



New **E**nvironmental friendly and **D**urable con**C**rete, integrating industrial by-products and hybrid systems, for civil, industrial and offshore applications

A photograph of a large concrete bridge spanning a river, with a green tint overlaying the entire image.

# Webinar 'Looking into the future of eco-friendly and durable concrete'

## Final event of the project



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 760639.

# Agenda

TIME	TOPIC	PARTNERS
11:00 - 11:05	Introduction to the webinar	FENIX TNT
11:05 - 11:15	Introduction to the project, goals, challenges	HC
<b>Presentation of the Endurcrete project results</b>		
11:15 - 11:55	Cement	HC
	Concrete & Admixtures	HC
	Nanoclay	IBOX
	Carbon based additions	UNIVPM
	Textile	RINA
	Coating	AMS
11:55 - 12:00	<b>BREAK</b>	
12:00 - 12:20	Demo sites	INFRAPLAN
12:20 - 12:40	Reshealience project	RESHEALINCE
<b>Q&amp;A</b>		
12:40 - 13:00	Health and safety of the technologies	CEA, VITO
	Prevalidation of technologies in the laboratory	ZAG, NTNU
	Modelling of durability over 100 years	RINA, CEA
	Life-cycle assessment	GEO



CO-ORGANIZER



CLUSTER PROJECT



MODERATOR



# Introduction to EnDurCrete

**COORDINATOR**

ENDURCRETE



**DR. ARNAUD MULLER**

Senior Scientist at the Global R&D  
department of HeidelbergCement AG

**Dr. Arnaud Muller, HeidelbergCement AG**



- Concrete is the world's most consumed man-made material. Concrete based on ordinary Portland (OPC) cement has been the principal structural material for our constructions
- Manufacturing Portland clinker consumes significant mineral resources, energy and fuel. Cement production contributes to 5-8% of global greenhouse gas emissions



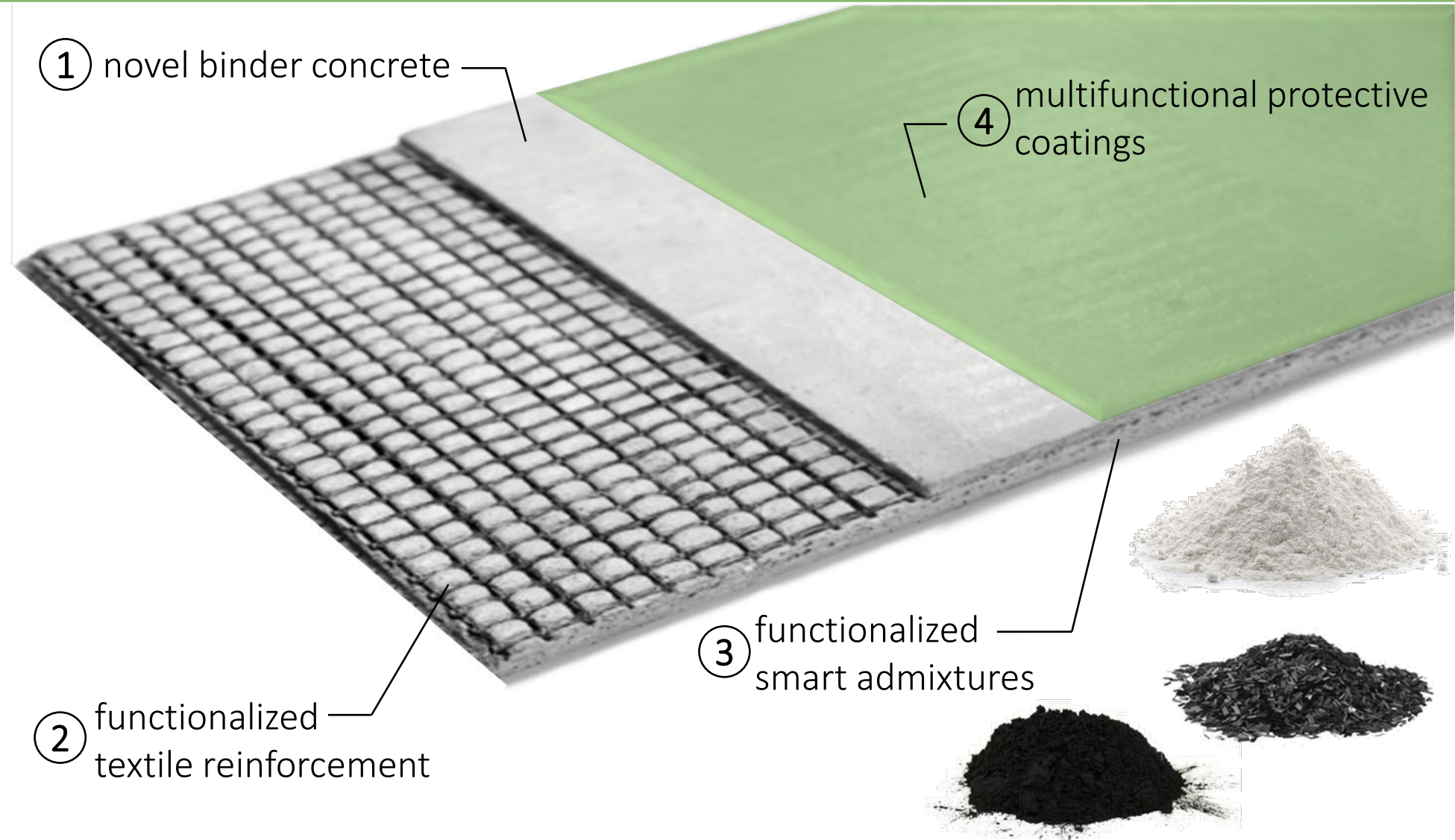
- There is need for innovative sustainable and durable concrete solutions where low CO<sub>2</sub>, cost-effectiveness and high durability of concrete is a real added value
- A durable concrete material helps the environment by conserving resources and reducing wastes and the environmental impacts of repair and replacement
- Research is needed to develop breakthrough solutions for sustainable and durable concrete



# EnDurCrete project



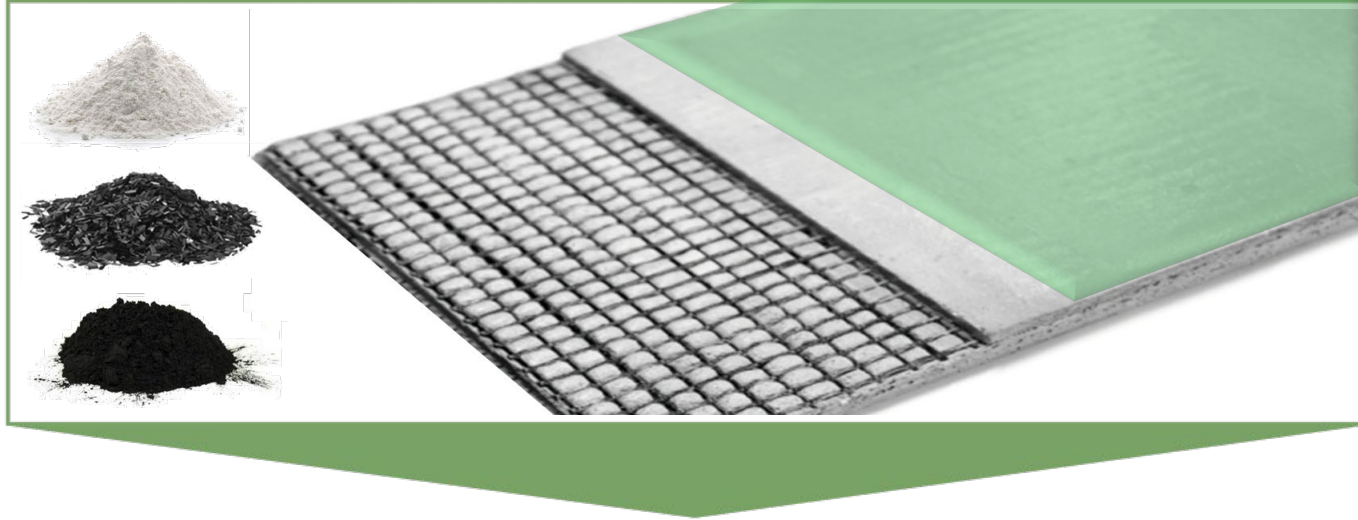
# Project concept





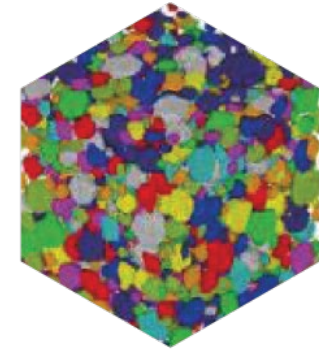
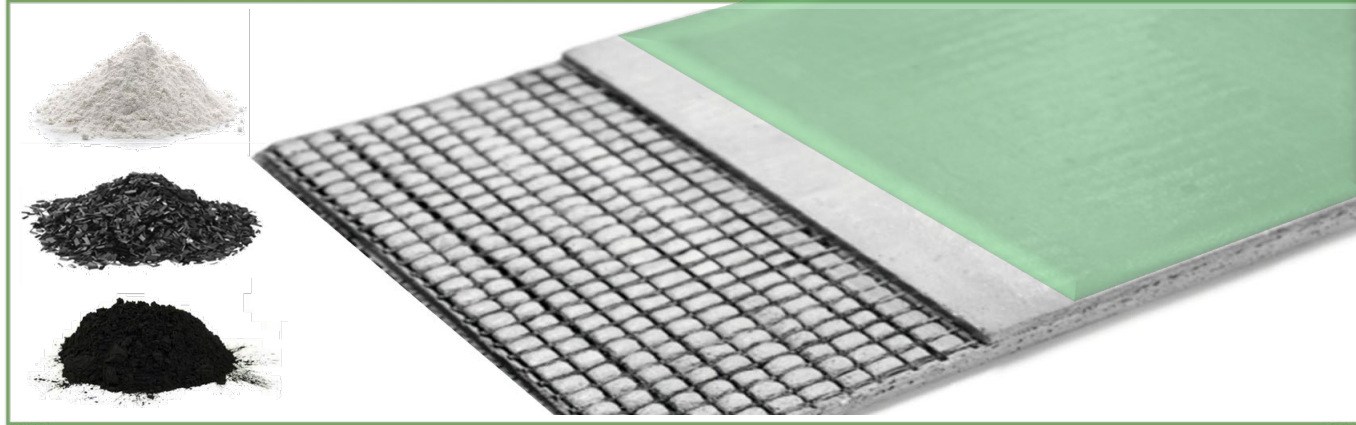
# Integrated approach

Developed technology

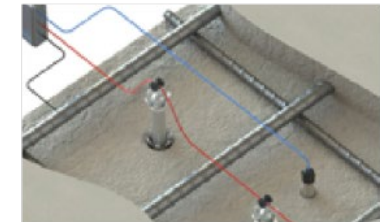


# Integrated approach

Developed technology



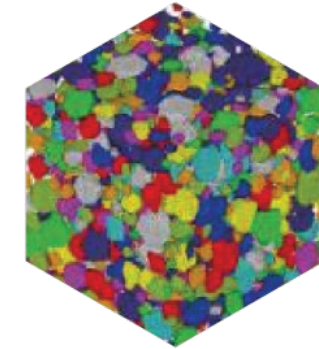
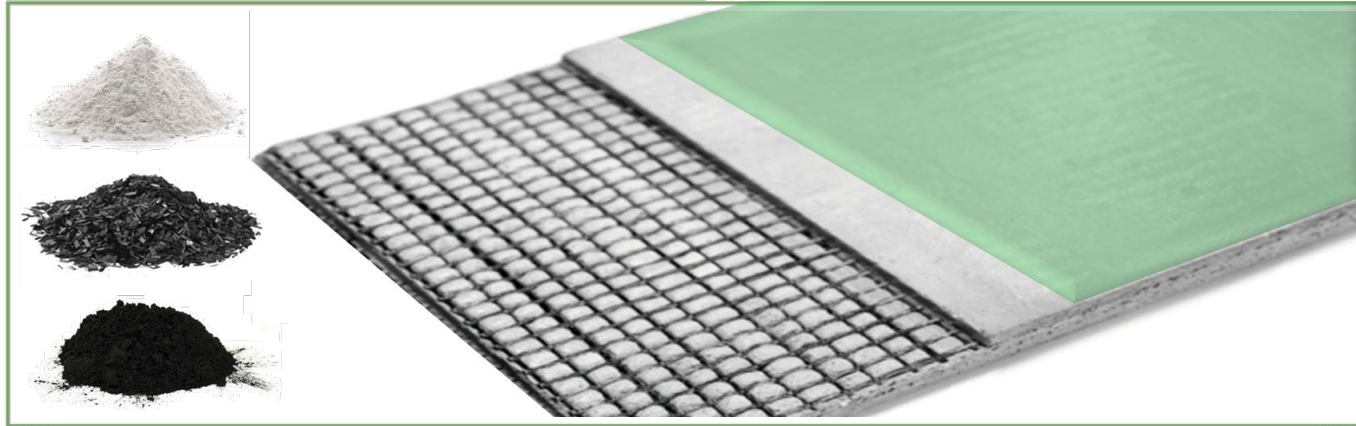
Durability modelling,  
testing, monitoring  
and standardization





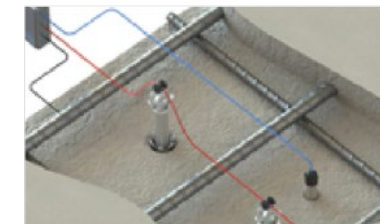
# Integrated approach

Developed technology



Durability modelling,  
testing, monitoring  
and standardization

Demonstration of pre-cast and ready-mix concrete prototypes in harsh environments





# Demosites to prove concept

Ship Yard, Norway



Port of Gijón "El Musel", Spain



Mining tunnel facility in Leon, Spain



Krk Bridge, Croatia





## Overall Approach

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- Test functionality of **new concrete technologies** under severe operating conditions (4 demo-sites)
- Develop **experimental and numerical tools** to understand factors affecting the durability and to capture the multiscale evolution of damage
- Develop **models for service life prediction**

## Expected Impact

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- Strengthening **competitiveness of the European industry**, including in the field of “green” technologies
- Positive **LCA balance**
- At least **30% improved durability**
- At least **30% lower cost**

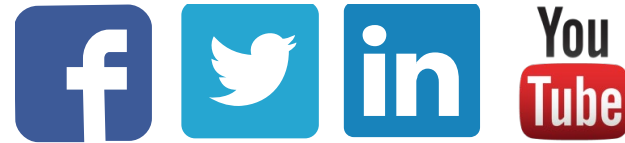


# Contact and further information

Project website

[www.endurcrete.eu](http://www.endurcrete.eu)

