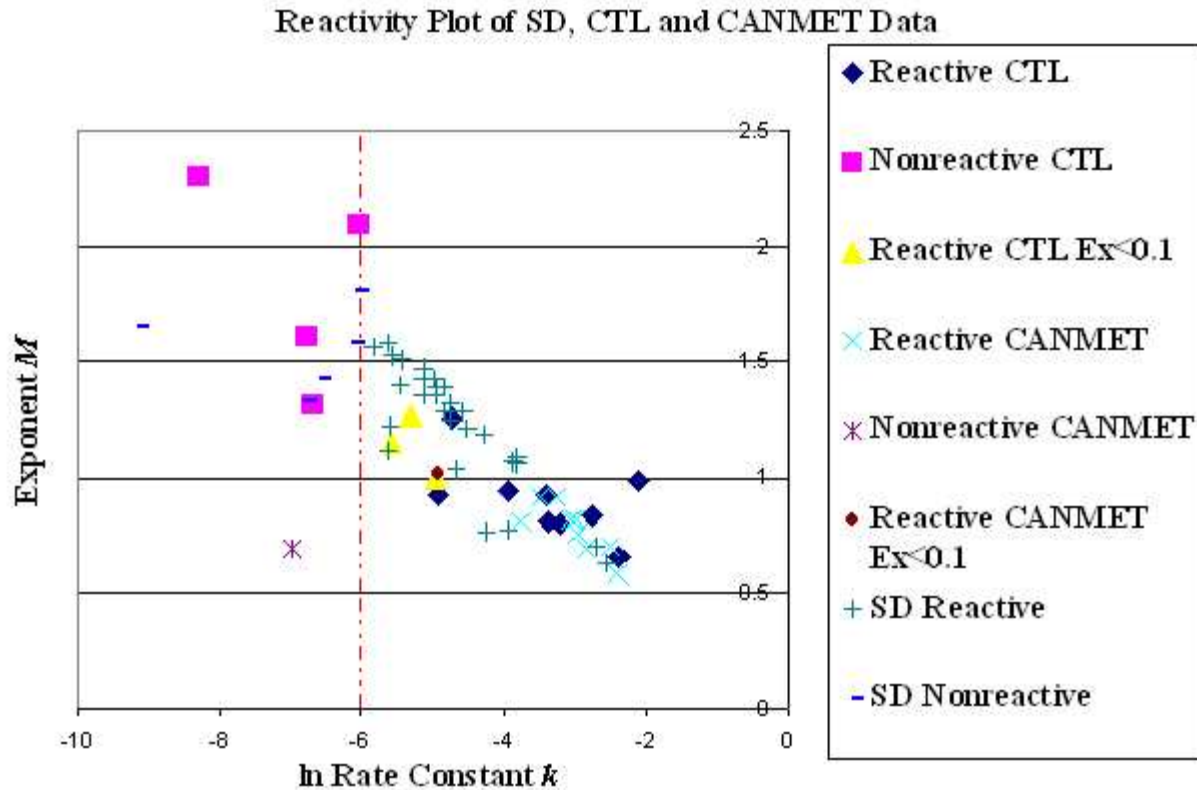
* ASTM C 618: Class C fly ash has a 50% minimum total oxides (sum of SiO₂, Al₂O₃, and Fe₂O₃) with a 5.0% maximum of SO₃, and is produced from the burning of lignite or sub-bituminous coal. Class F fly ash has a 70% minimum total oxides, with a 5.0% maximum of SO₃, and is produced from the burning of anthracite or bituminous coal.

(While not specified in ASTM C 618, some research suggests that the lime content of fly ash has a major influence on a pozzolan's capability to control concrete expansion due to ASR.)

** Total alkalis are expressed as sodium equivalent of (Na₂O% + (0.658)K₂O%)

Table 5: AASHTO TP14 Test Results

Mix	Aggregate	Protocol	T303 Expansion Values				Kinetic Parameters	
			3	7	11	14	ln k	M
1	C	none	0.001	0.002	0.008	0.005	-9.15	1.659
2	R	none	0.189	0.361	0.471	0.502	-2.13	0.498
3	L	none	0.036	0.194	0.276	0.310	-2.62	0.624
4	R	20%C fly ash	0.186	0.382	0.441	0.460	-2.05	0.388
5	L	20%C fly ash	0.062	0.122	0.160	0.171	-3.71	0.652
6	R	LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.021	0.086	0.233	0.324	-5.02	1.688
7	L	LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.008	0.018	0.040	0.051	-6.63	1.486
8	R	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N	0.003	0.002	0.006	0.009	-12.2	3.076
9	R	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N	0.009	0.001	0.012	0.013	-8.49	1.234
10	L	LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N	0.006	0.004	0.007	0.005	n/a	n/a
11	L	LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.007	n/a	n/a
12	R	20%F flyash	0.016	0.030	0.070	0.108	-6.90	1.914
13	L	20%F flyash	0.009	0.014	0.021	0.030	-7.26	1.401
14	R	20%C flyash & LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.031	0.094	0.157	0.199	-4.16	1.031
15	L	20%C flyash & LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.016	0.025	0.035	0.042	-6.17	1.062
16	R	20% F flyash & LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.008	0.006	0.020	0.028	-6.59	1.091
17	L	20% F flyash & LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.013	0.011	0.017	0.021	-8.92	1.912
18	R	20% C flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N	0.009	0.013	0.021	0.024	-7.36	1.357
19	R	20% C flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N	0.014	0.021	0.029	0.029	-6.09	0.799
20	L	20% C flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N	0.006	0.008	0.011	0.011	-7.59	1.035
21	L	20% C flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N	0.012	0.010	0.013	0.014	n/a	n/a
22	R	20% F flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N	0.002	0.002	0.006	0.006	n/a	n/a
23	R	20% F flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N	0.002	0.003	0.006	0.008	-9.39	1.811
24	L	20% F flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 0.6N	0.002	0.007	0.004	0.004	n/a	n/a
25	L	20% F flyash LiOH H ₂ O in 1.0N	0.004	0.006	0.007	0.007	n/a	n/a
26	C	LiOH H ₂ O-bars	0.005	0.004	0.006	0.008	n/a	n/a
27	R	Type IP Cement	0.008	0.029	0.118	0.179	-6.86	2.203
28	L	Type IP Cement	0.005	0.007	0.011	0.014	-8.29	1.506

