



**banahCEM**  
**GEOPOLYMER BINDER SYSTEM**

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Geopolymer Camp 2014

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St. Quentin

- Introduction to banah
- The banahCEM system
- Using banahCEM
- Design of banahCEM-based concretes
- The next steps...



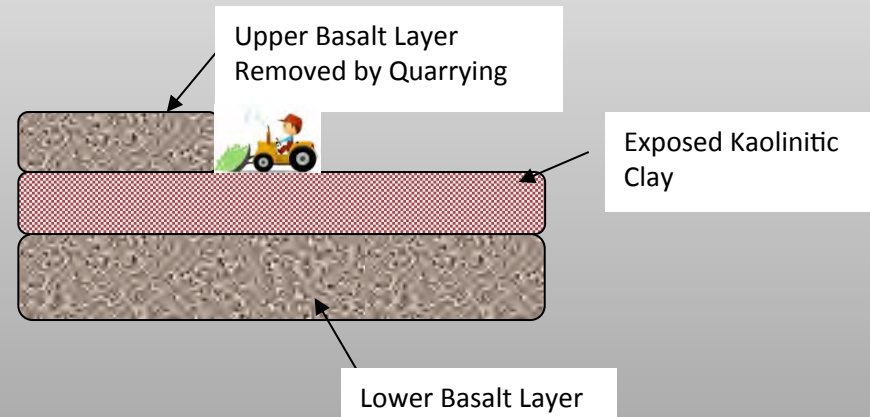
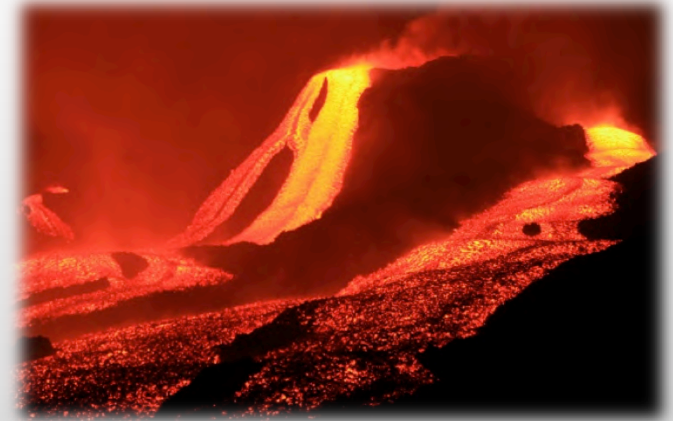
## banah UK Ltd – The Company

- Formed November 2008
- Research and Development of Geopolymer Technology
- Construction of Production Plant for Geopolymer Cements
- Establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Novel Cements
- Reduction in the Future Environmental Impact of the Construction Industry



## Powder Component - Precursor

- Calcined Clay-based Geopolymer
- Lower Kaolinite Contents
- Presence of Other Minerals that may Improve Performance
- National and International Availability
- Lower Environmental Impact and Cost



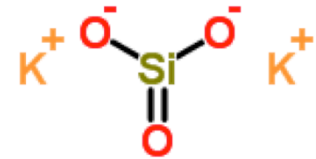
## Powder Component - Processing

- Tailings from local quarrying and mining
- Material Ground and Dried
- Low Level Thermal Treatment
- Rapid Cooling
- Blending with Other By-Products



## Liquid Component - Activator

- Alkali Silicate Solution
- Formulated to be User-Friendly rather than Caustic
- Needs to be Matched to the Precursor Material
- Optimised to Prevent Efflorescence
- Ultimate Aim is to have Solid Activator Component

