

DURA-MIX®

ARMCA GARAGE SLAB PROGRAM

TECHNICAL BULLETIN FOR CONCRETE SUPPLIERS

The Alberta Ready Mixed Concrete Association is instrumental in bringing the leading edge of concrete technology to the marketplace. This technical bulletin recommends the use of DURA-MIX to combat scaling garage floors which have been a concern for the home builders, finishers, concrete suppliers and home owners.

In order to achieve a durable garage slab, the Alberta Ready Mixed Concrete Association recommends as a good construction practice, the use of DURA-MIX, which has a water/cementing materials ratio of 0.45, air entrainment of 5 percent to 8 percent, a minimum cement content of 300 kilograms of cement per cubic meter, and to be poured at a maximum slump or consistency of 80 millimetres.

The DURA-MIX for Driveways Program, which was introduced in 1987 by the Alberta Ready Mixed Concrete Association, has been successful in reducing the incidence of scaling on driveways.

Garage floors are exposed to the same service conditions as driveways, therefore it is good construction practice for the home builders and finishers, and makes good financial sense for the home owner to use DURA-MIX.

The use of DURA-MIX for garage slabs prevents the use of smooth steel trowelled finishes. A **broom finish** is the recommended finish for air entrained concrete. **DURA-MIX cannot be steel trowelled**, as that would close the capillaries formed to the surface by the air entrainment, and defeat the purpose of the air entrainment for durability. The capillaries act as pressure relief valves in concrete exposed to freeze-thaw cycles.

Although the Alberta Building Code requires a minimum 25 MPa and 5 percent to 8 percent air entrainment, the DURA-MIX program has been a proven success in reducing scaling due to superior durability and a specified minimum cement content. It is important to recommend DURA-MIX for garages when your customers place their order.

To the concrete supplier, the use of DURA-MIX in garage slabs should gain you more satisfied clients, and reduced call back for scaling garage slabs.



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