Follow project latest news on social media



Contact project Partners directly

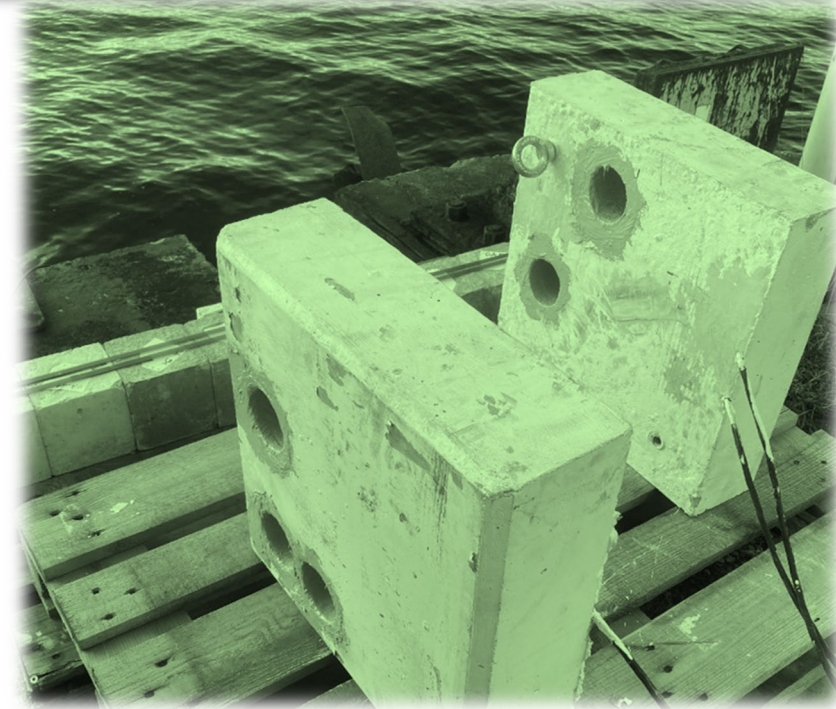






## Explanation of the concept:

- Cement
- Concrete and admixtures
- Nanoclay
- Carbon based additions
- Textile
- Coating





# Development of novel Portland Composite Cements

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**GERD BOLTE**

Team Leader of the Cement & Binder  
Technology Group at  
HeidelbergCement Global R&D

**Gerd Bolte, HeidelbergCement AG**



# Development of novel Portland Composite Cements

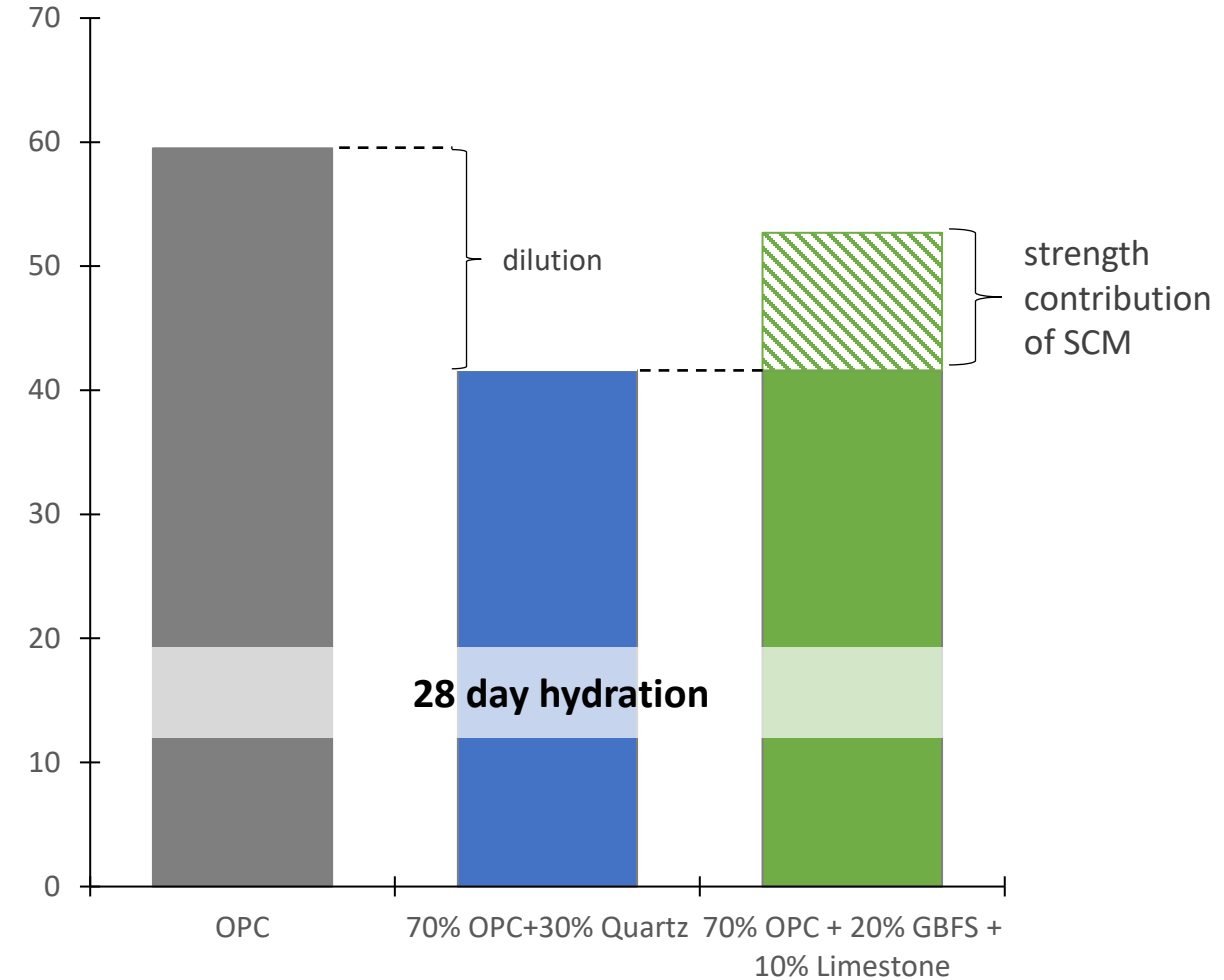
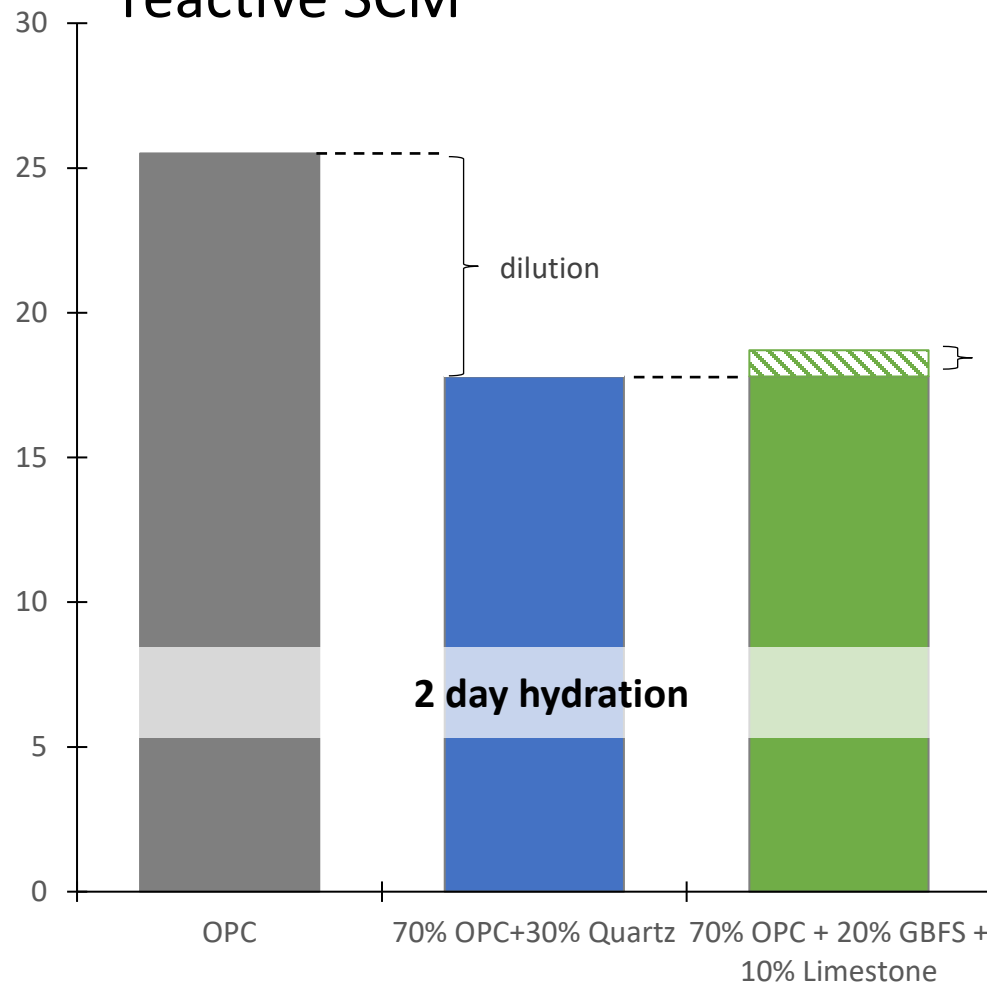
- Cement is one of the most manufactured and processed goods on earth. Unfortunately, cement production is associated with significant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- The production of Portland cement clinker, the main component of today's cement, is associated with high CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- The objective is to develop environmentally friendly concrete by reducing the proportion of Portland clinker in cement and replacing it with additional supplementary cementitious materials
- The new cement standard EN197-5 opens up new possibilities for low-clinker cements CEM II/C and CEM VI, through the use of granulated blastfurnace slag (GBFS), fly ash (V) and limestone (LL) in more flexible combinations





# Development of novel Portland Composite Cements

- In composite cements, high reactive clinker mineral phases diluted with less reactive SCM



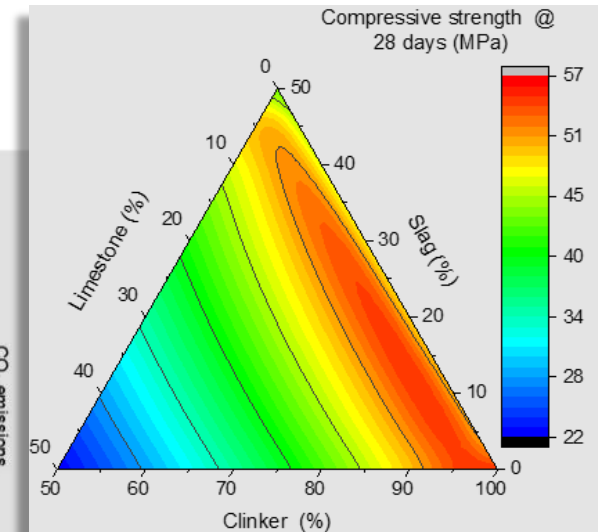
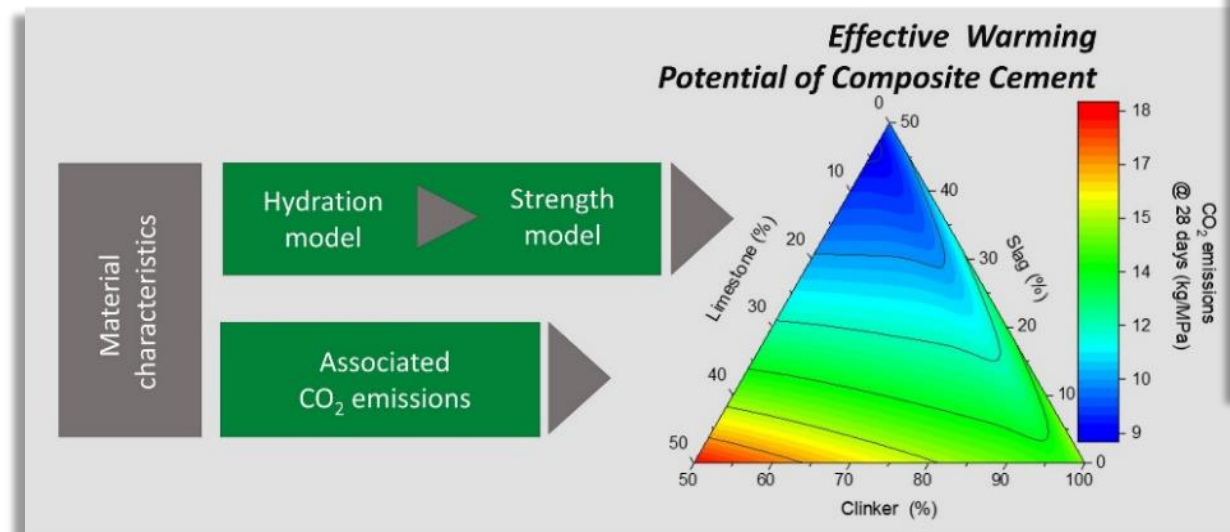
- Separate grinding technology was used to adjust the fineness of each cement constituents to meet the given target strength and workability
- Objective:
  - enhance the synergies between them (Portland cement clinker, granulated blast-furnace slag and fly ash or limestone)
  - maximize the clinker replacement





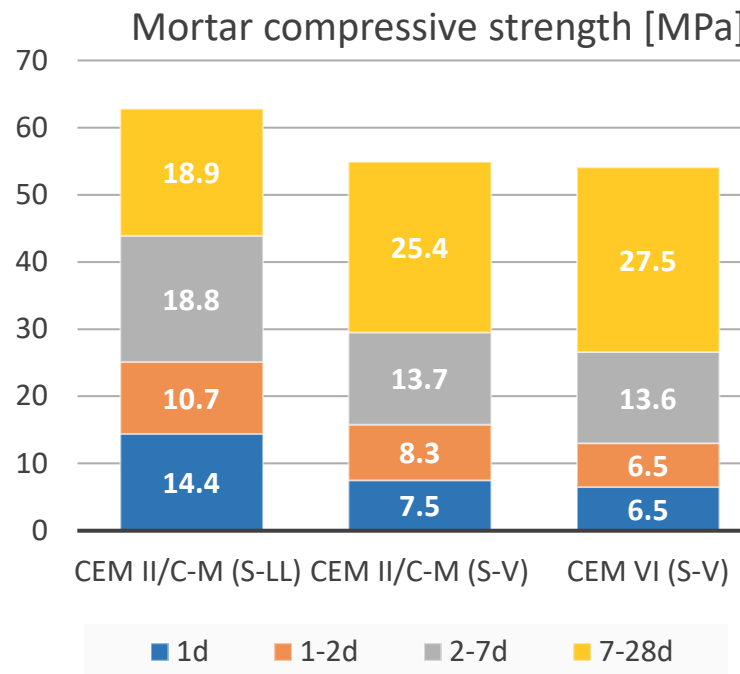
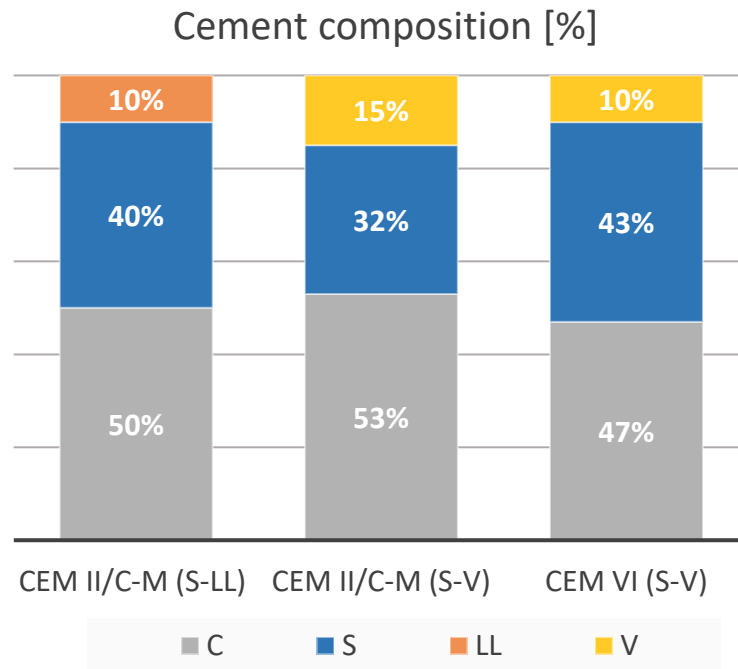
# Development of novel Portland Composite Cements