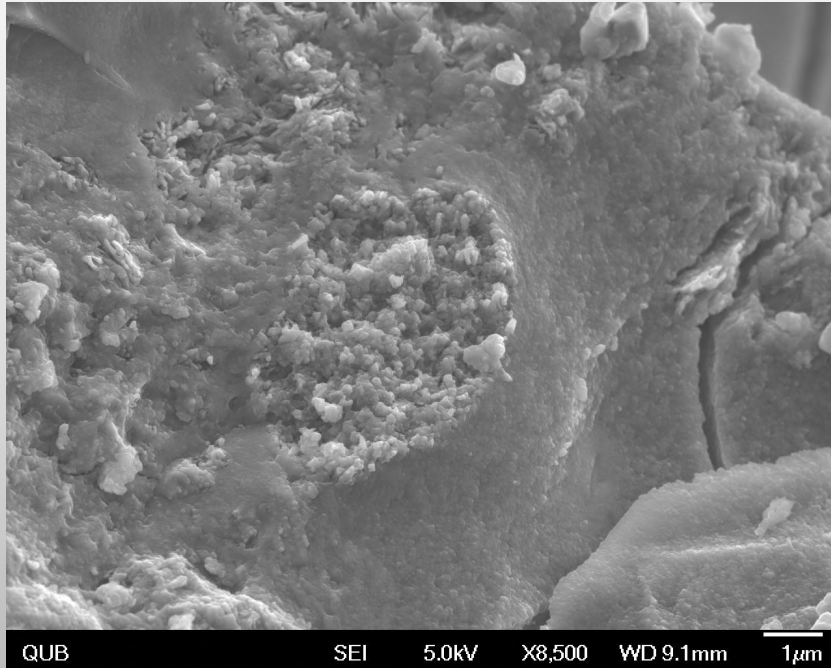


## Liquid Component - Production

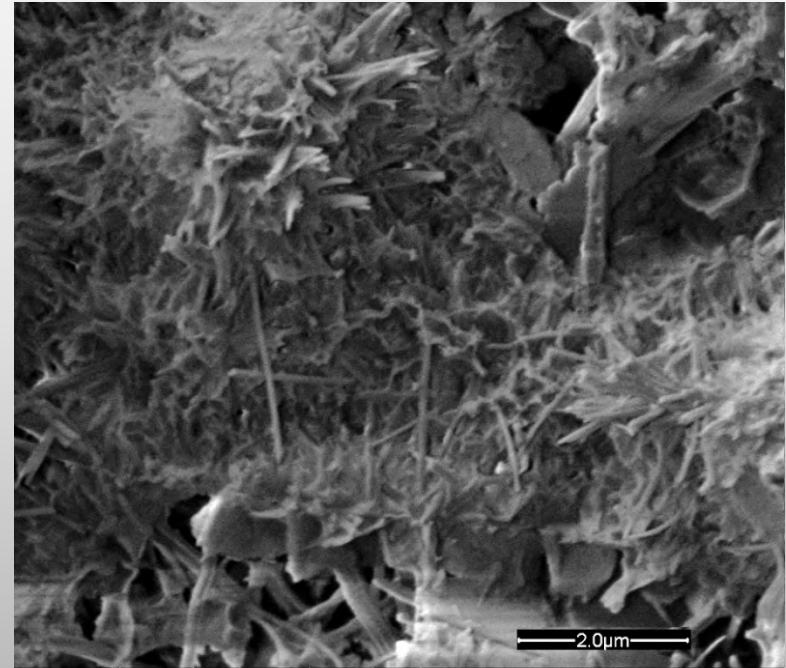
- Two Options Available
  - Modified Commercially-available Silicate Solutions
  - Alternative Amorphous Silica-based Production of Alkali Silicate Solution
- Alternative Option Enables use of By-products Containing Amorphous Silica Source.
- Option Chosen Depends on End-Use
- Alternative Option has Lower Carbon Footprint



## Scanning Electron Micrographs Geopolymer vs Portland Cement



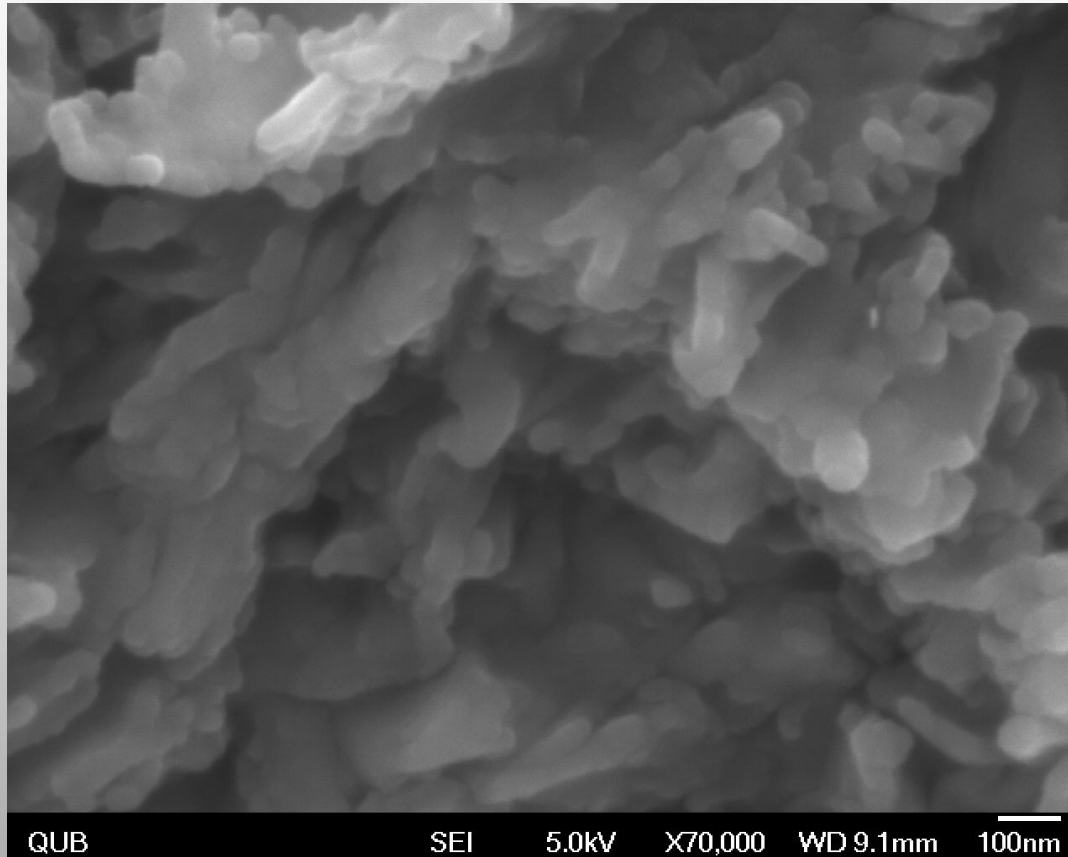
Geopolymer Binder



Portland Cement (32 Hours)



