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Geopolymer cement from vitreous precursors – pilot scale testing of paver production

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Slags – secondary resources for cement



Pilot tests for slag production



Pilot tests for slag production



Geopolymer polymer cement from vitreous precursors



- = Low carbon footprint
- Easy in use in existing installations running on OPC
- = No big investments required
- = Competitive price with OPC
- = Broad range of applications
- Building products with improved properties

Pontikes et al., 2013. Applied clay Science, 73, 93-102;
Machiels et al., 2014. Waste Biomass Valorisation, 5, 411-428;
Danthurebandara et al., 2015. Journal of Cleaner Production.

Compositional variation



Compositional variation



Glass synthesis



- Melting 100° above glass melting point
- Air atmosphere
- Water quenched (nearly 100% glassy)



G1 – 25% Al₂O₃



G5 – 25% Fe₂O₃



Research for cement development: Al or Fe?

Composition of refuse derived fuel vs. traditional raw materials?

- "Traditional inorganic polymers are Si-Al based"
- Al content is commonly low

- But.. considerable amounts of Fe are present, 20% Fe₂O₃ is common
- Research on role of Fe in inorganic polymers



Research for cement development: lab scale

Example: Castable inorganic polymer mortar

- Properties similar to CEMI 52.5N cement
- Ratio waterglass solution/slag: 0.5
- Room temperature curing 20°C



From the lab to the market

Joint R&D with partners from the whole value chain













Industrial paver production- first full scale trial



Industrial paver production





Industrial paver production - first trial



Industrial paver production- first full scale trial





The future: high added value products

Ambition: building a house!

- Pavement stones
- Tiles
- Roofing tiles
- Bricks
- Walls
- Foundation
- Insulation panels
- Architectural concrete





Example: replacement of polyurethane by foamed geopolymer cement in sandwich walls



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