- The design of a composite cement of three main constituents that meets the requirements in terms of quality and ecology is very complex
- By using an empirical model for strength prediction and combining it with the calculated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions related to the composite cement, the number of tests is significantly reduced.
- The result shows that by separating the limestone grinding from the clinker grinding, it is possible to replace 10% of the clinker and/or GBFS with limestone. The CO<sub>2</sub> footprint is thus significantly reduced at comparable cement performance



# Development of novel Portland Composite Cements

- In 2018 and 2019, these novel cements CEM II/C-M and CEM VI were produced for the first time on a large scale at a HeidelbergCement plant and delivered to our project partners





# Concrete and admixtures

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



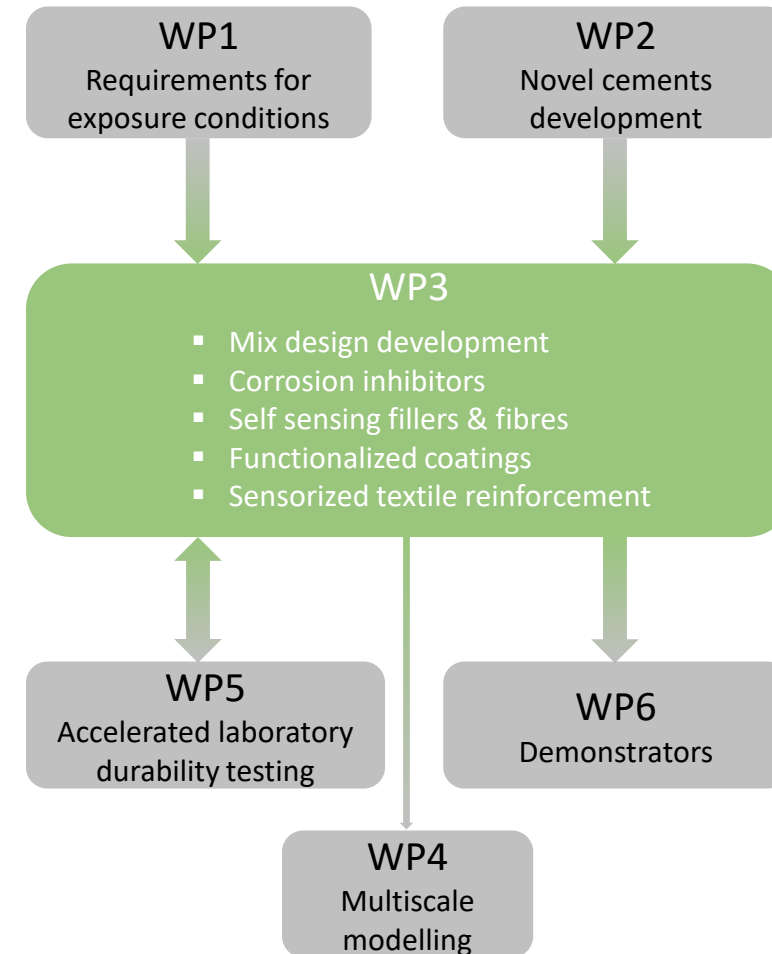
**DR. NIKOLA MIKANOVIC**

Principal Scientist at the Global R&D  
department of HeidelbergCement AG

**Dr. Nikola Mikanovic, HeidelbergCement AG**

# WP3 objectives and workflow

- Develop concrete compositions to be tested under severe operating conditions on selected demo sites
  - to comply with the requirements defined in WP1
  - based on novel binders developed in WP2
- Incorporate novel additive technologies to improve concrete durability in cost-effective way
- Perform laboratory durability testing of these concretes in WP5
- Based on their performance, concrete compositions to be further tuned and rolled out for production large scale field specimens in WP6





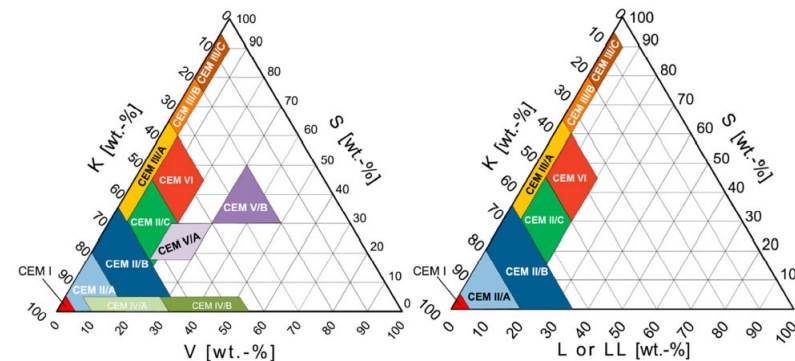
# Step 1: EnDurCrete compositions with novel cements

Performance requirement	Marine Port – ES Bridge - HR	Tunnel - ES	Offshore - NO
Strength class	C35/45	C40/50	C50/60
Exposure class(es)	XS1, XS2, XS3	XD1, XA2	XS3, XF4
Max. w/c - ratio	0.45	0.5	0.4
Min. cement content	340 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	320 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	340 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Workability	S5 or SCC	S5 or SCC	S5 or SCC
Workability retention	min. 30'	min. 30'	min. 30'
Early strength*	15 MPa	15 MPa	15 MPa
Other(s)	Water penetration: avg. < 20mm, max. 30mm <sup>†</sup> Drying shrinkage: < 250µm/m at 7d	Water penetration: avg. < 20mm, max. 30mm <sup>†</sup> Drying shrinkage: < 250µm/m at 7d	Chloride diff. coefficient: < 4 x 10 <sup>-12</sup> m <sup>2</sup> /s <sup>†</sup> Air-entrainment: > 4.0%, spacing factor < 0.25mm <sup>*</sup> Initial set: max. 9h



WP1 – Design and production requirements for structures exposed to aggressive environment

WP2 - Development and characterisation of new green and low-cost cementitious materials



# Step 1: EnDurCrete compositions with novel cements

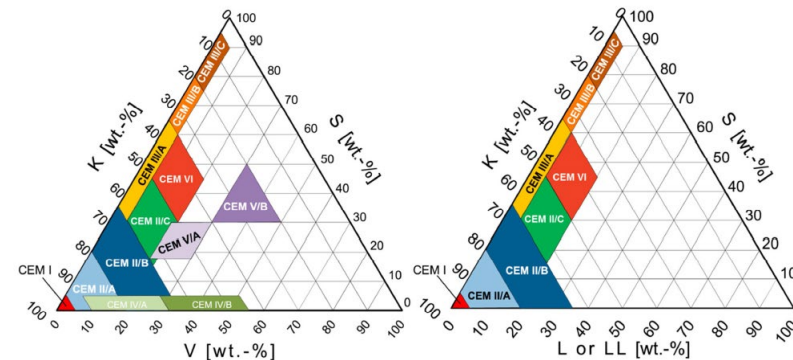
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	Marine C35/45 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>	Tunnel C40/50 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>	Offshore C50/60 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>
EDC-D CEM II/C (S-LL)	360	-	440
EDC-PL CEM VI	-	480	-
Sabbia Lavata 0/4	968	883	831
Gravel Pisello 5/10	390	356	410
Gravel Ghiaino 10/15	575	525	575
VC-2014	1.0	0.9	1.0
VF-10150666	1.5	1.4	1.5
SikaAer Solid	-	-	3.5
Water	162	187	159
W/C ratio	0.45	0.39	0.36

WP1 – Design and production requirements for structures exposed to aggressive environment

WP2 - Development and characterisation of new green and low-cost cementitious materials





# Step 2: Impact of novel additives on properties of EnDurCrete

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D3.1 - compliant mix designs  
with novel binders

Novel functionalized nano-additives  
(CHAR, RCF, nanoclays)



Impact of additives on fresh  
and early age hardened properties



# Step 2: Impact of novel additives on properties of EnDurCrete

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## D3.1 - compliant mix designs with novel binders

## Novel functionalized nano-additives (CHAR, RCF, nanoclays)



Impact of additives on fresh  
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## Outcome:

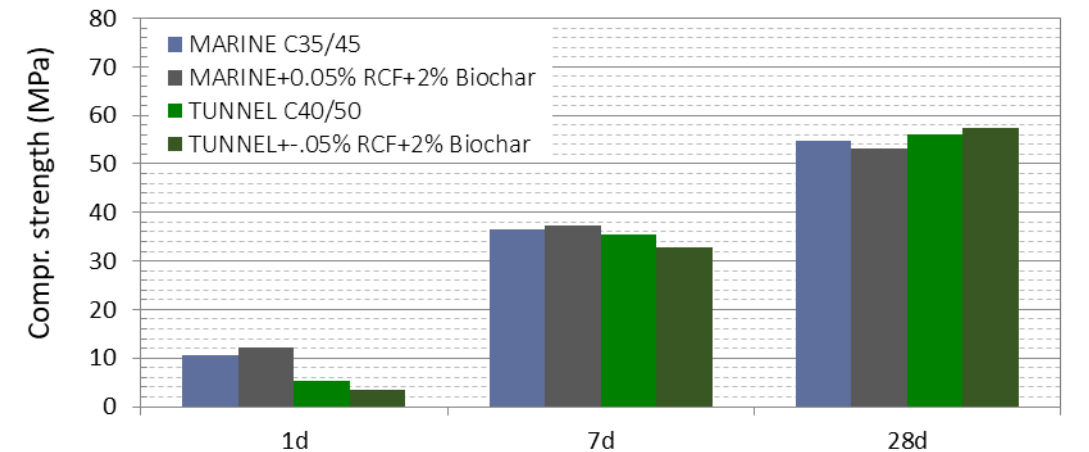
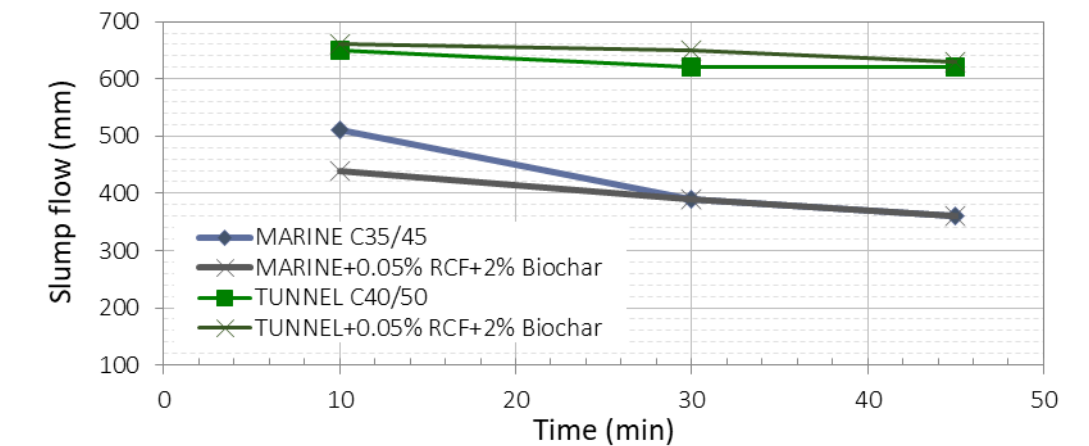
- Functionalized nanoclay has strong detrimental impact on workability, slump life and hydration kinetics
- Reasons for detrimental impact of nanoclay on strength development not clear → not to be implemented in offshore concrete
- Char and RCF have a limited impact on the hydration kinetics and strength development, but detrimentally impact initial workability and slump life
- Appropriate HRWRs identified for both nano clay and carbon-based materials to allow meeting all rheological requirements



# Step 3: EnDurCrete compositions with novel cements and additives

## EnDurCrete for Port Dijon and mining tunnel demo

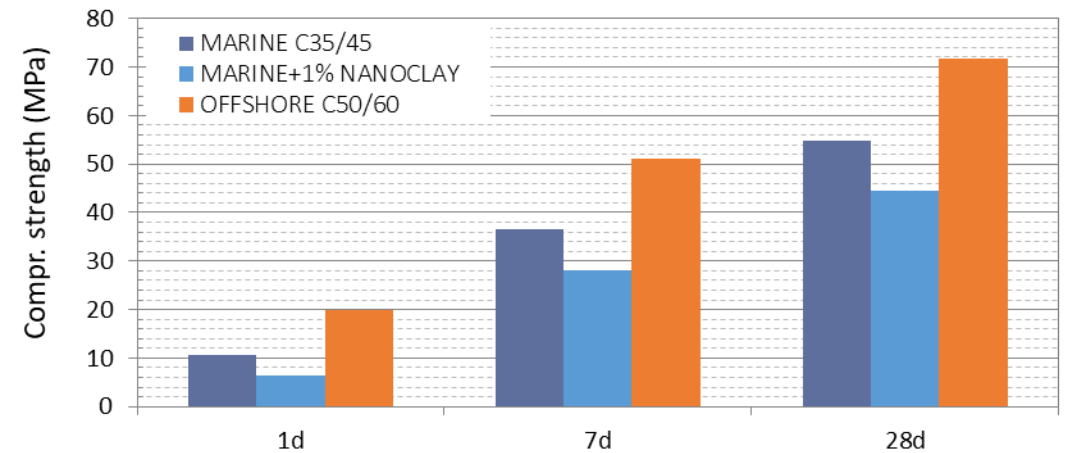
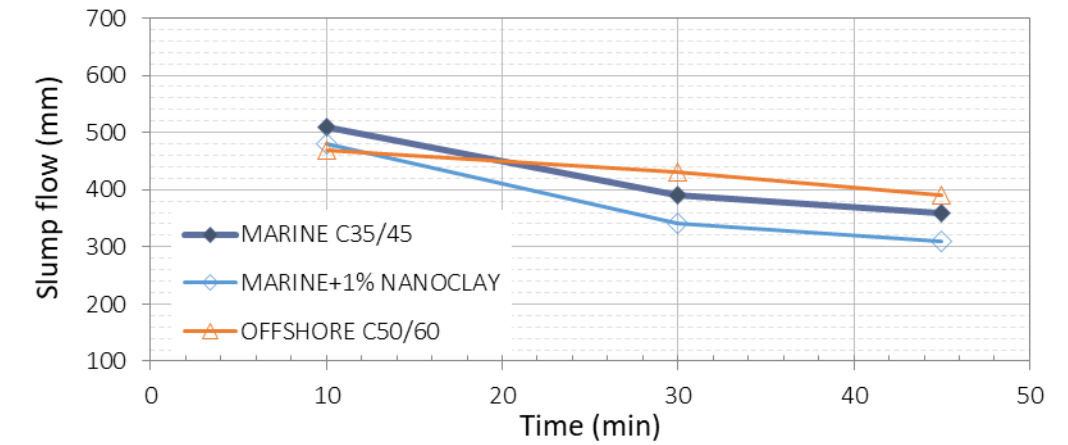
	Port Dijon demo Marine C35/45 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>		Mining tunnel demo Tunnel C40/50 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	no additives	with additives	no additives	with additives
EDC-D CEM II/C (S-LL)	360	375	--	-
EDC-PL CEM VI	--	--	480	480
Sabbia Lavata 0/4	968	884	883	846
Gravel Pisello 5/10	390	358	356	347
Gravel Ghiaino 10/15	575	613	525	512
CFG-6mm carbon fibres	--	0.925	--	0.925
Biochar	--	7.5	--	9.6
VC-2014	1.0	--	0.9	--
VF-10150666	1.5	--	1.4	--
PC2	--	0.75	--	1.0
PC3	--	1.7	--	2.3
Water	162	169	187	187
W/C ratio	0.45	0.45	0.39	0.39