## Scanning Electron Micrograph of Reacted Geopolymer



## Batching and Placing

- Use Existing Concrete Batching Facilities
- Geopolymer Concrete More Viscous with Self-Levelling Properties
- Excellent Bond with Mild Steel and Low Shrinkage Values after Curing
- Strength Gain More Rapid Than Standard Cements
- Compressive Strengths of  $130 \text{ N/mm}^2$  Achievable



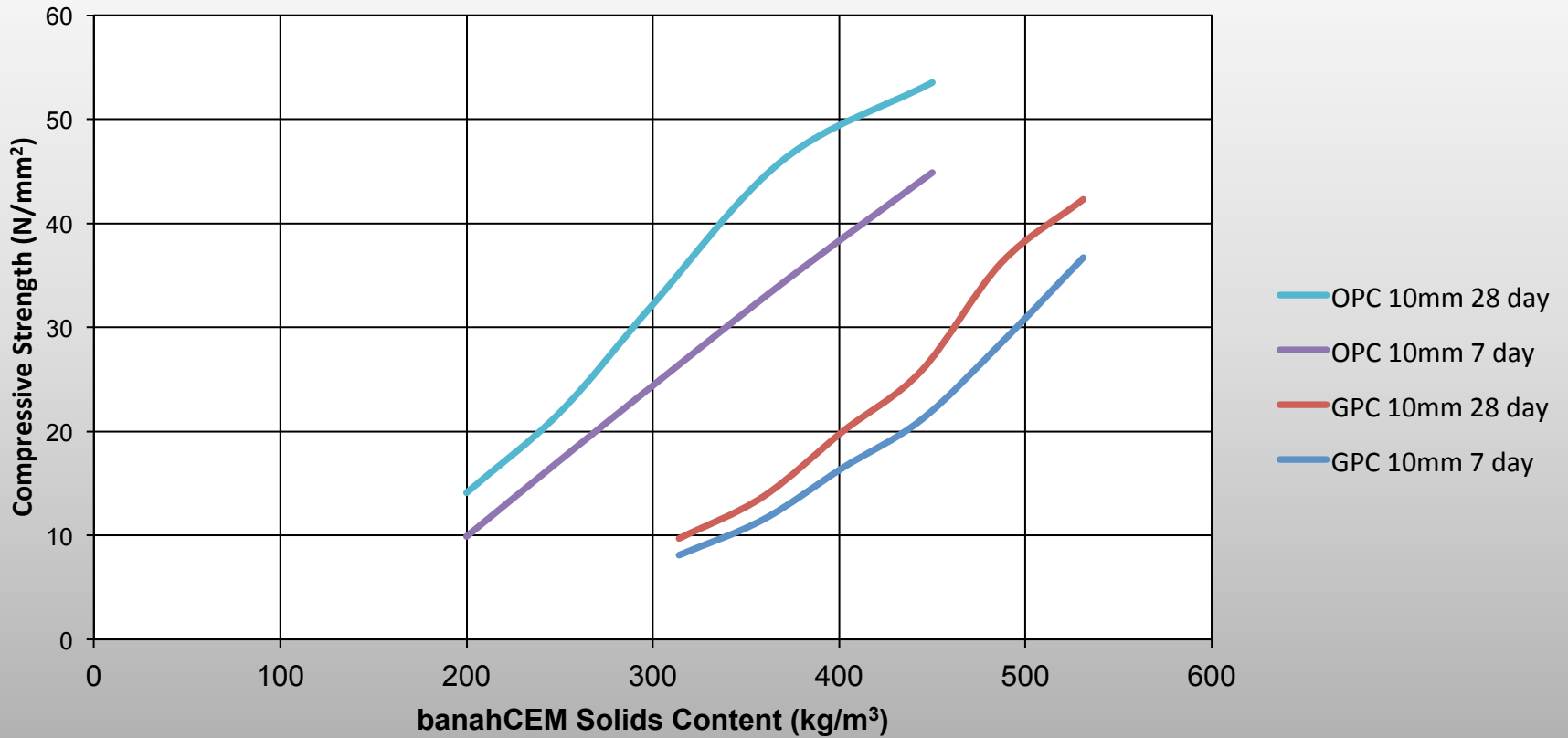
# Design of banahCEM Concrete

## Introduction

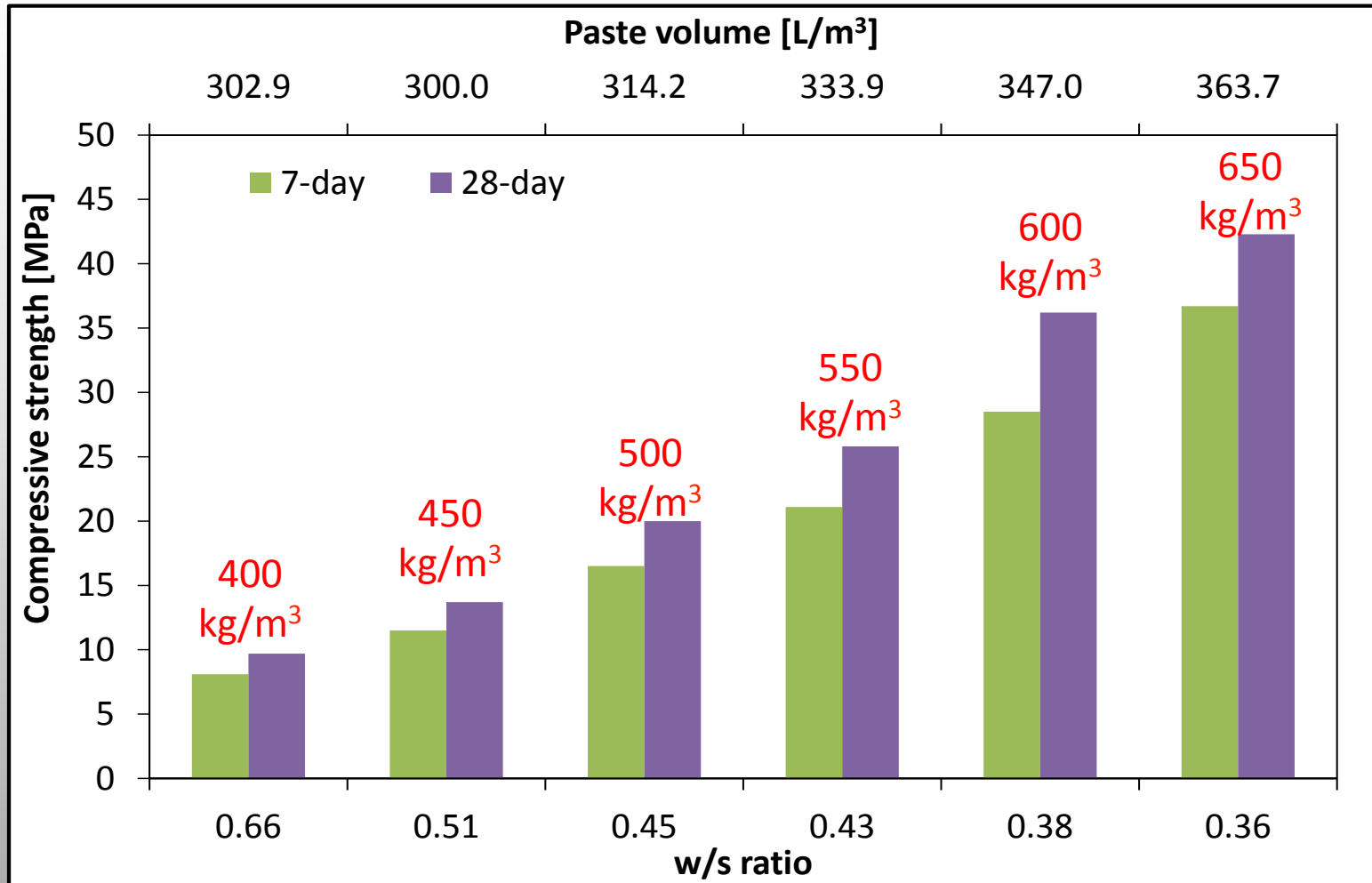
- Mix Design of Geopolymer concretes for commercial applications
- Selection of a suitable concrete mix for durability testing
- Comparison of banahCEM concrete with OPC
- BRE – Design of Normal Concrete Mixes
- Work carried out with Dr Jacek Kwasy of QUB