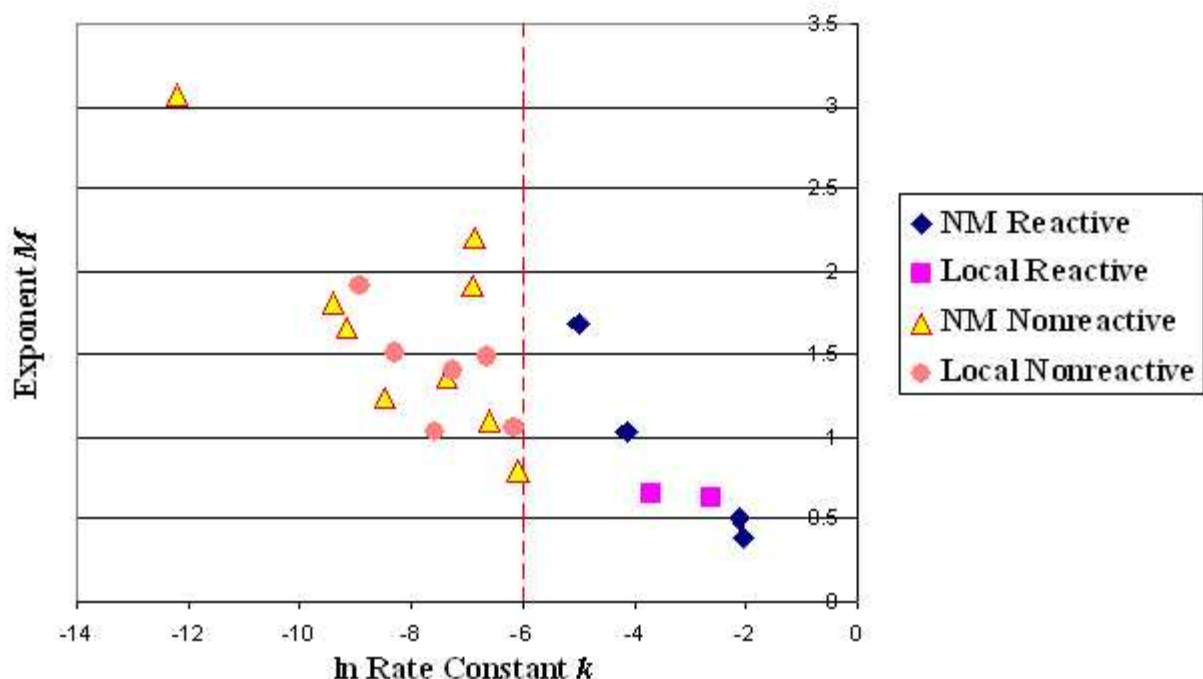


The advantage of using the kinetic approach to evaluate both reactivity and possible mitigation is its independence from an absolute expansion value at a given time. The way a specimen expands with time determines potential for ASR, not exceeding a threshold expansion. Innocuous aggregate have an $\ln k$ value > -6 which equates to a rate constant $k < .0025$. Figure x above shows the results of the kinetic method for 60 aggregate from South Dakota (), the SHRP C-343 work of Stark () and CANMET data (). All the aggregate used for the analysis are known to be reactive or innocuous based on field performance, not laboratory testing. Interestingly, six aggregate with 14 day expansions < 0.1 percent (The recommended criterion for nonreactivity in ASTM C1260) are all reactive and the kinetic method successfully differentiates them as such.

Figure x shows the results of the same method applied to the 28 data sets in Table 5, where feasible.

Local Aggregate

Reactivity Plot for FHWA Round Robin Data



The parallel series of mixes using an aggressively reactive local sand from southeastern South Dakota illustrates how the effectiveness of any mitigation strategy is dependent on the reactive aggregate going into the concrete mix. Field performance with this sand is poor with ASR cracking evident in little more than five years even though low alkali cement was used in the concrete. Unlike the reactive aggregate from New Mexico, however, all the mixes achieved major reductions in expansion except for the C fly ash mix (Mix 5). The magnitude of leaching from the mortar bars with lithium (Mix 7), although presumably similar in the amount of the loss from the reactive mortar bars (Mix 6), did not prevent the reduction in expansion from 0.310% to 0.051%. The implication is that the amount of lithium required for mitigation varies with the aggregate used as well as the amount of alkalies in the cement. The SHRP recommendations for lithium addition point this out but the inadequacy of using % expansion as the only criterion for different lithium dosages is indicated clearly by the results of Mix 7 (Li in bars) from Pennsylvania as compared to South Dakota. The Pennsylvania local aggregate used in the Round Robin testing had a 14 day expansion of 0.336%, not very different than the 0.310% for the South Dakota sand. Unlike the SD sand, however, the reduction in expansion with lithium in the bars was woefully inadequate with the expansion still at 0.239% versus 0.051% for the SD sand. This difference in reactivity is born out by the results using a Type IP cement. The cement worked fine with the SD sand cutting the expansion down to 0.014% whereas it could only reduce the PA aggregate to 0.160%.