# Step 3: EnDurCrete compositions with novel cements and additives

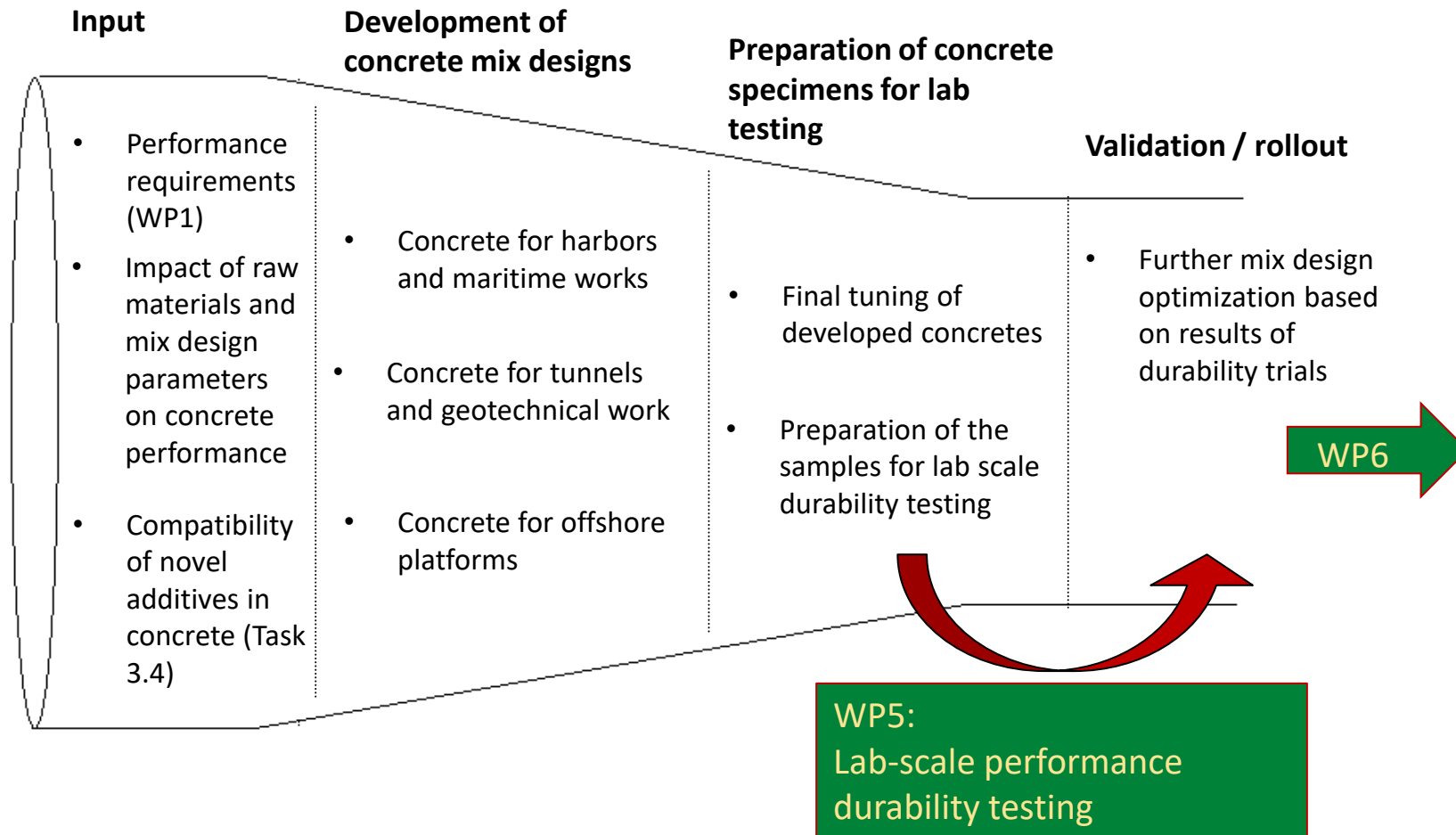
## EnDurCrete for Krk bridge and offshore demo

	Demo in Norway Offshore C50/60 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>	Krk bridge demo Marine C35/45 concrete kg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	no additives	no additives	with additives
EDC-D CEM II/C (S-LL)	440	360	375
Sabbia Lavata 0/4	831	968	906
Gravel Pisello 5/10	410	390	361
Gravel Ghiaino 10/15	575	575	617
PC 5B nanoclay inhibitor	--	--	3.75
VC-2014	1.0	1.0	--
VF-10150666	1.5	1.5	--
PC2	--	--	1.45
PC3	--	--	1.0
SikaAer Solid	3.5	---	-
Water	159	162	169
W/C ratio	0.36	0.45	0.45





# Conclusions



# Nanoclay Corrosion Inhibiting Additive

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**MARGARITA LECHA**

Senior Engineer and Innovation  
Manager at I-Box Create S.L.

**Eng. MSc. Margarita Lecha, I-Box Create S.L.**



# The company

- SME located in Valencia (Spain) working on R&D and Training projects related with Construction and Renewable Energy sectors
- Awarded with the Spanish Ministry “Innovative SME” seal since 2015

## Advanced Materials

- CORROLESS
- ENDURCRETE

## Wave Energy

- Feasibility study for the Implementation of Wave Energy Systems in sea and port Infrastructures

## Innovative Training

- [CRANE 4.0](#)
- [eRD](#)
- [AGILE4CIRC](#)
- [SHIELD](#)



PYME INNOVADORA

Válido hasta el 21 de julio de 2025



**about the project**  
CRANE 4.0 aims to up-skill and re-skill the European construction sector crane with new skills in order to meet the demand of the labour market for the industry 4.0 requirements.  
CRANE 4.0 develops innovative training profiles and methods for training, learning and assessing the learning outcomes, through the use of Virtual Reality thus supporting the education and research in using digital technologies to create, collaborate and efficient ways.

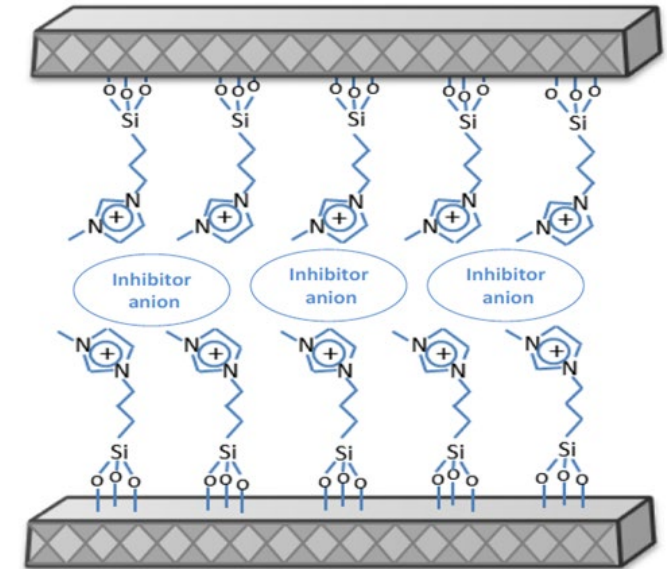


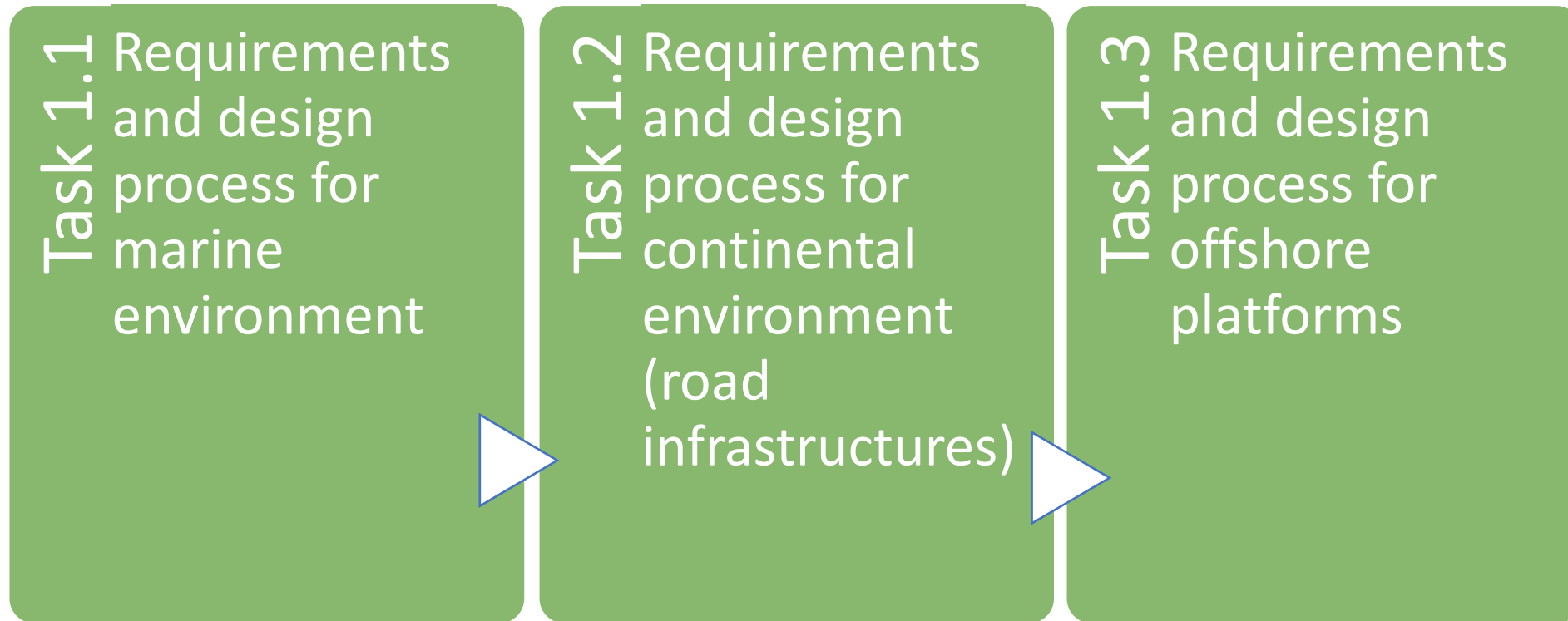
- Since the beginning of its activity, IBOX has been developing an R&D line focused on the development of new products for **application in concrete as corrosion inhibitors** or as self-repairing materials.
- The knowledge is based on the development of a former company, Cyes Infraestructuras S.A., through the TRAINER project (New Autonomous and Intelligent Regeneration Technology). This project, financed by the national organism CDTI and with a total budget of 17,685,325 €, was based on the **development of technology and knowledge that would allow the development of different materials** (coatings, concrete, pavements and composites) with a **self-repairing nature**. In the case of Cyes, they collaborated with the Spanish company Acciona to work on **concrete**.
  - >The result was a Corrosion Inhibiting Additive.
- Cyes and I-Box signed an agreement in 2014 where the latter would be in charge of all technological development and exploitation.



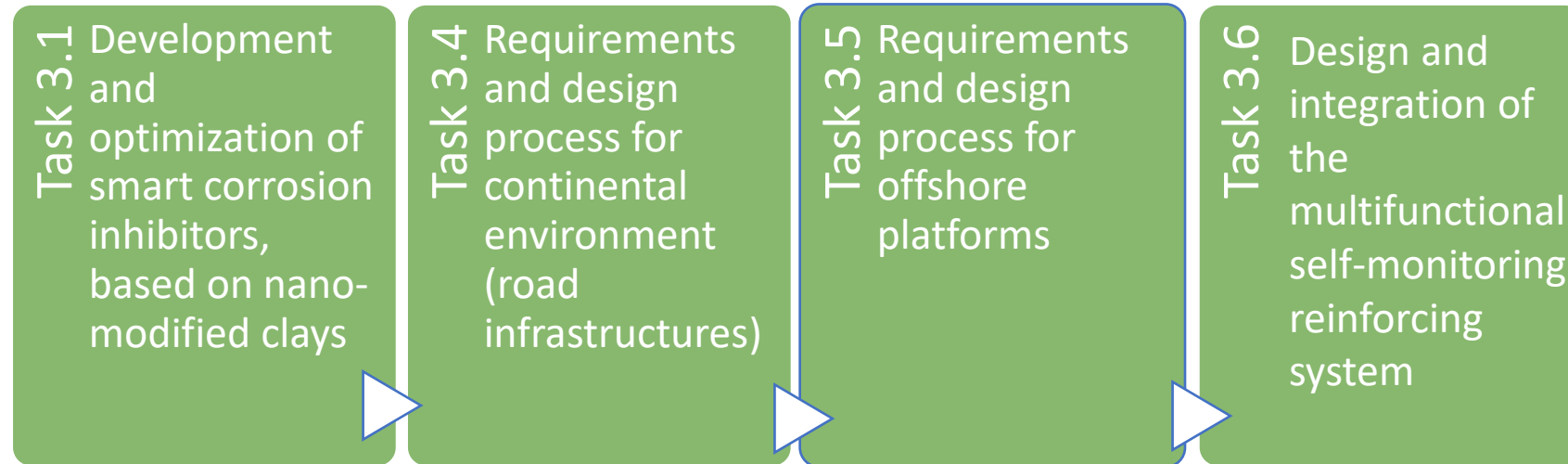
# Background

- In May 2019 we achieved the Patent ES2680269 “CONCRETE MIXTURE THAT INCLUDES A LAMINAR CLAY OF CATIONIC EXCHANGE, LAMINAR CLAY OF CATIONIC EXCHANGE AND USE”
- What is CORROLESS?
  - A lamellar clay that comprises an organosilane anchored in its interlaminar space and at least one anionic compound bound to said organosilane by electrostatic forces within the clay interlayer. The clay thus modified is an intermediate compound to be able to insert anions in a matrix with a positive charge with a great exchange capacity that in principle would have admitted cations, such as smectites. The result is that it has the ability to release in a controlled way the corrosion inhibitor anions interspersed between its sheets in response to an increase in the concentration of chloride anions or a decrease in pH in cement-based compositions such as reinforced concrete.