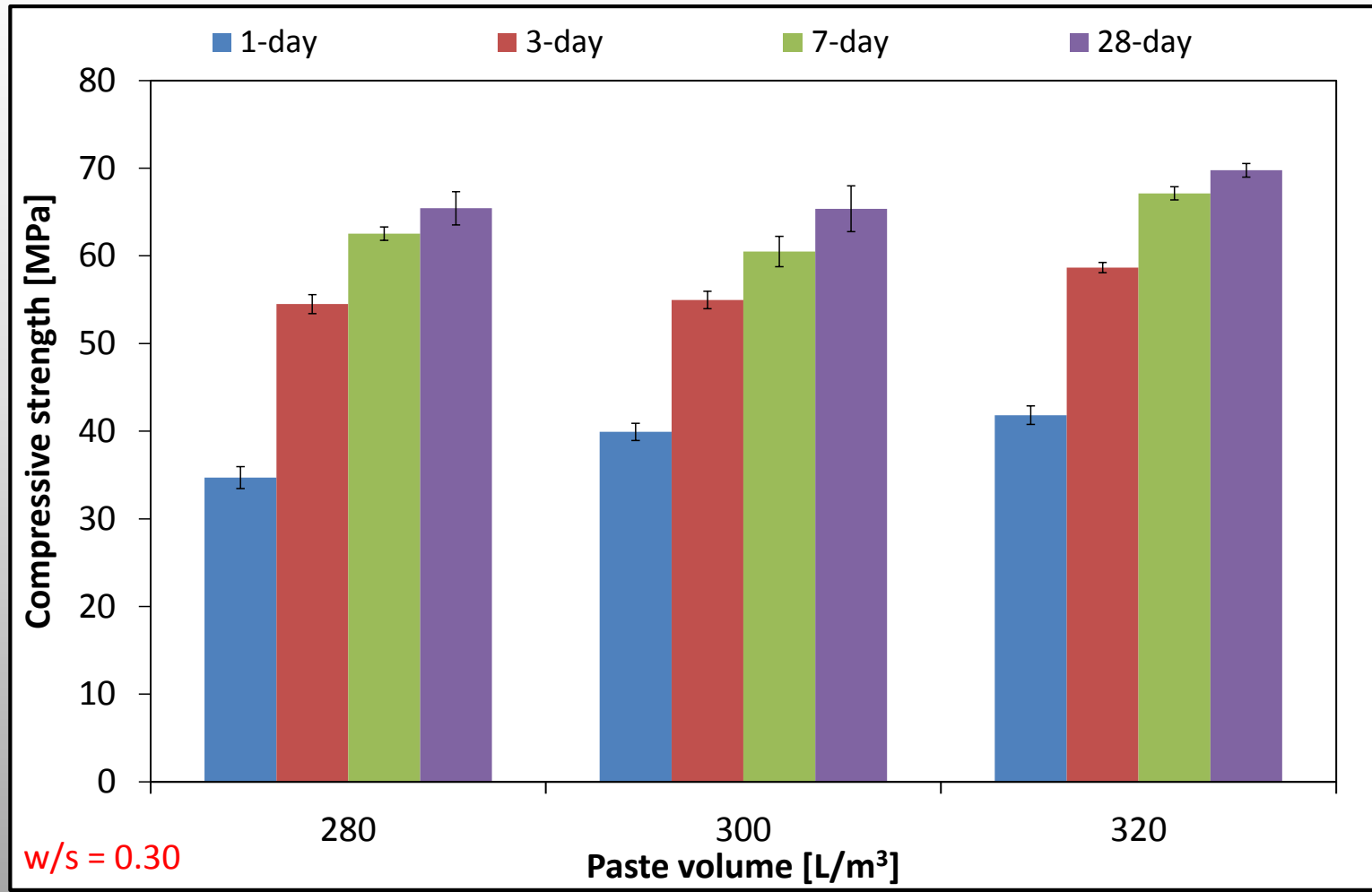
## banahCEM vs OPC



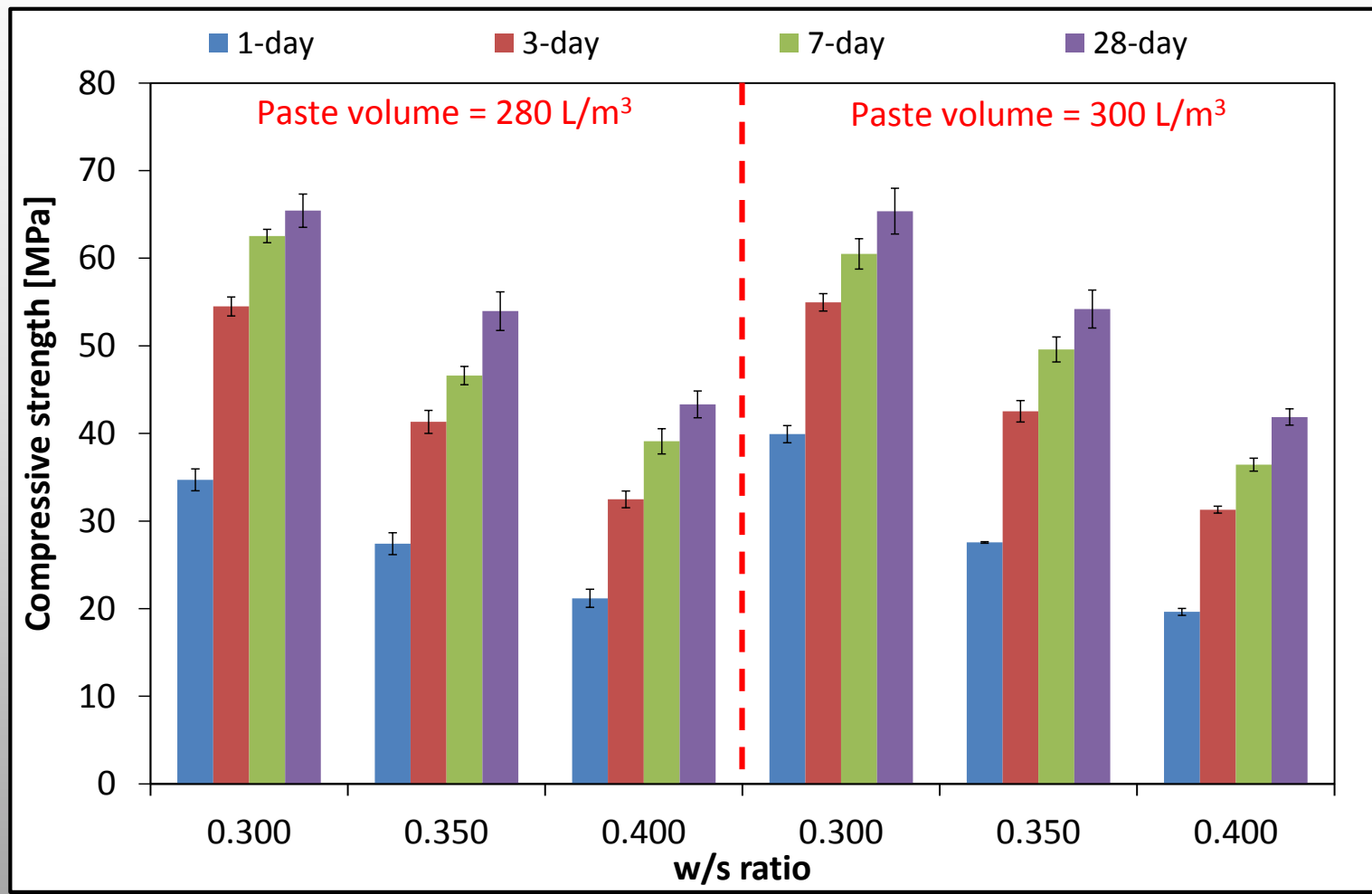