Evaluation of the results with the local aggregate using a coefficient plot as shown in Figure 2 indicates only two mixes which are reactive. The first is the local sand with no admixture and

the second is the sand with 20% C fly ash. All other mixes plot onto the nonreactive line.

Type I(PM) Test Results

An additional series of ASTM C1260 mortar bar expansion tests was conducted using the same reactive aggregate from New Mexico and local South Dakota aggregate which were tested in the Round Robin. The purpose of these additional tests was to evaluate the effectiveness of a new Type I(PM) cement resulting from an earlier research project SD91-11 Development of a Type I(PM) Cement (3). The study comprised a search for suitable pozzolan candidates for intergrinding with normal portland cement capable of suppressing Alkali-Silica Reactivity. One particular material, a silicified volcanic tuff demonstrated excellent control of expansion in the ASTM C1260 mortar bar test and preliminary test results on cement and concrete properties of samples made using this cement at varied addition levels were quite favorable even though the pozzolan was not calcined. All cement samples from this prior research were manufactured in the laboratory which did not necessarily reflect real production properties. The samples tested in this series were actual production samples interground at pozzolan addition rates of 5,10 and 15% by Dacotah Cement in Rapid City, South Dakota. The results of these tests are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Type I(PM) ASTM C1260 Test Result

Time	Type II	Type V	Type II Fly Ash	TypeV Fly Ash	Type IPM(5)	Type IPM(10)	Type IPM(15)
	Local						
3	0.021	0.021	0.024	0.022	0.029	0.02	0.008
7	0.165	0.161	0.078	0.058	0.15	0.069	0.021
11	0.251	0.242	0.116	0.098	0.211	0.116	0.049
14	0.293	0.28	0.143	0.122	0.246	0.147	0.083
R^2	0.9999	0.99995	0.99977	0.99876	0.99963	0.9998	0.9973
$\ln k$	-2.8431	-2.8371	-4.0205	-4.7581	-2.926	-4.3558	-6.7747
M	0.7127	0.6868	0.8128	1.054	0.6339	0.9869	1.7503
	New Mexico						
Time							
3	0.128	0.092	0.051	0.047	0.126	0.096	0.052
7	0.389	0.331	0.173	0.17	0.308	0.218	0.149
11	0.525	0.456	0.253	0.248	0.411	0.292	0.227
14	0.57	0.506	0.296	0.282	0.452	0.333	0.262
R^2	0.99968	0.99993	0.99995	0.99958	0.99975	1.0000	0.9984
$\ln k$	0.5557	0.5853	0.6327	0.6634	0.5205	0.5253	0.6575
M	-1.5401	-1.8079	-2.7011	-2.7197	-1.833	-2.2395	-2.7881

The expansion results indicate that neither the Type I(PM) nor the fly ash (a locally available Modified F Ash) were effective at mitigating reactivity with the New Mexico aggregate but the results for the local aggregate are not entirely clear. Coefficient plots done on these results are shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4. All points for the reactive aggregate are on or near the reactive line. The points in Figure 4, on the other hand, indicate that the Type I(PM) cement at 15% intergrind was the only combination tested capable of stifling the reactivity of the local aggregate. Although the F fly ash and lower addition rate Type I(PM) cements plot in between the reactive and nonreactive lines, this region is associated with slow, late expanding reactive aggregates which still cause deterioration and these combinations cannot be considered entirely effective. They may slow down the rate of reactivity but deterioration will probably still occur. Another interesting aspect of these test results is the difference between the Type II (technically a Type I-II) cement and the Type V cement. SDDOT currently specifies the use of a Type V low alkali cement in conjunction with a Modified F fly ash for concrete paving projects where an

File Contains Data for PostScript Printers Only

Figure 3: Coefficient Plot for Reactive Aggregate

File Contains Data for PostScript Printers Only

Figure 4: Coefficient Plot for Local Aggregate

aggressively reactive (% expansion > 0.25) aggregate is used. The reason for changing to a Type V is based on the assumption that the slightly different cement chemistry of a Type V should help to slow down the rate of ASR compared to a Type I or Type II. Both the expansion data and the coefficient plot seem to bear this out. There is a slight reduction in expansion using the Type V cement with the local aggregate and a significant reduction with the reactive aggregate. The Type V cement used in these tests came from the same manufacturer and control tests using Ottawa sand (to insure the cements used were not contributing to the expansion) gave zero

expansion. The R^2 values were included to show a typical range of values obtained when the curve fitting procedure is applied to ASTM C1260 test results.

ASR Expert Task Group Field Trip

A team composed of members of the ASR Expert Task Group (ETG), and representatives from each participating laboratory visited two experimental sites; one in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the other in Winnemucca, Nevada. At Albuquerque, New Mexico, new concrete sections were constructed with several admixture treatments to test their effectiveness in reducing ASR expansion in new concrete. Fly ash and $\text{LiOH}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ were included in the various treatments. At Winnemucca, Nevada, existing concrete was treated with several materials to test their effectiveness in limiting ongoing ASR expansion. $\text{LiOH}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was included in the various treatments. The team visited these sites to rate and rank the effectiveness of the mitigation measures. Based on the results of this field trip the team decided there was definitely a need to establish more test sections involving the use of lithium in both new and existing concrete and F fly ash in new concrete.