Activities were focused on the use of nano-modified clays for the development of inhibitors to be released in cement based materials.

Maximum 1% of cement weight. They will cost 65% less than current commercial solutions and will increase the life time of concrete (or the time corrosion damage takes to appear) up to 3 times according to accelerated tests of potential corrosion, considering as benchmark concrete without inhibitors. The target sale price will be of 2 €/Kg.

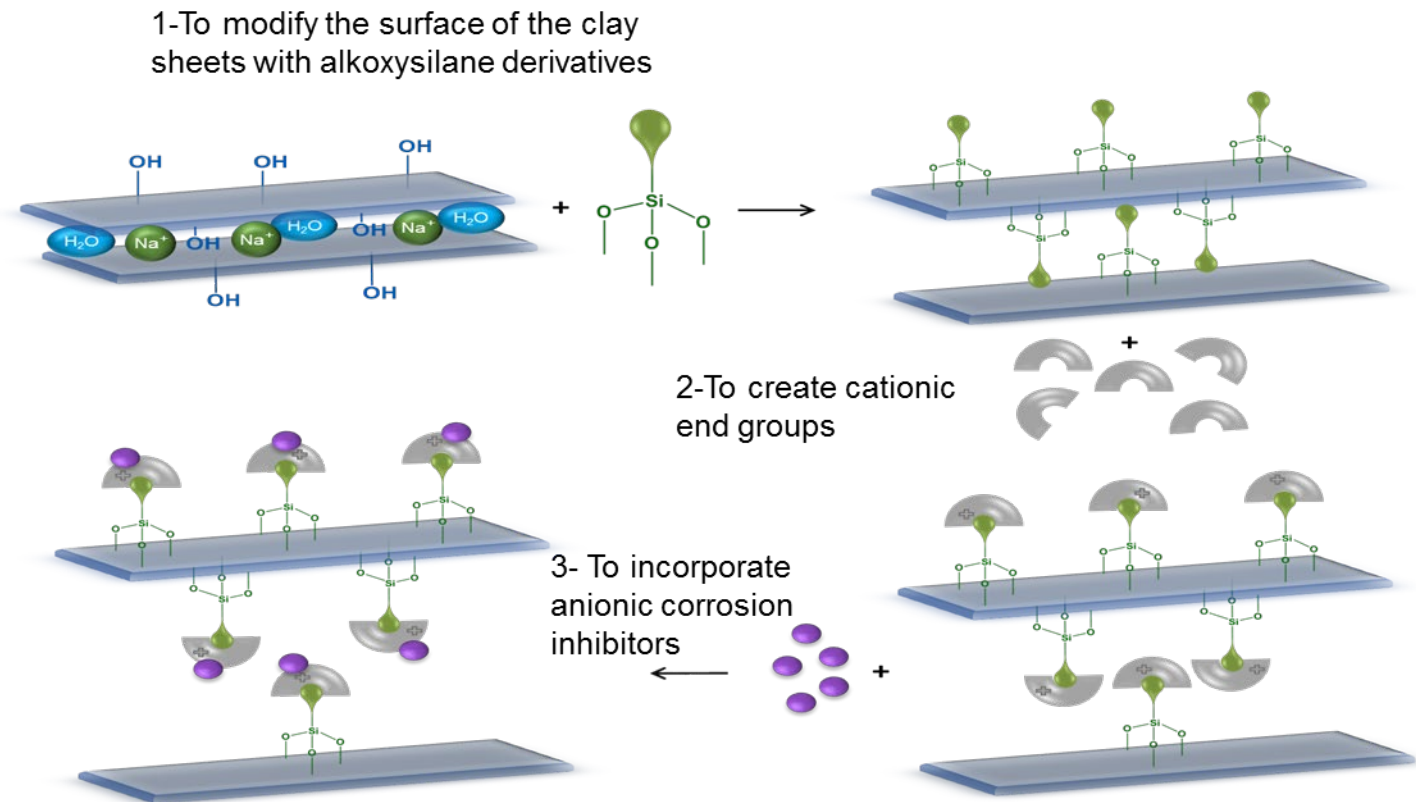
## Task 3.1 Development and optimization of smart corrosion inhibitors, based on nano-modified clays

- The rheological behaviour should give an initial slump in the range of 200-210 mm and it should not delay the cement hydration kinetics.
- To be able to scale up the production of the inhibitors in quantities close to the kilogram in one reaction. This was to be able to supply large quantities of product to the project partners in order to carry out the necessary tests and the development of the demonstrators



- The synthesis of the product implies, in a first step, **modifying the surface of the clay sheets with alkoxysilane derivatives** having cationic end groups. Then, the **anionic corrosion inhibitor is incorporated** and bound through electrostatic interactions to these cationic terminal groups.

## SCHEME OF THE DIFFERENT STEPS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF SMART CORROSION INHIBITORS

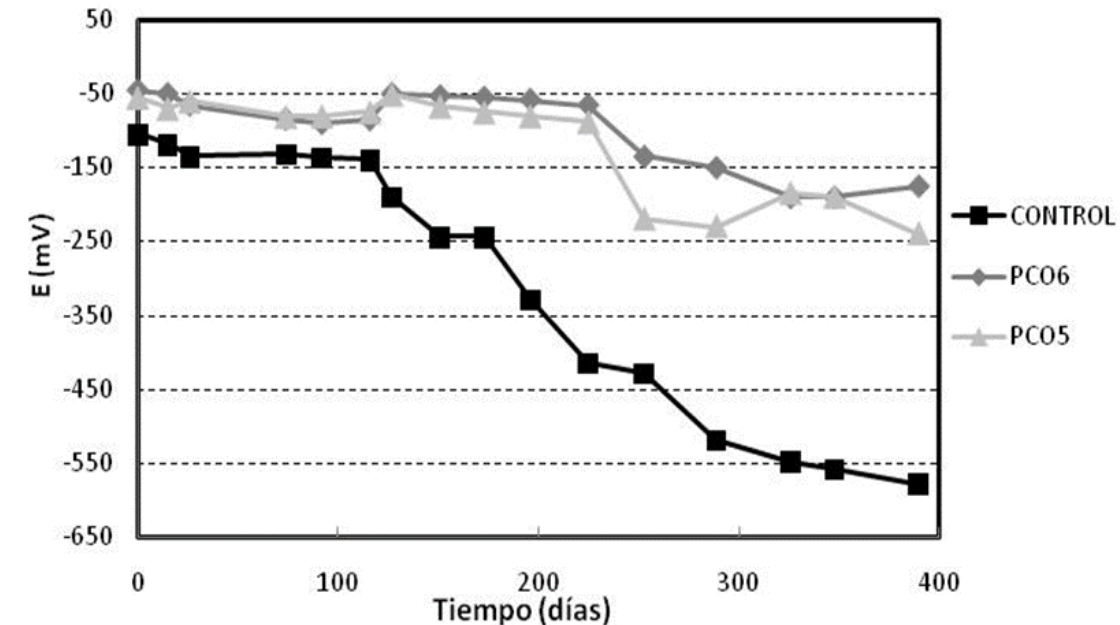


# From the Lab....

The technology was already tested in concrete and its anti-corrosion properties were proved. It did not have any negative effect on mechanical resistance and other concrete properties.

Figure shows the corrosion potential determination according to ASTM C 876 (Standard Test Method for Half-Cell Potentials), with prepared specimens immersed in a solution with 5% by weight of sodium chloride to accelerate the corrosion processes.

***Concrete specimen without inhibitor additive (CONTROL) and two types of concrete specimens with inhibitory additive based on nanoclays (PC05 and PC06)***

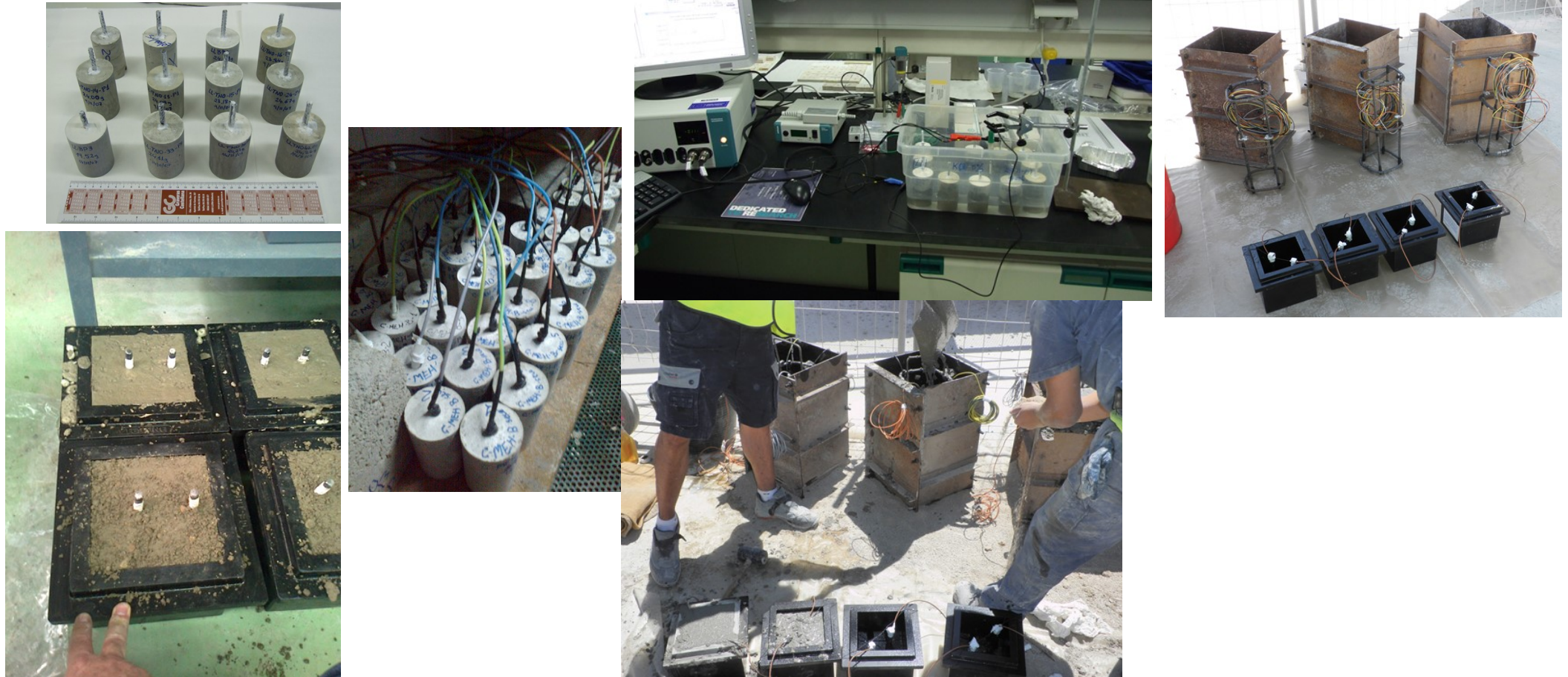


***Concrete specimen without inhibitor additive (CONTROL) and two types of concrete specimens with inhibitory additive based on nanoclays (PC05 and PC06)***



# From the Lab....

LAB TESTED IN CONCRETE proved the anti-corrosion properties of this technology, with no negative effect on mechanical resistance and other concrete properties



# ... to preparation of inhibitors

1. To optimise the proportions of modifier and corrosion inhibitor to fit to the concrete requirement and not modify the hydration kinetics of cement.
2. To control the release of inhibitor anion as a function of changes in environmental conditions, such as reducing the pH or increasing the chloride concentration.
3. To maintain the corrosion intensity at very small values during electrochemical studies in solution even when the concentration of chlorides in the alkaline solution is high.



- Following the indications of Sika and modifying the quantities of reagents to be used, reducing the amount of modifier alkoxysilane and anion inhibitor of corrosion it was prepared PC5 product, that did not affect (delay) the hydration kinetics of the cement. The organic dosage (corrosion inhibitor anion) of the sample PC5 is about 45 % by weight.
- Achieved the scaling-up of the production of the corrosion inhibitor, reaching in a single synthesis almost 1 kg of product.
- Release assays were carried out in aqueous solution, the ability to release the inhibitor anion in a controlled manner in connection with environmental conditions, such as reducing the pH of the concrete or increasing the chloride concentration, were confirmed.
- The ability of these products to maintain the corrosion intensity at very small values during electrochemical studies in solution was also been confirmed in aqueous environment.





