

## ARMCA GARAGE SLAB PROGRAM TECHNICAL BULLETIN FOR HOME OWNERS

In 1987 the Alberta Ready Mixed Concrete Association introduced a very successful program called DURA-MIX for Driveways and Exterior Flatwork to the residential market. This technical bulletin recommends the use of DURA-MIX for garage slabs to help reduce the scaling of garage floors, which has been a concern for the home builders, finishers, concrete suppliers and home owners.

### WHAT IS DURA-MIX?

In order to achieve a durable garage slab, the use of DURA-MIX is recommended as good construction practice. DURA-MIX assures you to have the following minimum standards:

Minimum Cement Content .....	300 kg per cubic metre
Water/Cement Ratio .....	0.45
Air Content .....	5-8%
Slump .....	80 mm

### WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT STEPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL GARAGE SLAB?

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. Your local concrete supplier is well equipped to provide DURA-MIX to your job site.

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.** The use of a steel trowel destroys the air void structure of your concrete surface and defeats the purpose of the air entrainment for durability. Air is required for freeze-thaw cycles and for durability.

### WHAT ARE THE LASTING BENEFITS?

To the home owner, the use of DURA-MIX in garage slabs should provide you with a more durable product, years of problem free pride of ownership, and quite possible a higher resale value.