Field Tests-New Concrete Construction

The project selected for construction of new concrete test section was IM90-5(80)262 on Interstate 90 near Chamberlain, SD. This project was ideal for installation of these test sections as both the fine and coarse aggregate used in the concrete pavement are reactive. The fine aggregate is the aggressively reactive Opperman-Herrick sand which was the local aggregate tested in the laboratory phase of the research and the coarse aggregate is Sioux Quartzite which was identified as slow, late expanding alkali reactive by the earlier SHRP research and was one of the aggregate tested in C-343. The project is a 8.3 mile replacement of an existing asphalt concrete pavement with continuously reinforced concrete pavement (CRCP) and jointed plain concrete pavement (JCP). All test sections where deterioration could occur were placed in the JCP sections to facilitate maintenance and possible replacement. A low alkali Type V cement/Modified F fly ash was used in all other concrete to reduce the risk of potential ASR. To facilitate construction the same low alkali Type V cement was used in all test sections. Test sections included:

- 1) Type V LA cement
- 2) Type V LA cement + LifetimeDSTM Admixture (two dosages)
- 3) Type V LA cement + LifetimeDSTM Admixture + Modified F fly ash
- 4) Type V LA cement + LifetimeTM Admixture (three dosages)
- 5) Type V LA cement + LifetimeNTM Admixture (four dosages)
- 6) Type V LA cement + LifetimeNTM Admixture (two dosages) + Modified F fly ash
- 7) Type V LA cement + Modified F fly ash
- 8) Type I(PM) cement

Concrete Mix Designs Using Lifetime Admixtures

Because the above combinations involved a total of fourteen different test sections a series of mix designs were run on the maximum dosage of each admixture. Mix designs were also run on each admixture plus fly ash, where applicable. The results are listed in Table 7 and indicate the only effect of the various lithium-based admixtures was a slight to moderate reduction in compressive strength. Prior work with these admixtures involving mixes with Type I cements showed that whether there was a slight increase or decrease in compressive strength depended on the cement used and its alkali level (4). The effect on strength seems more pronounced with the Type V cement and this, undoubtedly, is directly related to the considerable difference in cement chemistry between a Type I and a Type V cement. Notably, the original Lifetime™ admixture significantly reduced the compressive strength whereas the non OH⁻ containing LifetimeN™ had a minimal effect at maximum dosage.

Table 7: Concrete Mix Designs Using Lifetime Admixtures

Ingredient	Control	Lifetime	LifetimeN	LifetimeDS	LifetimeN + FA	LifetimeDS + FA
Cement (lbs)	600	600	600	600	510	510
Flyash (lbs)	—	—	—	—	112.5	112.5
Li Admixture (lbs)	—	4.5	4.5	48	1.8	24
W/(C+F)	0.405	0.399	0.391	0.434	0.368	0.407
Water (lbs)	243	239.4	234.7	260.3	229.2	253.2
Sand	1249	1249	1249	1230	1211	1211
Rock	1740	1740	1740	1714	1759	1759
A.E.A (fl oz)	9.6	9.9	9.9	14.0	12.7	13.3
Add Water (lbs)	—	-3.57	-8.26	+12.4	-11.6	+12.4
Slump (in)	2¼	2¼	2½	2½	2½	2½
Unit Weight (lbs/ft ³)	146.8	144.4	145.4	144.4	144.6	146.2

Air Content (%)	5.3	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.0
Compressive Strength						
3 days	3337	2963	3390	2743	2700	2717
7 days	4263	3923	4140	3460	3430	3330
28 days	5807	5057	5673	4923	4950	4863

LifetimeDS™ Admixture caused some major concerns in the mix design stage due to a premature stiffening effect which gave a totally unworkable mix with no entrained air. Similar results had been obtained with various admixtures at high dosages in a previous research project SD 92-07 *Evaluation of the Performance of High-Range Water-Reducers and Set Retarders in Typical SDDOT Concrete Mixes* (5). The solution to the problem was to wait five minutes before adding the admixture which seemed to eliminate most of the problem. The actual mix design for LifetimeDS™ Admixture was done using a five minute delayed addition and this yielded a concrete with normal workability. Since using a nominal five minute waiting period in a central plant operation would be extremely difficult, a decision was made to conduct full size test batches at the central plant prior to actual construction.

Field Trials of Concrete Mixes

Lithium Based Admixtures

A trial mix of 7 yd³ concrete made with the addition of 48 lbs of LifetimeDS™ Admixture per yd³ was produced out at the contractor's central plant on the afternoon of Sunday, June 24, 1996. Since this particular admixture was a fine solid and no equipment existed for adding it to the mix a sheet metal chute was rigged by the contractor to introduce the powder onto the sand belt just prior to the sand entering the mixing chamber. This seemed to work well with very little material loss due to dusting. Since a five minute delay was impractical with this material and could have adversely affected paving operations the only alternative was to increase mix time and hope the concrete would mix out of the premature stiffening in a manner analogous to eliminating a false set problem. Mixing was begun using the mix design parameters in Table 7 and the amperage demand for the system was closely monitored as the mixing progressed. The plant operator noted that the current requirements were significantly higher than the normal job mix he had been producing during the last week and stayed that way after the first minute of mixing. Mixing was continued and after 1 minute 30 seconds the amperage demand began to drop. The Lifetime DS™ mix was discharged after 2 minutes and slump, concrete temperature and air content measured. The slump was 1¾", temperature was 79°F and the air content was 7.3%. Workability was somewhat stiff but no problem. The batch was driven around the plant in an agitated alligator dump truck for 28 minutes to

simulate hauling and waiting before actual delivery and slump, temperature and air were again measured. They were 2", 82°F and 5.8%, respectively. Workability of the mix improved compared to the sample taken immediately. These results were somewhat surprising, to say the least, but positive enough to include the Lifetime DS™ mixes in the test sections with an increase in nominal mixing time from one minute to two minutes.