# Design of banahCEM Concrete



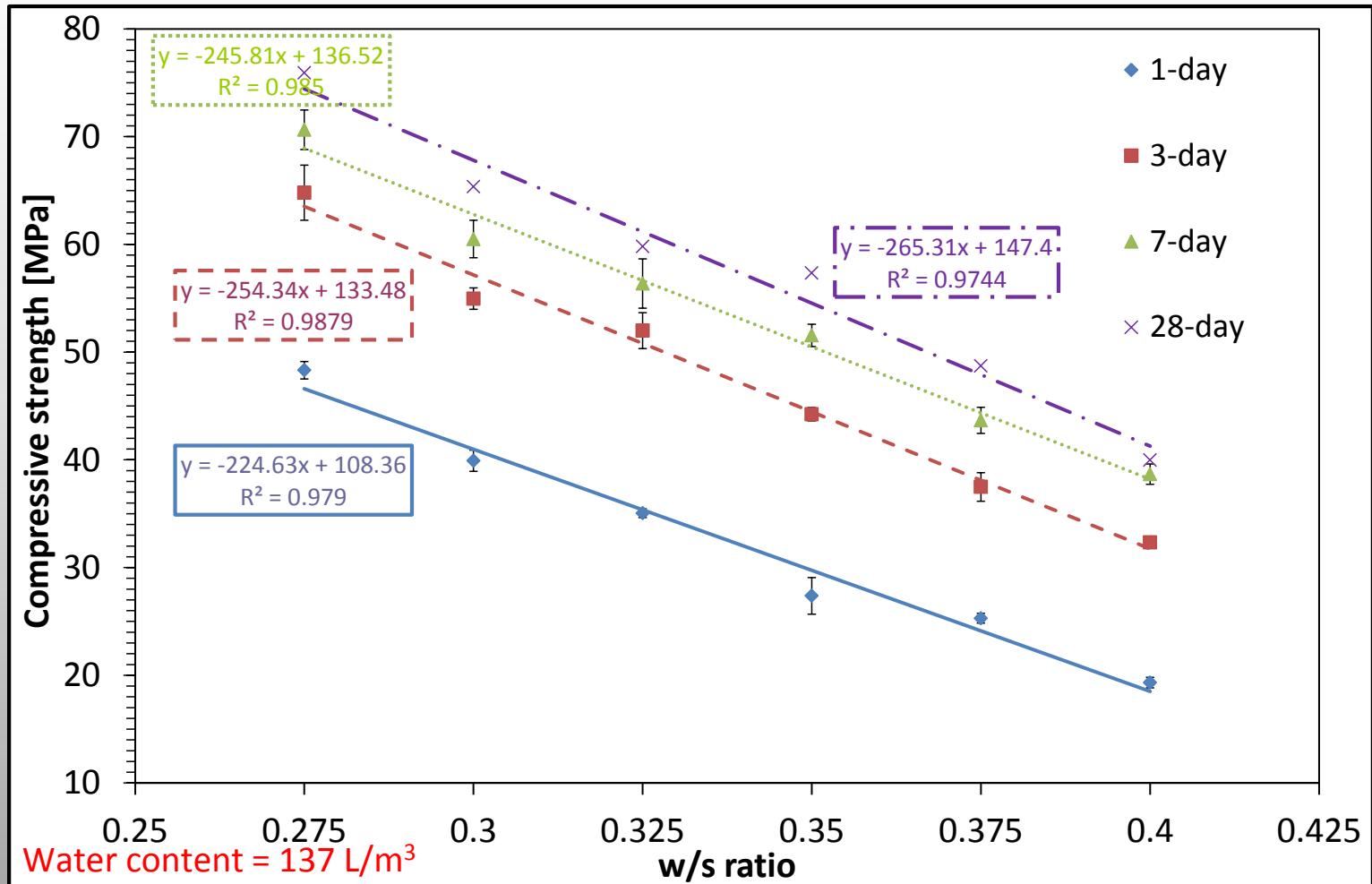
## Variation of Paste Volume at Fixed w/s Ratio