# ... to the Pilot Scale

## Task 6.2 Prototyping, demonstration and performance validation in a maritime port in Spain



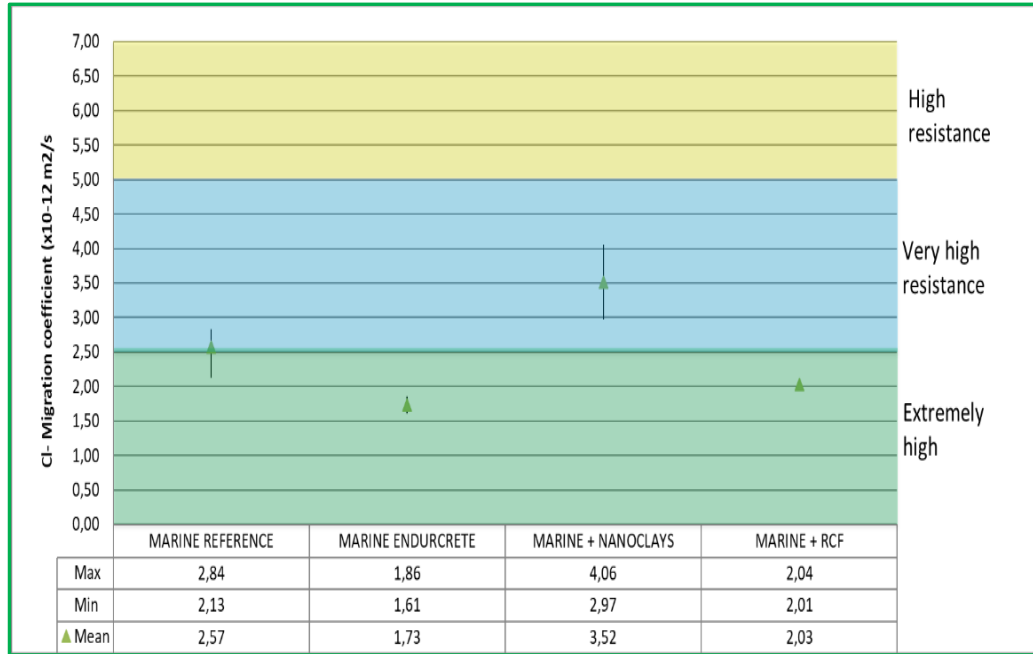
Spray (XS1)

Tidal (XS3)

Submerged XS2)

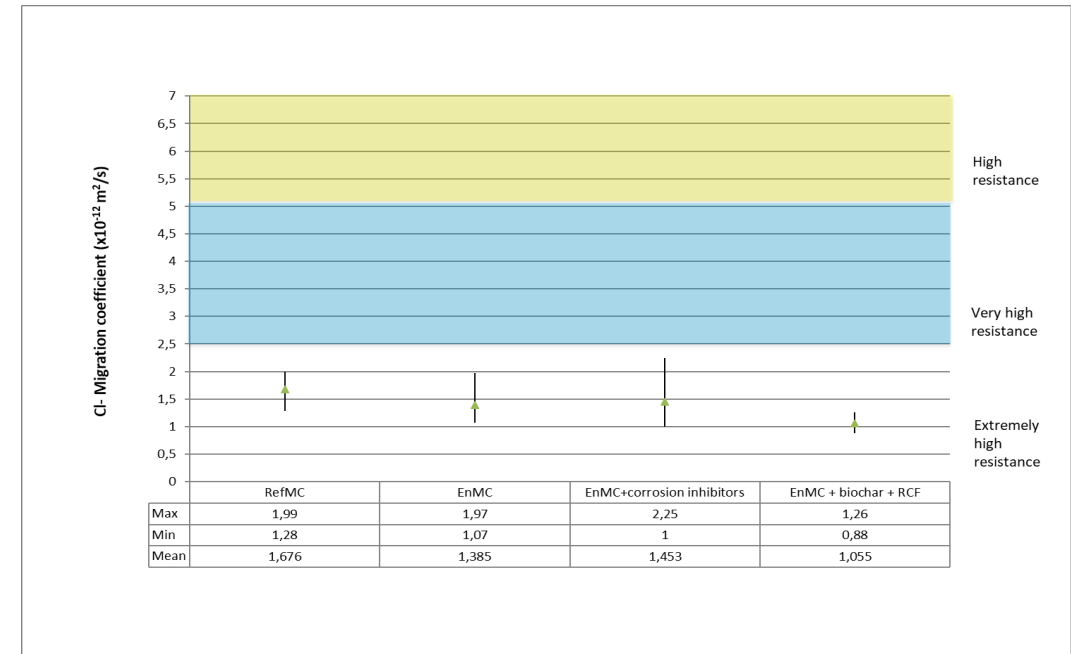
# Pilot scale: Prototyping, demonstration and performance validation in marine port in Spain

6 Month



Non-steady state  
chloride  
migration  
coefficient

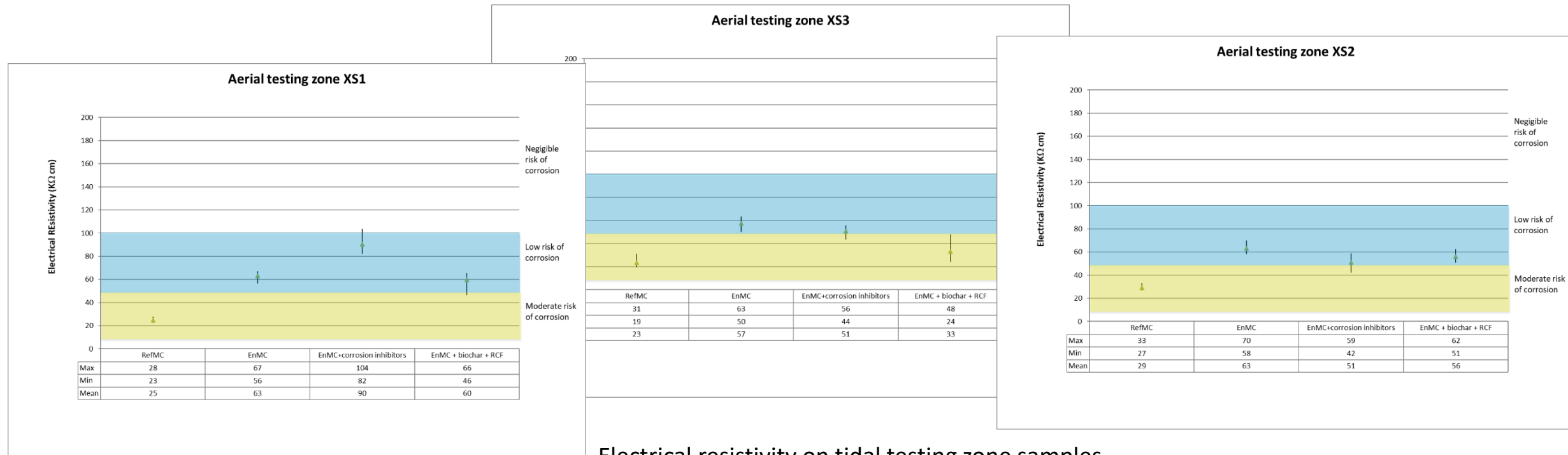
12 Month





# Pilot scale: Prototyping, demonstration and performance validation in marine port in Spain

12 Month



Electrical resistivity on tidal testing zone samples

Electrical resistivity on aerial testing zone samples

Electrical resistivity on submerged testing zone samples

# Carbon based additions for self-sensing concrete

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE

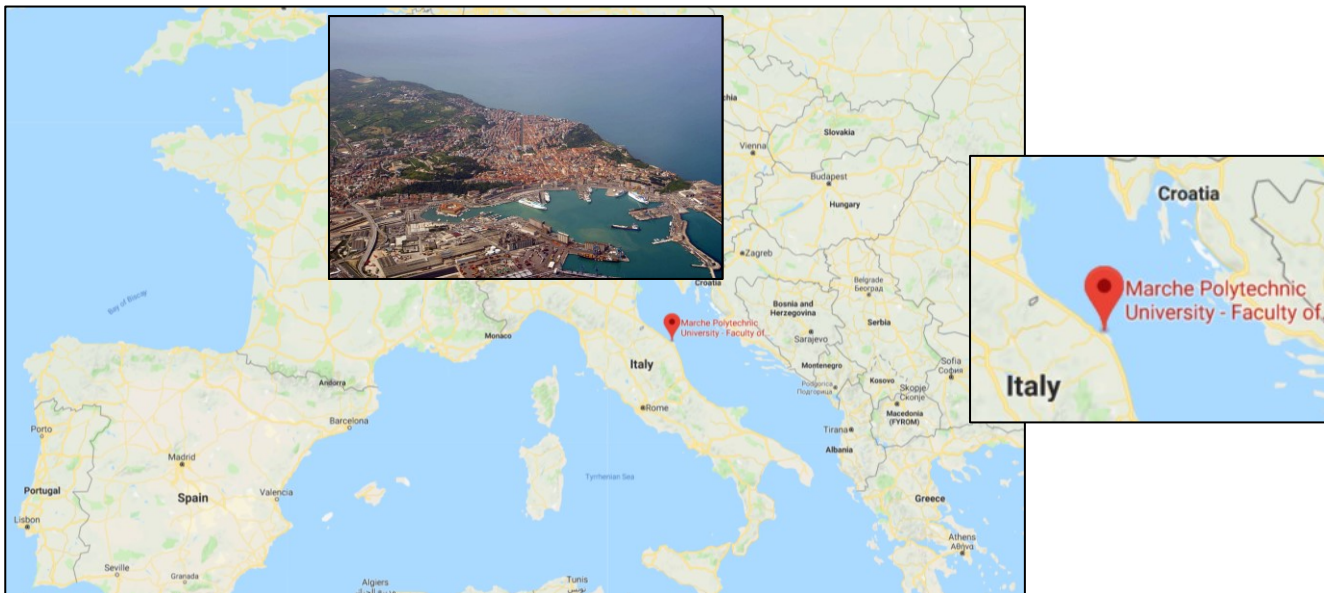


**FRANCESCA TITTARELLI**

Professor of Materials Science and Technology  
at Università Politecnica delle Marche

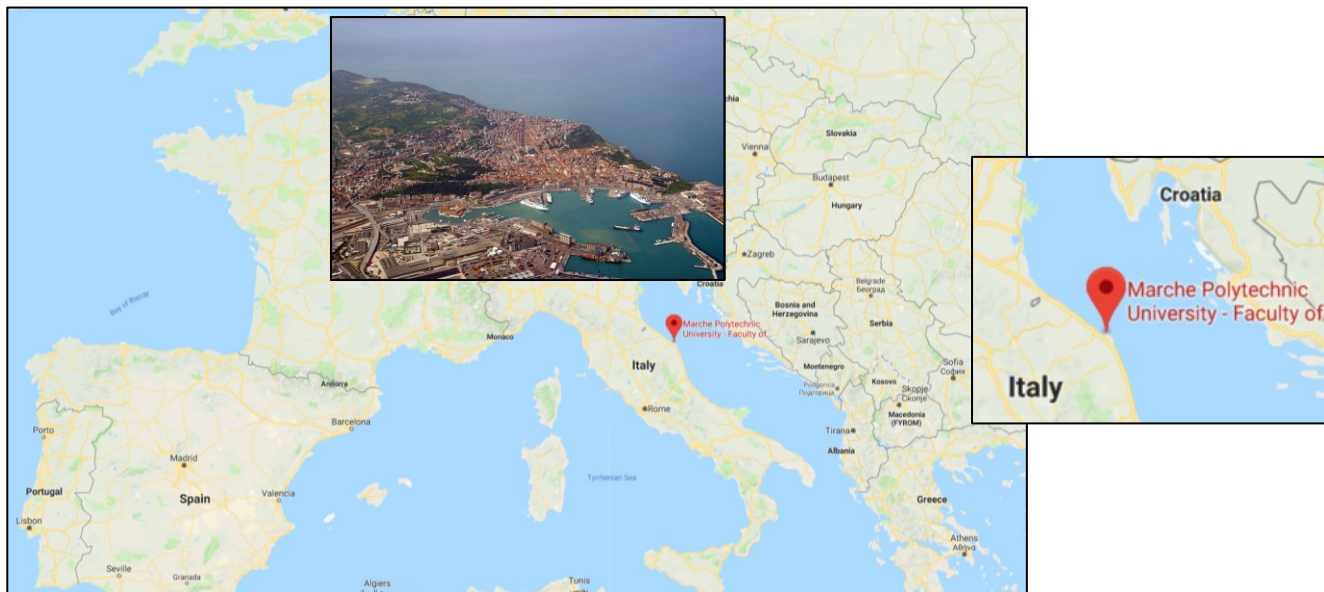
**Francesca Tittarelli, UNIVPM**





Ancona -  $43^{\circ}37'N$   $13^{\circ}31'E$





Ancona -  $43^{\circ}37'N$   $13^{\circ}31'E$



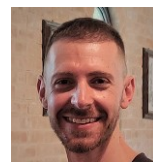
Department of Industrial Engineering and  
Mathematical Sciences - DIISM



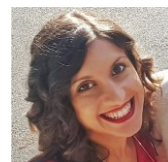
Mechanical and Thermal Measurements Group (MTM)



Prof. Gian Marco Revel  
Coordinator of ECTP Materials  
and Sustainability Committee



Prof. Paolo  
Chiariotti



Gloria  
Cosoli

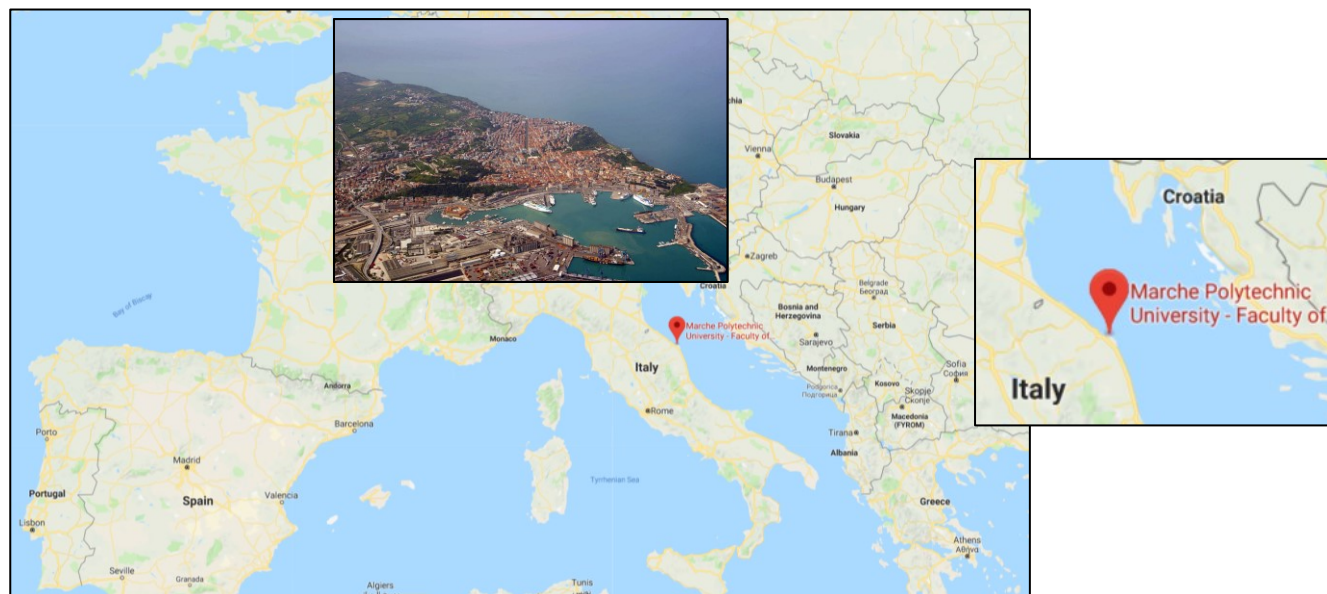


Giuseppe  
Pandarese



Nicola  
Giulietti





Ancona -  $43^{\circ}37'N$   $13^{\circ}31'E$



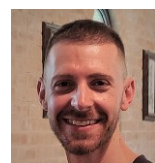
Department of Industrial Engineering and  
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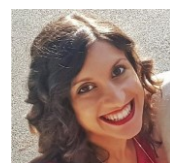
**Mechanical and Thermal Measurements Group (MTM)**



Prof. Gian Marco Revel  
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Prof. Paolo  
Chiariotti