A second test batch was produced incorporating Lifetime DS™ at 24 lbs/yd³ and 112.5 lbs fly ash/yd³ to determine if increased mixing time would also minimize problems with this mix. The results were very similar to the first mix with air and slump at 7.3% and 2 1/8" after mixing and at 5.2% and 2" twenty seven minutes later. This mix was also included in the test protocol.

Construction of Lithium Test Sections

Actual construction of test sections was begun early on the morning of June 26, 1996 due to a rain delay. A pump for introducing solutions of the lithium admixtures into the mix was provided by FMC Lithium Division, manufacturers of the Lifetime admixtures. The pump was capable of transporting about 1/3 gallon/second of liquid admixture to the top of the plant 35 feet in the air from a 50 gallon drum on the ground below some 50 feet from the plant. No equipment problems were encountered with the introduction of the various admixtures into the mixes but the crew balked at working with the caustic Lifetime™ LiOH admixture based on the information provided in the MSDS for the product. They had no qualms about the other

admixture although goggles and gloves were worn when working with all liquids with masks added when introducing the solid admixture onto the sand belt.

Overall, the mixes went extremely well throughout the day even though numerous adjustments in water, air entraining admixture and aggregate weights had to be made. The rain the day before had soaked both fine and coarse aggregate stockpiles so that the free moisture changed throughout the day as the piles dried. The free moisture in the first batch at approximately 7:30 AM was running about 6.1 lbs/yd³ but by the time the last experimental batch was produced around 2 PM it was down to 2.7 lbs/yd³. The air temperature during experimental production went from 72°F in the morning to 96°F by early afternoon. Results from air content, slump, unit weight, air and concrete temperature, compressive strength and static modulus testing are shown

in Table 9. The 60 day compressive strengths were based on cores obtained for static modulus testing. The static moduli values will be used to monitor the effects of ASR on concrete properties over the next four years.

File Contains Data for PostScript Printers Only

Figure 5: Compressive Strength Results

Figure 5 shows the results of compressive strength tests at 28 and 60 days. The 28 day strengths appear to be inversely related to the dosage of lithium admixture used with the strength falling off at higher dosages. The anomalously higher strength exhibited for the LifetimeN™ at an equivalent dosage of 3.6 lbs/yd³ is readily explained by the low air content of 4.6% which was significantly lower than the other LifetimeN

mixes. This seems to be a transient effect as the 60 day compressive strengths from cores show little effect due to dosage for both Lifetime™ and LifetimeN™ admixtures. Concrete mixes with both admixtures exhibited a reduction in 28 day compressive strength at higher dosages compared to the control mix with the maximum dosages resulting in a reduction of approximately 8% and 15% for the LifetimeN™ and Lifetime™, respectively. Corresponding reductions at 60 days averaged 9% and 18% with the Lifetime suppressing the ultimate strength significantly. The LifetimeDS™ mixes gave split results at 28 days with the lower dosage 9% below the control and the higher dosage 9% above the control. The 60 day core strengths, on the other hand, yielded a pattern consistent with the longterm effect of the original Lifetime™ or LiOH admixture with reductions in strength of 19% and 15% at the lower and higher dosage rates, respectively. All mixes met the specified 4000 psi strength requirement at 28 days.

Discussion

Though the use of lithium admixtures with the Type V cement used in constructing these test sections is atypical of normal applications where a Type I or Type II portland cement would be employed instead, there are still several pertinent items which these test mixes certainly clarified. All point to the advantages inherent in shifting away from the original LiOH (Lifetime™) admixture recommended in the SHRP research to a noncaustic lithium salt such as LifetimeN. Amongst these are:

- 1) The use of an admixture which does not contain or generate OH⁻ as a primary anion eliminates handling and safety problems associated with a high pH liquid rated as a hazardous material.
- 2) Avoiding the introduction of these same extraneous OH⁻ ions into a concrete

incorporating reactive aggregates seems a prudent measure. Recent experimental evidence indicates that, unlike LiOH, Li₂CO₃ and LiF, LifetimeNTM does not generate a significant amount of OH⁻ ions in fresh concrete (6).

- 3) LiOH reduced the ultimate compressive strength of the concrete by almost twice as much as LifetimeNTM at higher dosages compared to the control mix as was born out in laboratory mixes where the difference was even more pronounced.
- 4) LifetimeNTM acts as a water reducer, especially at higher dosages, and this benefit can be used to partially offset any reduction in strength.

Construction of test sections with these various lithium admixtures involved minimal problems and caused no delays in paving operations. Only one air test and three slump tests were out of specification over the course of the pour and these problems were more related to the complexity of changing concrete mixes frequently than to any inherent problems with the use of these admixtures. A reduction in compressive strength, although unfortunate, is not a major barrier to using these admixtures as all strengths met specifications.