## Variation of Paste Volume and w/s Ratio



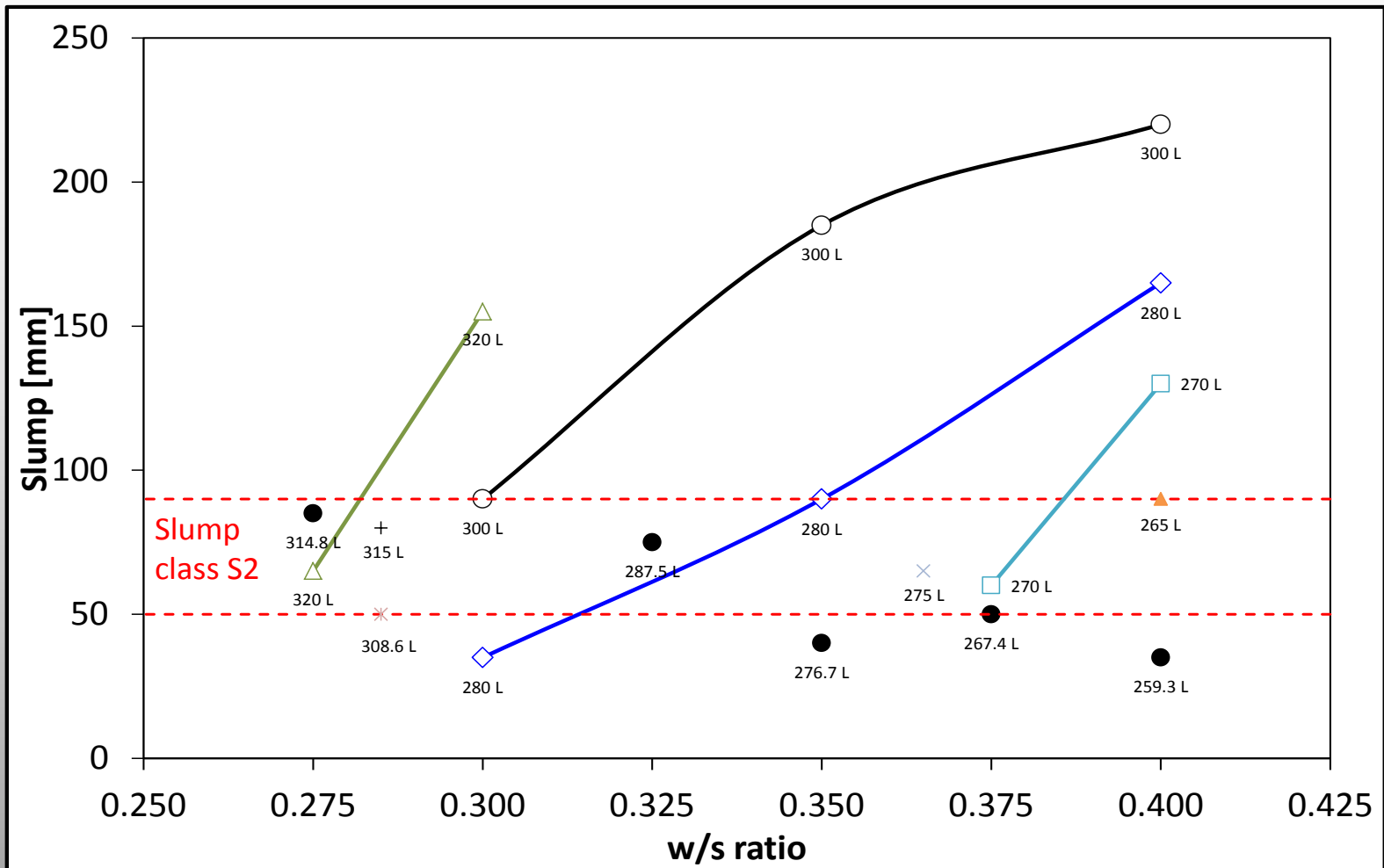
## Water Content Fixed at 137 L/m<sup>3</sup>