Gloria  
Cosoli



Giuseppe  
Pandarese



Nicola  
Giulietti

Department of Materials, Environmental  
Sciences and Urban Planning - SIMAU



**Materials Group**



Prof. Francesca  
Tittarelli



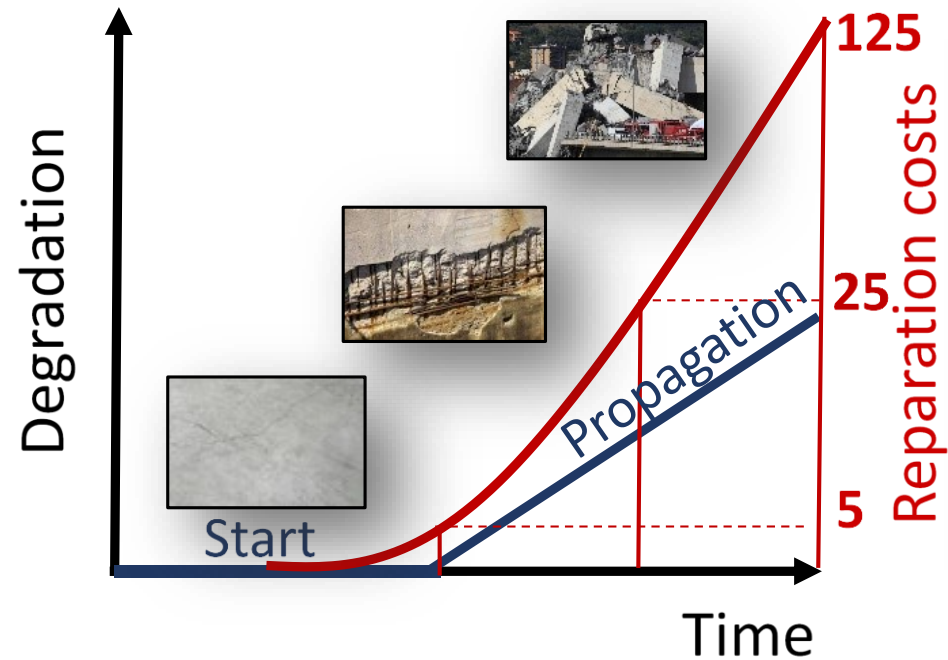
Alessandra  
Mobili



Prof. Tiziano  
Bellezze

# CHALLENGE

*De Sitter Jr., W.R., Costs for Service Life  
Optimisation, the Law of Fives*

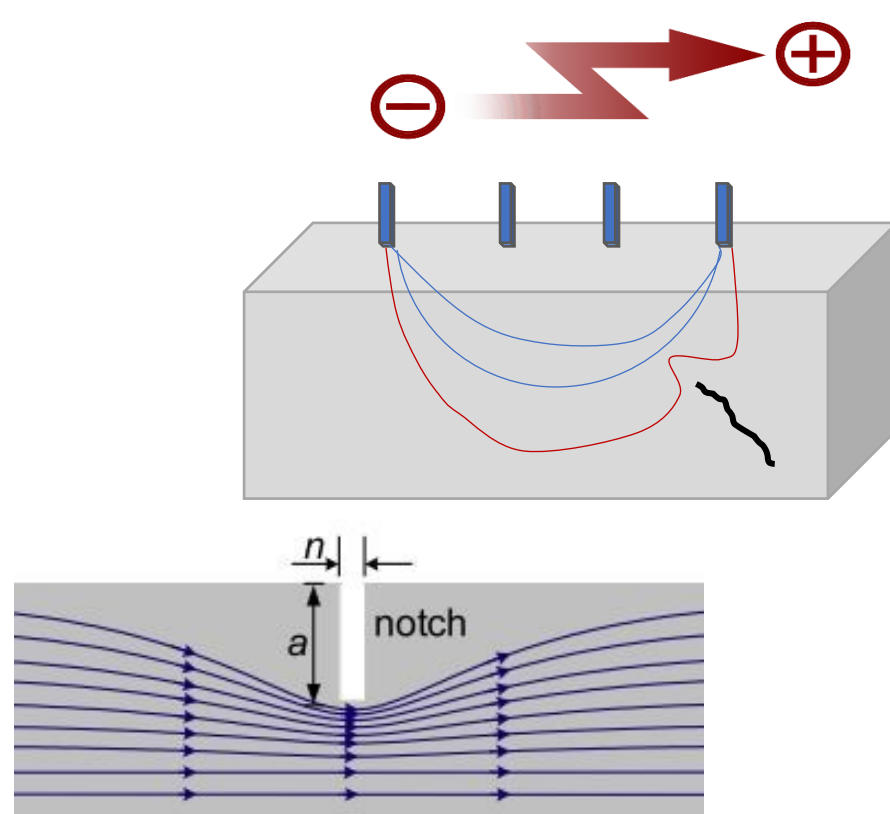


*Collapse of the Morandi Bridge,  
August 14<sup>th</sup> 2018, Genova, Italy*

**CONTINUOUS MONITORING**



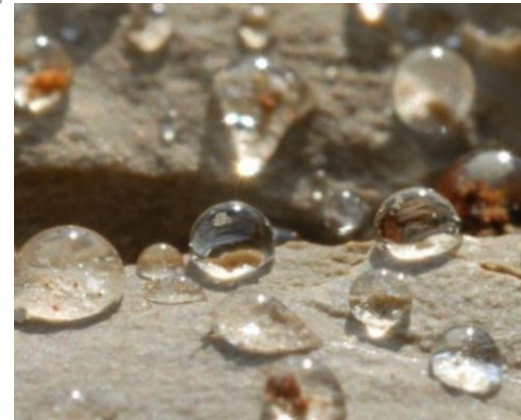
# SELF-SENSING CONCRETE



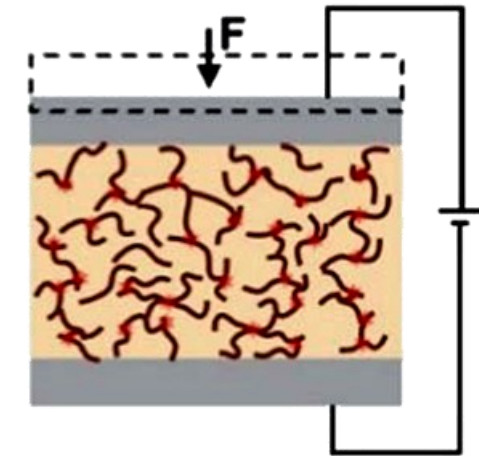
✓ Cracking



Self-sensing is the ability of a material to perceive its own condition, as

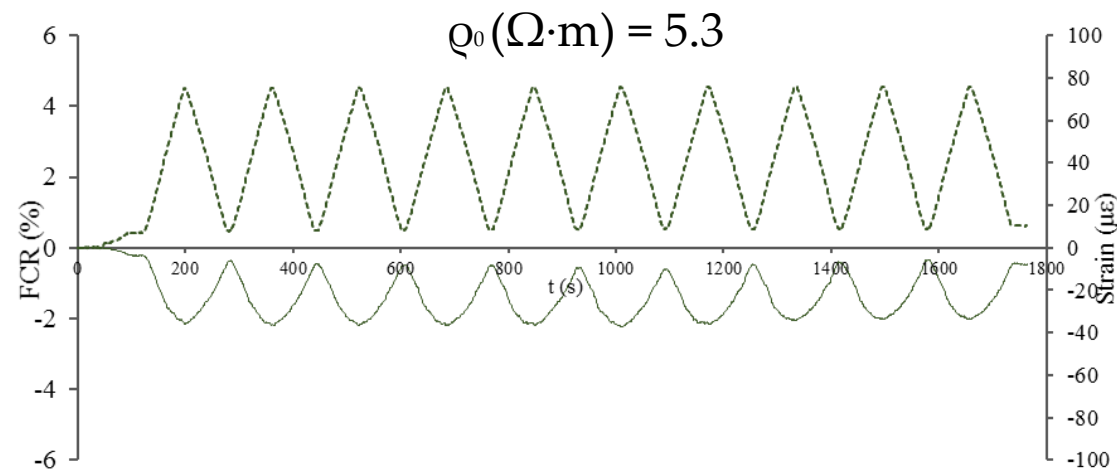
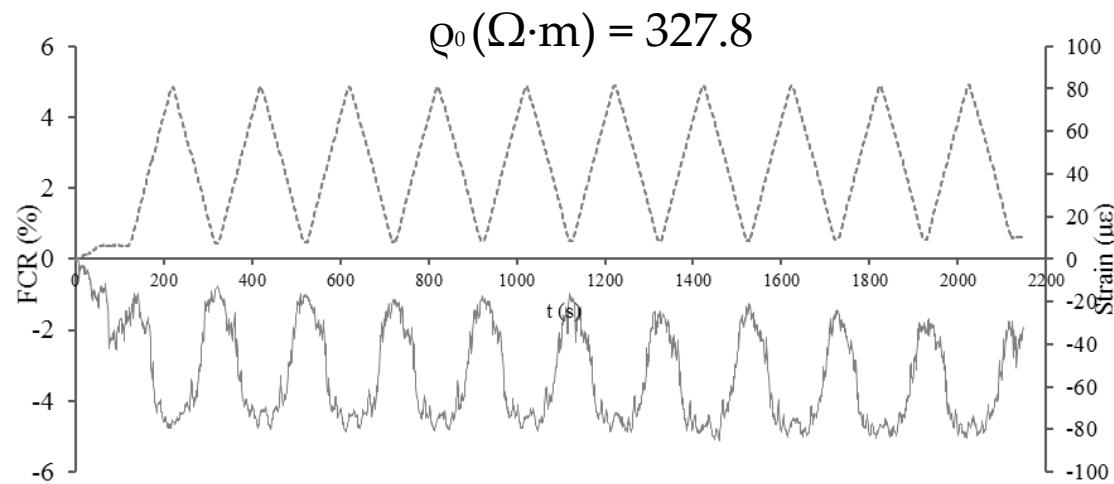


✓ Water/Aggressive substances penetration

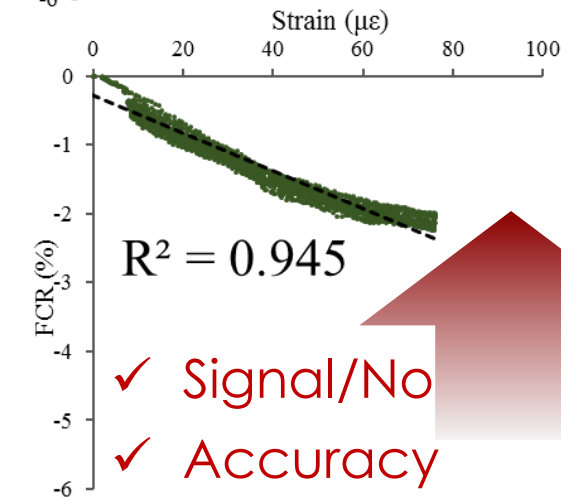
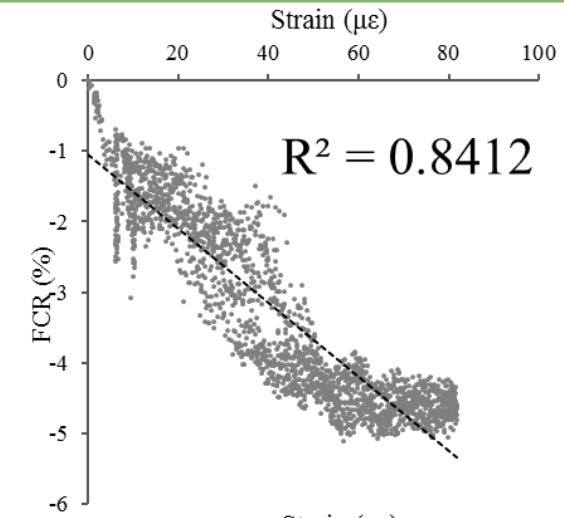


✓ Strain

# SELF-SENSING CONCRETE



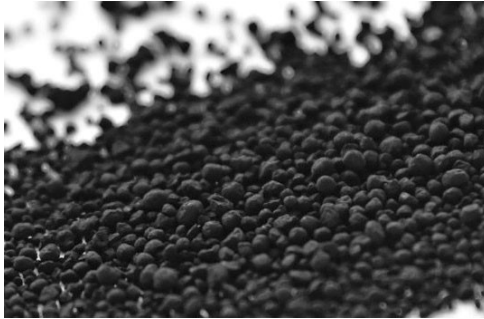
*Belli et al. (2018)*



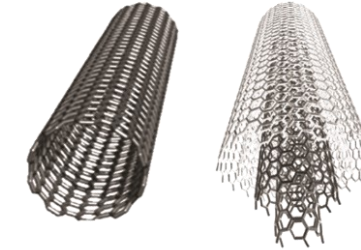
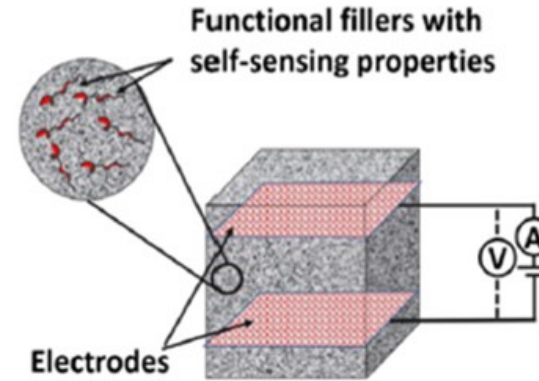
- ✓ Signal/No
- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Low-cost instrumentation



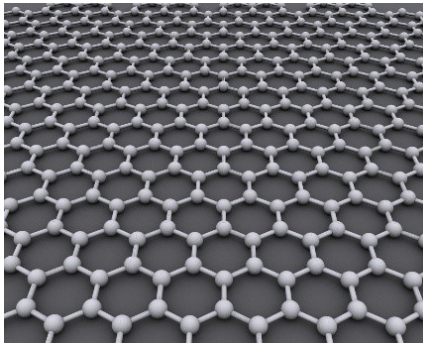
# Commercial additions for self-sensing concrete



Carbon black



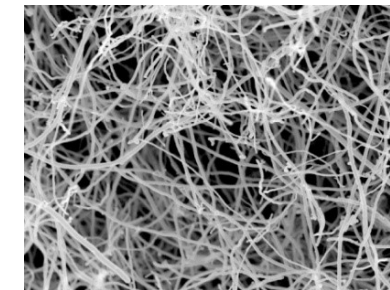
Carbon Nananotubes



Graphene

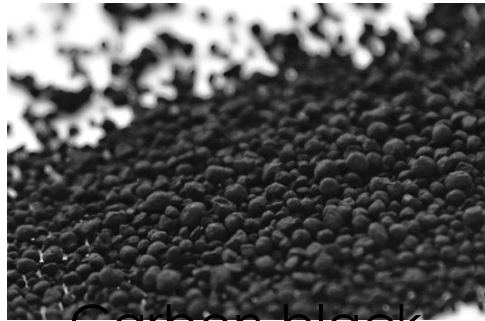


High Electrical  
Conductivity



Carbon Nanofibers

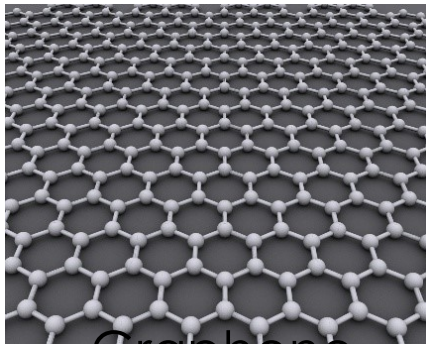
# Commercial additions for self-sensing concrete