Table 8: Concrete Mix Parameters for Test Sections

Mix	Cement (lbs)	Fly Ash (lbs)	Water (gal)	Coarse Aggregate (lbs)	Fine Aggregate (lbs)	Lithium Admixture (gal)	A.E.A (fl oz)
1	600	—	23.5	1751	1292	Lifetime 2.0	13.3
2	600	—	23.5	1749	1290	Lifetime 2.6	13.3
3	600	—	26.0	1738	1275	Lifetime 3.2	14.3
4	600	—	25.3	1752	1285	LifetimeN 1.0	16.1
5	600	—	25.3	1751	1284	LifetimeN 1.5	17.6
6	600	—	25.3	1749	1283	LifetimeN 2.0	17.6
7	600	—	23.3	1757	1290	LifetimeN 2.5	17.6
8	510	112	22.8	1778	1252	LifetimeN 0.5	20
9	510	112	22.8	1776	1251	LifetimeN 1.0	20.7
10	600	—	25.4	1702	1250	LifetimeDS 24 lbs	17.1
11	600	—	29.0	1649	1194	LifetimeDS 48 lbs	18.6
12	510	112	28.2	1701	1182	LifetimeDS 24 lbs	18.6
13	600	—	26.8	1749	1266	—	18.6
14	510	112	24.3	1773	1241	—	18.6

Table 9: Results of Concrete Tests

Section	Admixture	Sample Location	Plant Air (%)	Paver Air (%)	Slump (in)	Concrete Temp.	Air Temp.	Unit Weight (lbs/ft ³)	AEA (fl oz)	Water (gal)	Lithium Admix (gal)	Compressive Strength (psi)			Static Modulus of Elasticity (x 10 ⁶) psi
												7 days	28 days	60 days	
1	Lifetime	51+75	7.3	6.7	1¾	78	72	144.1	13.3	23.5	2	4280	5342	5380	5.11
2	Lifetime	50+75	6.4	8	2	78	72	146.8	13.3	23.5	2.6	3838	4652	5390	5.2
3	Lifetime	49+75	7.6	7.6	1½	77	72	143.6	14.3	26.0	3.2	3732	4360	5430	4.91
4	Lifetime N	48+75	5.8	7	1½	79	81	144.2	16.1	25.3	1	4519	5448	5870	5.09
5	Lifetime N	47+75	7.2	6.8	1¾	79	82	143.8	17.6	25.3	1.5	4103	4979	6010	5.07
6	Lifetime N	46+75	7.4	4.6	1½	80	85	144.8	17.6	25.3	2	4705	5678	5980	5.12
7	Lifetime N	46+40	9.4	8	1¼	81	85	143.6	17.6	23.3	2.5	4130	4679	6160	5.27
8	Lifetime N + ash	45+50	6.6	5.2	1¾	81	89	145	20	22.8	0.5	4280	5262	5530	5.22
9	Lifetime N + ash	44+50	7	5.6	2¼	84	92	143.8	20.7	22.8	1	3830	5041	5860	5.04
10	Lifetime DS	43+90	7.8	7	2¼	83	92	144.4	17.1	25.4	24 lbs	3935	4643	5340	5.01
11	Lifetime DS	43+00	6.7	5.4	2½	80	93	145.2	18.6	29.0	48 lbs	4457	5572	5630	4.76
12	Lifetime DS + ash	42+30	7.6	5.5	2	80	96	143.2	18.6	28.2	24 lbs	4245	5147	6310	5.49
13	Control	41+35	6.6	5.4	1¾	84	96	144.3	18.6	26.8	—	4386	5103	6600	5.32

14	Normal Mix-Before	52+40	—	5.6	1¾	76	74	—	18.6	24.3	—	—	
----	-------------------	-------	---	-----	----	----	----	---	------	------	---	---	--

Type I(PM) Test Section

An additional test section was constructed on this same project two months later using the Type I(PM) cement developed from research project SD91-11 Development of a Type I(PM) Cement. The three plant produced blended cements utilized in the ASTM C1260 testing were mixed by recirculation to give a final composite of approximately 12% addition. This mixture was used to construct a test section on the same project which incorporated the lithium admixture test sections but was located some distance west of the other test sections. The contractor decided to produce the concrete for this section at a local redi-mix plant and pave the relatively short test section after all other paving was completed. The lithium test sections had been slipformed but the contractor opted to pave the Type I(PM) section using a bridge deck paving machine on rails.

Construction was begun early on the morning of August 30, 1996. The Type I(PM) test section was placed from Station --- to Station---. Conditions remained ideal throughout the pour with air temperatures between 60 and 70°F. Unlike the earlier slipform paving the maximum allowable slump was 3". The initial slump and air at the Redi-mix plant were 3¼" and 7.0%, respectively. A concrete sample was taken from the fifth load delivered to the test site and had

a slump of 2¾" and an air content of 5.0%. Concrete placement and finishing went smoothly with no problems reported even though much of the finishing was done by hand. Table 10 gives results for compressive and flexural strength tests at 7, 28 and 90 days. Although the strength results were somewhat disappointing and lower than expected this can be explained somewhat by the increase in allowed slump coupled with a slight increase in water demand due to the pozzolan. A C109 mortar bar test of compressive strength from a grab sample of the Type I(PM) cement used on the job gave 4100 psi at 7 days. Further testing will be conducted on cores.

Table 10: Strength Results for Type I(PM) Test Section

Age (days)	Compressive Strength (psi)	Flexural Strength (psi)
7	3594	425
28	4032	525
90	5399	607

Field Tests-Treat Existing Concrete

A series of test sections employing lithium solutions (RenewTM and RenewATM) were

established on in the westbound lane on sections of US 14 near Wolsey (MRM 327.43). This 7.5" jointed plain concrete pavement has 15 foot wide lanes and was built in 1981. Portions exhibit severe ASR cracking where a high alkali cement was used (Na equivalent 1.25%). A section of about 1000 ft was built using a lower alkali cement and exhibits a much smaller incidence of ASR cracking. Petrographic analysis reveals the coarse aggregate, Sioux quartzite, has undergone ASR to some extent. The fine aggregate used on this project, a sand from Northwestern Iowa, contains quantities of reactive chert and significant distress appears related to deterioration of this chert and another constituent of this sand-dolomite. Numerous particles of reacted dolomite altered to CaCO_3 (calcite) and $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ (brucite) are found in the cement matrix(8).