# Design of banahCEM Concrete

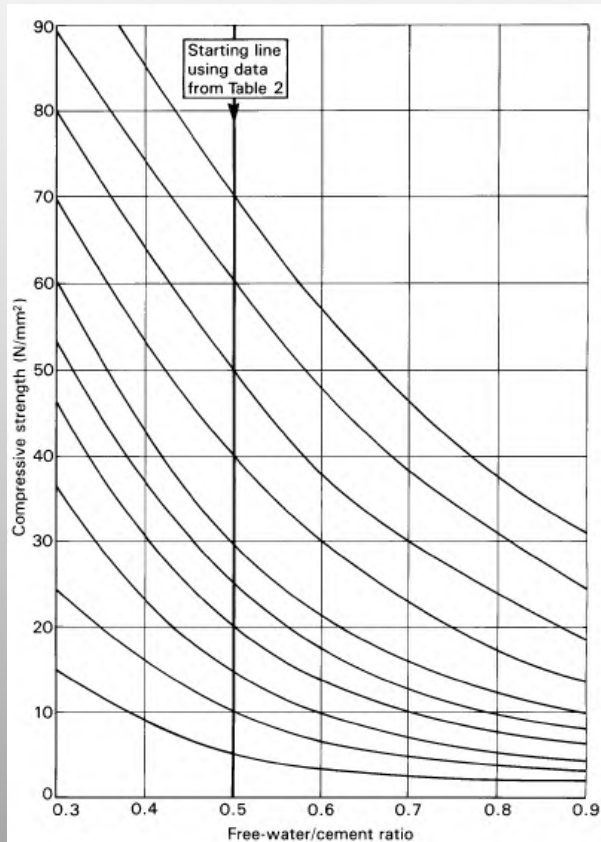
## Relationship of Slump, Paste Volume and w/s Ratio



# Design of banahCEM Concrete

## BRE Design of Normal Concrete Mixes

*'... the strength of concrete is better related to the free-water/cement ratio...'*

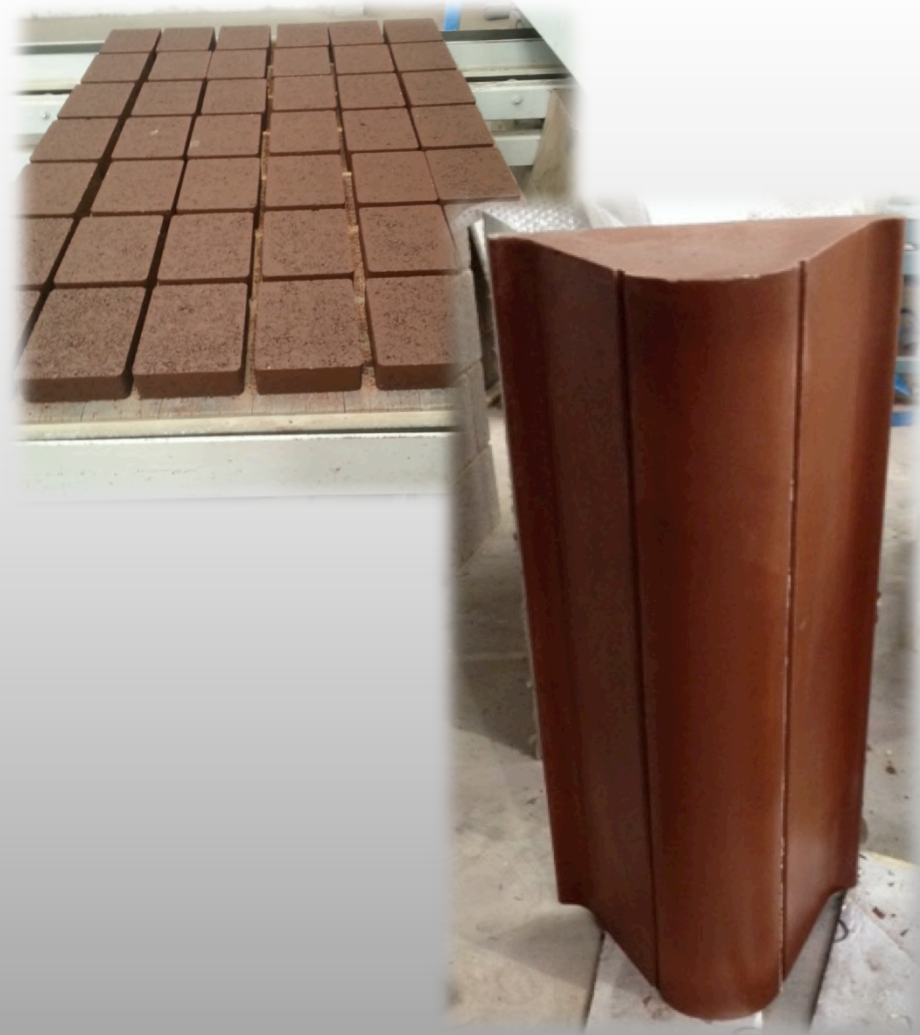


- Initial work has confirmed similar trends based on variation of w/s ratio
- Development of a set of charts to enable design of geopolymer mixes
- Work is being carried out on natural uncrushed aggregates

Figure 4 – from BRE Design of Normal Concrete Mixes

## The next steps...

- Commencement of banahCEM Production
- Development of Standards for Geopolymer Cements
- Development of a 1-Part System
- Increased Use of Waste Alkali Streams for Some Applications





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