



EFCA – European Federation of Concrete Admixtures Associations

The voice of the European concrete admixture industry since 1984



www.efca.info



Concrete Admixtures

Admixtures are specially formulated products that are added in small amounts to concrete, mortar or grout during the mixing process in order to modify the concrete properties in the plastic and / or hardened state.



The relevant European Standard, EN 934, covers admixtures for concrete (Part 2), mortar (Part 3), grout (Part 4) and sprayed concrete (Part 5) all of which are manufactured by companies who are members of the national associations that form EFCA.

Within these Standards admixtures are categorised further into:

- Water reducing/plasticising
- High-range water-reducing/superplasticising
- Water retaining
- Air-entraining
- Set accelerating (+ non-alkaline set accelerating)
- Hardening accelerating
- Water resisting
- Set retarding
- Viscosity modifying (+ consistence controlling)
- Bond improving

Use of admixture:

- Improves strength and reduces porosity thus increasing the durable life of the concrete
- Reduces damage from harsh environments: including marine, freeze-thaw and sub-zero situations
- Improves quality: better finish and reduced service life repair
- Reduces embodied carbon dioxide and energy by enhancing the effectiveness of the cement component
- Reduces noise and energy requirements during placing through increased fluidity (e.g. Self Compacting Concrete)
- Preserves natural resources: water and primary aggregates
- Delivers cost-benefits to the producer and the user.

Concrete



Use of concrete:

- Provides building solutions for sustainable development and sustainable construction
- Provides an excellent solution in terms of reducing energy consumption due to benefits of its thermal mass
- Offers good value for money, structures are low maintenance and have a long service life
- Provides safe, secure and high-quality buildings and infrastructure.

The concrete industry:

- Is a truly local business: its constituents are locally available in abundance across Europe
- Integrates sustainable production processes, including a low impact on the use of natural resources.

EFCA Activities and Strategic Links

To achieve its aims and objectives EFCA works in close cooperation with a range of key European organisations:



European Commission

EFCA is working on committees and in expert groups covering:

- Mandate M/136 the European Acceptance Scheme for Construction Products in Contact with Drinking Water.
- Mandate M/366 on Regulated Dangerous Substances.
- Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 the Construction Products Regulation (CPR).
- Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 – REACH and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 – the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP).
- EFCA is an Approved Stakeholder to the European Chemical Agency (ECHA).



European Standardisation

- EFCA was instrumental in the development of European admixture standards (EN 934 standards series) and test methods for concrete (EN 480 standards series).
- Most concrete admixtures conform to the requirements of EN 934 and are in use by the National Standards Bodies of 31 European countries.
- EFCA members continue to work with CEN/TC 104/SC3 to maintain and improve the concrete admixtures standards and test methods.
- EFCA has been granted Liaison Organization status by CEN.



Environmental

- In 2015 EFCA is updating its previous Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) by publishing Model European EPD for six admixture types. These will be verified by the Institute of Construction and Environment e.V. (IBU), a member of the ECOPlatform, to be in compliance with EN 15804 and EN ISO 14025. Copies of the EPD will be available at the EFCA website www.efca.info
- Through the European Concrete Platform EFCA is involved directly in the development of the Concrete Sustainability Council Responsible Sourcing Scheme for Concrete.



PLAT
FORM
**EUROPEAN
CONCRETE**

ECP – The European Concrete Platform



CPE – Construction Products Europe



Cembureau – The European Cement Association

ERMCO

EUROPEAN READY MIXED CONCRETE ORGANIZATION

ERMCO – The European Ready Mixed Concrete Organization



BIBM – The European Federation for Precast Concrete



European Chemicals Association

The EFCA Members



www.anfah.org



ASSIAD

www.assiad.org



the Sign of Quality

www.admixtures.org.uk



www.deutsche-bauchemie.com



www.fipah.be



www.fshbz.ch



www.kub.org.tr



www.ncca.no

SACA

Swedish Association for
Concrete Admixtures



www.saca.se



www.synad.fr



www.vhb.hulpstoffen.nl

Who is EFCA?

EFCA is a partnership of 11 National Admixture Associations, formed in 1984 in order to represent the interests of the industry at a time when there was increasing European legislation and standardisation in the field of construction products.

It is the voice of the European admixture producers – EFCA's total membership provides in excess of 80% of admixture sales within Europe and represents all the major admixture manufacturers. Locally, EFCA partners represent more than 80 producers in total. The total sales of admixtures by EFCA members in 2014 were in excess of 1 million tonnes.

Aims and Objectives

To act as the voice of the European concrete admixtures industry when approaching authorities, institutions, organisations or any other competent body on an international level.

To provide the common message of the industry to make known its position and views to the European Commission, European Parliament, CEN and other Groups dealing with issues such as European Legislation, European Harmonisation of Standards and certification.

To present the views and interests of manufacturers, contractors and consultants in Technical, Health, Safety and Environmental matters.

To work for the improvement of the technical standards of the industry, for example the technical knowledge, the know-how of the construction chemicals industry, innovation and environmental protection.

To advance and encourage the use of admixtures by means of lectures, publications and other activities including presentations at conferences.

To work closely with other European organizations in the field of concrete, constituents and supply, in order to promote the use of concrete as the premier construction material of choice.

To collect and disseminate information and market surveillance on matters related to admixtures and concrete to the advantage of the EFCA Partners.

EFCA Committees

EFCA Committees include: the General Assembly which agrees Federation policy, finances and administration. The Executive Board which is responsible for day to day management of the Federation and the Technical and Environmental Committees which co-ordinate and undertake the main work of the Federation.

Contact:

EFCA is best contacted through its website www.efca.info or via secretary@efca.info

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