The purpose behind applying lithium solutions to this pavement is to determine whether post-treatment of pavements susceptible to ASR-induced deterioration is a viable alternative capable of slowing down the rate of deterioration and extending the life of the concrete. Both solutions used in the trial are neutral lithium salts and lithium hydroxide was not applied as it was felt the addition of OH^- ions to the concrete could possibly exacerbate the ASR. Cores were taken before and after treatment and static modulus testing was performed using ASTM C 469 Standard Test Method for Static Modulus of Elasticity and Poisson's Ratio of Concrete in Compression. In addition dust samples were obtained to monitor the penetration of lithium ions into the concrete.

The application of RenewTM and RenewATM solutions occurred on October 13, 1995. A tank truck equipped with ground speed control was used to apply the solutions to a series of six test sections each 500 feet long. Different dosage rates were achieved by repeated spray applications with each test section adjoining. A 500 foot untreated section was left between the RenewTM and

Table 11: Lithium Test Sections US14/281 MRM 327.43 WB

Test Section	Begin Station	End Station	Gallons (30% Solutions)	Impact-Echo Velocity	Static Modulus	
					Before	After
Renew-SL 5%	55+00	50+00	30.03	3986	2.57 3.59	— 3.45
Renew-SL 10%	50+00	45+00	58.93	4012	3.05 2.70	3.49 2.77
Renew-SL 15%	45+00	40+00	81.83	4046	3.09	3.25
RenewA-SL 5%	35+00	30+00	27.62	3989	2.74 3.22	2.92 3.54
RenewA-SL 10%	30+00	25+00	53.62	4071.5	2.90 2.91	3.00 2.90

RenewA-SL 15%	25+00	20+00	78.02	4015	2.58 3.79	2.81 3.33
Control (Low Alkali)	164+05	–	–		3.03	3.09
Control (High Alkali)	23+03EB	–	–		3.13	3.1

RenewA™ sections to minimize carryover due to traffic. The results are shown in Table 11. Cores were taken in each section near center slab and within the inside wheelpath to determine any change in the static modulus of elasticity. Some of the cores were needed to obtain compressive strength results for estimating the 40% limit used in the test so that not all samples were run. Impact-Echo wave velocities were also determined adjacent to where the cores were taken to see if this technique might provide a field method for monitoring of concrete deterioration due to ASR. All cores, dust samples and Impact-Echo readings were taken on April 23 and 24, 1996 to allow time for any effects due to the treatment to become noticeable. The overall static modulus values obtained for these cores are all significantly lower than expected. For comparison purposes the static modulus for the control section of the new construction at Chamberlain was 5.34×10^6 at 90 days. The same coarse aggregate was used in both pavements so the drop in modulus must be due to AAR, confirming the sensitivity of the static modulus to deterioration which may not be apparent with other physical tests. Interpreting the static modulus results is difficult due to the small sample size and the variability of the condition of the concrete from sampling site to sampling site. Fortunately, because cores from before and after treatment were taken within about 6 inches of each other, the results indicate there is a small positive effect from the treatment which is statistically significant. A t-test on the cores taken from the slab centers yields a mean difference of 0.226 which is significant at the 95 % level ($P \sim 0.039$). The untreated moduli averaged 2.974×10^6 whereas treated sections averaged 3.199×10^6 . The RenewA™ and RenewA™ cores were combined for this analysis because of the small sample size ($n=5$). A similar analysis done solely on the RenewA™ center slab cores gave similar results (mean difference = 0.170; $P \sim 0.040$) with $n=3$. In both cases the statistics are robust enough to conclude there is an improvement in the static modulus. A comparison of the pretreatment static modulus values with the untreated posttreatment controls shows no significant difference indicating that any changes cannot be assigned to accelerated deterioration.

File Contains Data for PostScript Printers Only

Figure 6: Static Modulus of Elasticity Results

these had modulus values far greater than any other cores in the pretreatment sample. In fact both of these modulus values are more than one standard deviation from the mean and the fact that the posttreatment values were much lower is probably indicative of the anomalous nature of these cores compared to the rest of the pretreatment samples. The fact that 7 out of 10 modulus values increased while one remained the same argues in favor of this interpretation.

Interestingly, the response for the RenewATM sections was linear with roughly a 6% increase in modulus. Whether this is a fluke or a real response is anybody's guess without further testing but if it is a real effect there may not be any difference between the three sections due to increasing lithium dosage. Lithium penetration data supports this view as there was no significant depth of penetration which means any change in ASR gel expansivity caused by absorption of lithium ions occurred only in the topmost ½ inch of concrete. Additional lithium added to this section may not be of benefit until after lithium ions have had a chance to migrate deeper into the concrete.

Figure 7 illustrates the average lithium penetration profiles for each test section obtained

Samples taken from the wheelpaths did not directly support this supposition. Figure 6 is a plot of the modulus values before and after treatment and may help to explain the discrepancy. Both control samples lie adjacent to the line of equality which means there was no real change in modulus during the 6 months between samples. Only two of the other points lie below the line of equality and both of

File Contains Data for PostScript Printers Only

Figure 7: Lithium Penetration Results

RenewA™. Surprisingly, RenewA™ exhibited a linear reduction in concentration with increasing application rate which possibly indicates that the crystallization of the lithium salt between applications may actually plug the pore structure of the concrete and reduce penetration. The major visual difference between the Renew™ and the RenewA™ test sections was the wet appearance of the Renew™ sections even 24 hours after application. The RenewA™-treated concrete appeared wet for several hours after application but began to dry during the latter part of the afternoon of the application. This difference in behavior may explain why the Renew™ had somewhat higher amounts of lithium at depth.

Discussion

Preliminary indications from the test application on US 14 near Wolsey point to a slight increase in static modulus of elasticity in the concrete which substantiates the SHRP experimental application in Nevada. Further testing on this pavement is tentatively scheduled for June, 1997 and this second round of data collection should provide confirmation of the effects noted above. More than 18 months will have elapsed since treatment with Renew™ and RenewA™ and the positive benefits of these applications should increase as more lithium disperses into deeper portions of the pavement. One point needs to be made about the rate of penetration of the Li⁺ ions into the concrete and it concerns the locations where samples were taken. All cores and dust samples were obtained at points on the pavement surface which exhibited no visual distress to insure that elastic modulus and penetration data would be as uniform as possible. The amount of lithium penetration and degree of possible benefit at these sampling points represent a minimum compared to those sections where ASR cracking is evident as the cracks provide channels for much more rapid ingress of solution into the concrete.

from five randomly selected sample sites in each segment. Dust samples were taken at ½ " intervals to a depth of 2 ". The line in the figure is the average for control samples and none of the treatments exhibited Li⁺ concentrations significantly greater than the control except in the topmost ½ ". Renew™ had higher concentrations of Li⁺ at all application rates and appears to penetrate into the concrete deeper than

Use of LiOH for these applications was not considered advisable for two important reasons:

- 1) The use of a neutral salt solution which does not contain OH^- ions eliminates handling and safety problems associated with a high pH liquid rated as a hazardous material.
- 2) Avoiding the introduction of these same extraneous OH^- ions into a concrete containing reactive aggregates seems a prudent measure. Even if the Li ions convert existing ASR gel into a nonexpansive form the addition of OH^- into the concrete may accelerate the reaction and minimize the effectiveness of the lithium. In addition, OH^- ions are far more mobile in a concrete matrix than Li^+ ions and will infiltrate into deeper levels of the concrete where no Li^+ ions are present to mitigate the effects of the OH^- reactivity.

No concrete conclusions as to the effectiveness of either treatment or the various dosages used is possible based on these early results. Although the initial effects appear promising further monitoring will be necessary to determine the magnitude of any benefit derived from using these chemicals.

Conclusions

- 1) AASHTO ASTM C1260 is clearly a preferred test method for the rapid screening of aggregate for potential ASR.
- 2) The use of coefficient plots based on a second degree polynomial fit of ASTM C1260 expansion data improves the interpretation of ASTM C1260 test results, especially in regard to determining the effectiveness of mitigation techniques such as fly ash addition or use of lithium.
- 3) The degree of ASR mitigation achieved is a complex function of the reactivity of each aggregate as well as the amount of fly ash or lithium added to the concrete and the composition of the fly ash and cement used. Combinations must be tested individually to determine the optimum rate of addition of a given admixture.
- 4) Class C fly ash should be avoided in combination with a reactive aggregate unless testing indicates it is capable of reducing reactivity to acceptable levels. Typically, this may require the use of a high volume fly ash concrete with undesirable limitations.
- 5) Lithium hydroxide should not be used as either an admixture for new concrete or as a treatment solution for existing ASR distressed concrete. Alternative, neutral products such as LifetimeNTM and RenewTM are available, effective, safe and do not constitute a hazardous material.
- 6) No problems were encountered in the use of various lithium-based

admixtures for new concrete construction. LifetimeNTM appears to be the admixture of choice due to its minimal effect on concrete properties.

- 7) Preliminary results from the treatment of an existing pavement with severe ASR-induced distress are favorable but more data is necessary before any conclusions can be drawn as to the effectiveness of the treatment.

Recommendations

- 1) The SDDOT should adopt the use of LifetimeNTM lithium-based admixture as an alternative to using a Type V/ Modified F fly ash combination to mitigate ASR reactivity in concrete where an aggressively reactive aggregate is used (ASTM C1260 expansion > 0.25%). The LifetimeNTM would be added to a low alkali Type I-II cement/ Modified F fly ash concrete mix in an amount sufficient to suppress reactivity but not used as a sole mitigation measure to improve the economics of its use.
- 2) AASHTO ASTM C1260 testing should be used to determine the optimum amount of LifetimeNTM required for a given aggregate/fly ash combination. Various amounts of LifetimeNTM should be added to the mix water used in fabricating the mortar bars and the concentration of Li⁺ ions in the soak solution measured to compensate for leaching of lithium during the test. The minimal amount of LifetimeNTM necessary for mitigation based on coefficient plots of the expansion data should be specified for addition to concrete.

References

- 1) Johnston, D. Interpretation of Accelerated Test Method ASTM P214 Test Results. Transportation Research Record, 1458, TRB, National Research Council, Washington D.C., 1994, pp. 129-134.
- 2) Johnston, D. Alkali-Silica Reactivity of Fine Aggregate in South Dakota. SDDOT, Pierre, SD, 1994.
- 3) Ramakrishnan, V. Development of a Type I(PM) Cement. SDDOT, Pierre, SD, 1994.
- 4) Wang, H.H., Tang, F. and Stokes, D.B. Compatibility of Lithium-Based Admixture with Other Concrete Admixtures. Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Alkali-Aggregate Reaction in Concrete, Melbourne, Australia, 1996, pp 884-891.
- 5) Johnston, D. *Evaluation of the Performance of High-Range Water-Reducers and Set Retarders in Typical SDDOT Concrete Mixes*. SDDOT, Pierre, SD, 1996.
- 6) Stokes, D. et al. A Lithium-Based Admixture for ASR Control that Does Not Increase the Pore Solution pH. Presented at Fifth CANMET/ACI International Conference on Superplasticizers and Other Chemical Admixtures in Concrete. Rome, Italy, October, 1997.