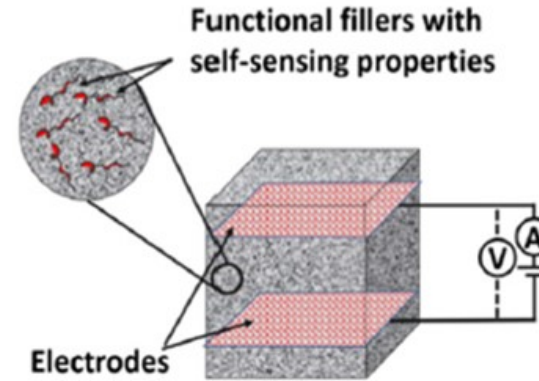
Carbon black



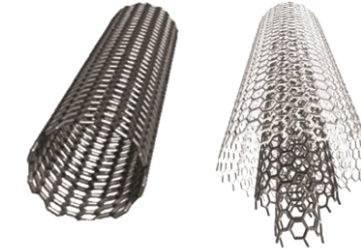
High Cost



Graphene



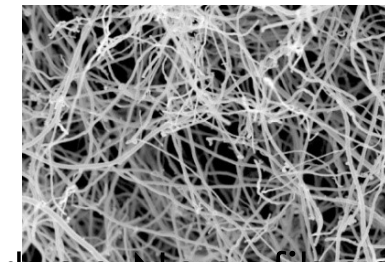
High Electrical  
Conductivity



Carbon Nananotubes



High  
Toxicity

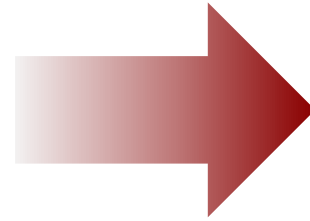


Carbon Nanofibers

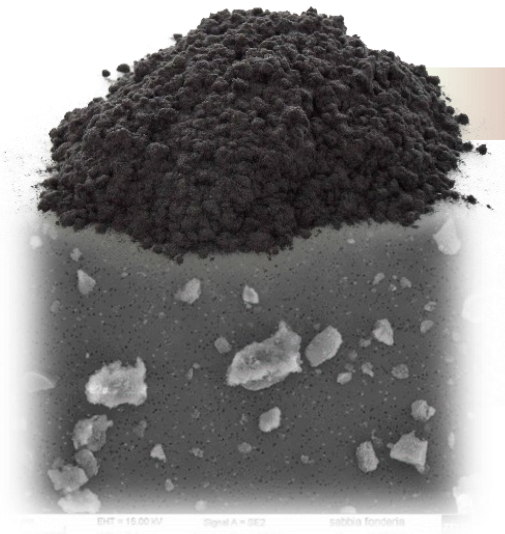


# Innovative carbon-based additions for self-sensing concrete

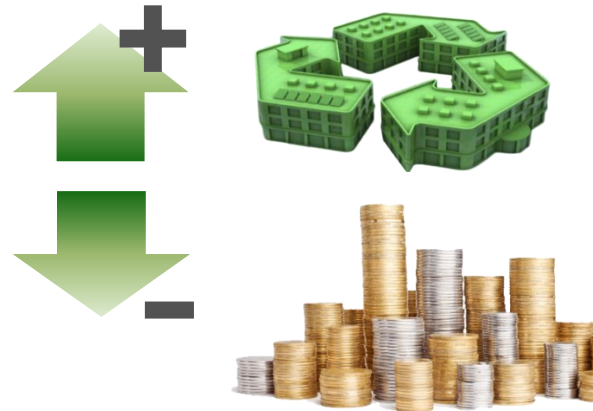
CARBON BASED  
ADDITIONS



INDUSTRIAL  
BY-PRODUCTS

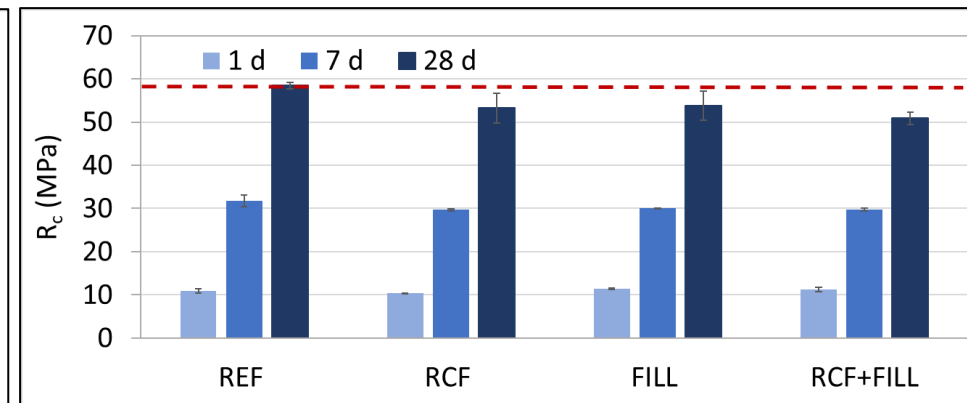
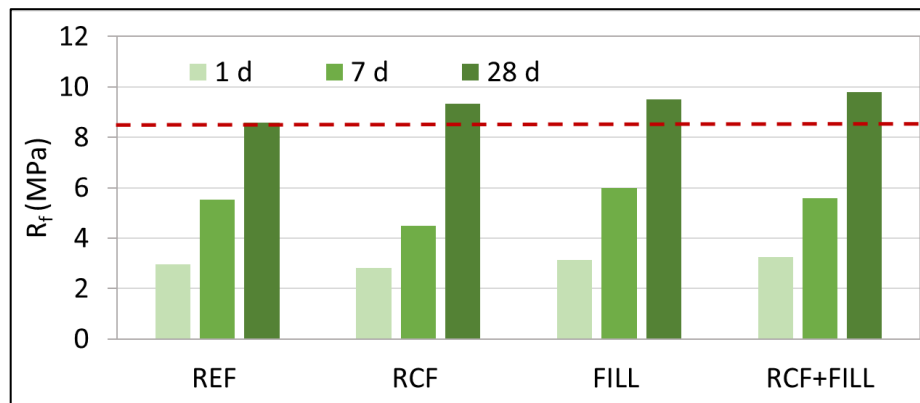
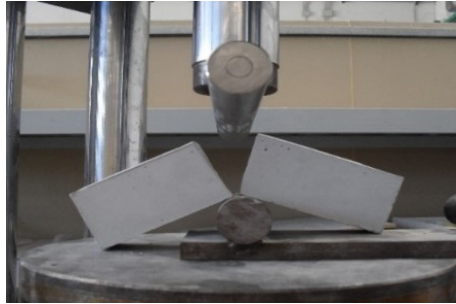
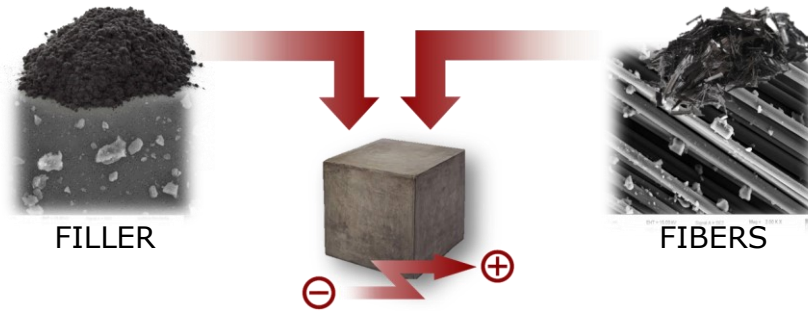


✓ BIOCHAR



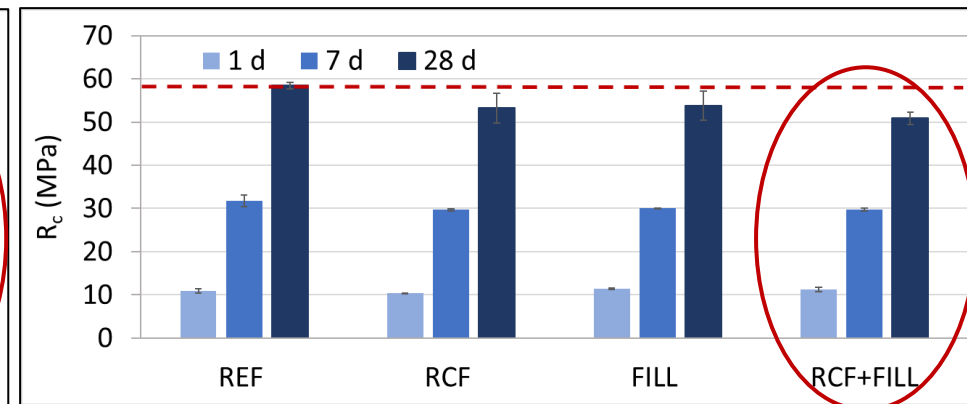
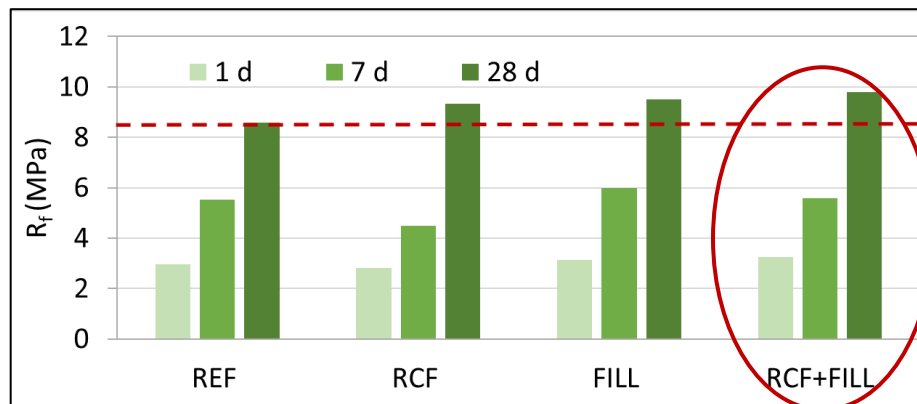
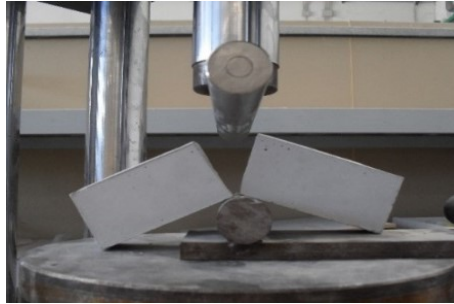
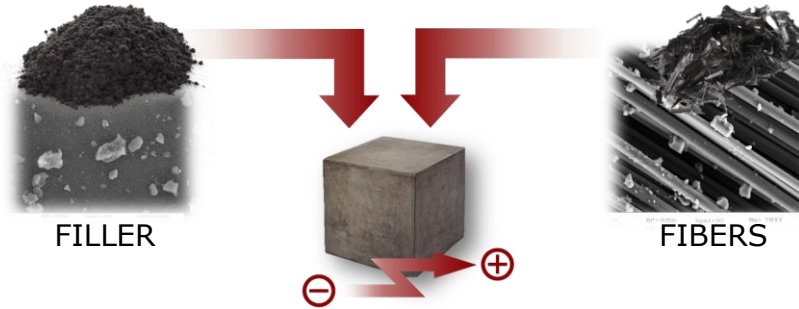
✓ RECYCLED  
CARBON FIBERS

# Mechanical performances

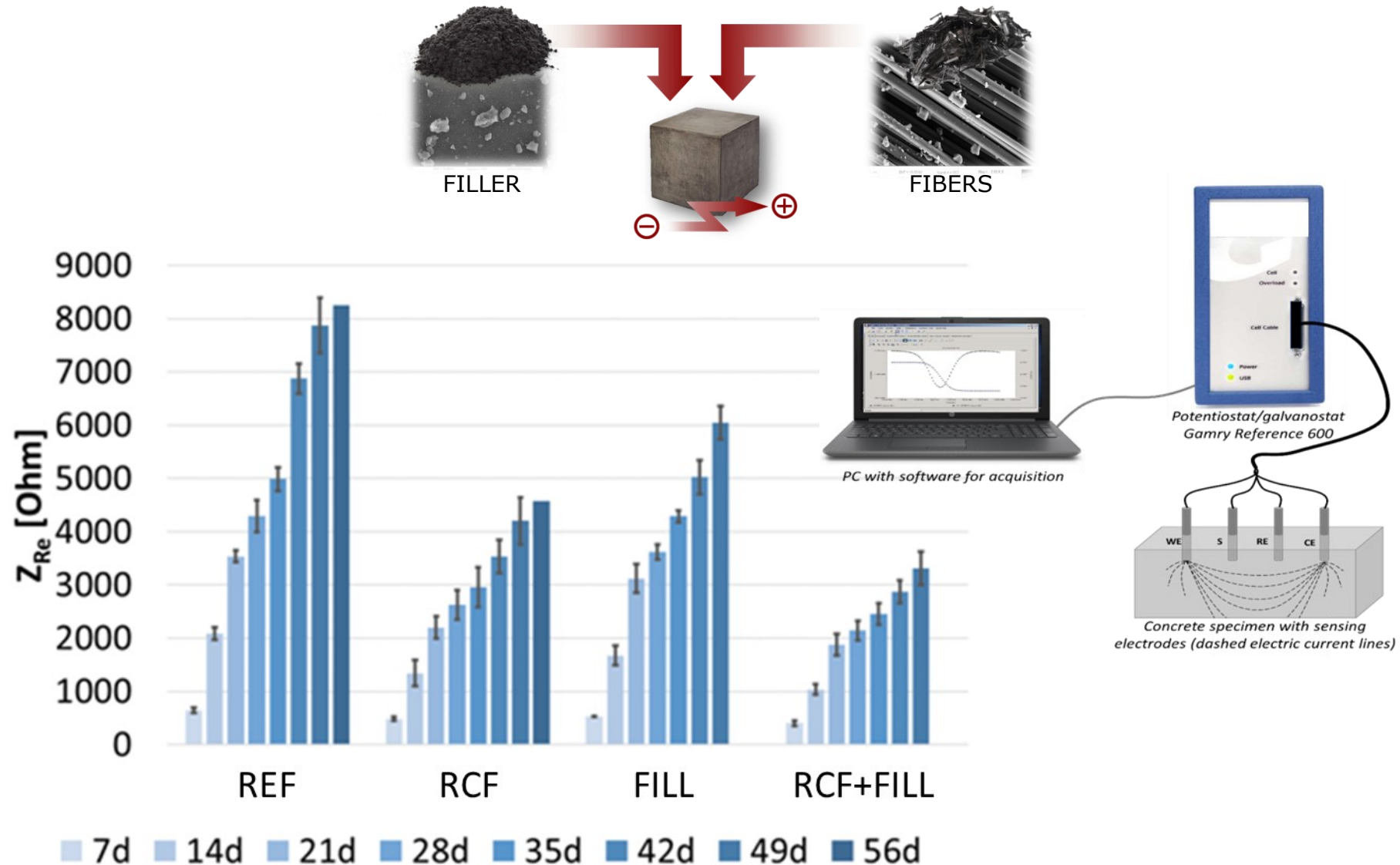




# Mechanical performances

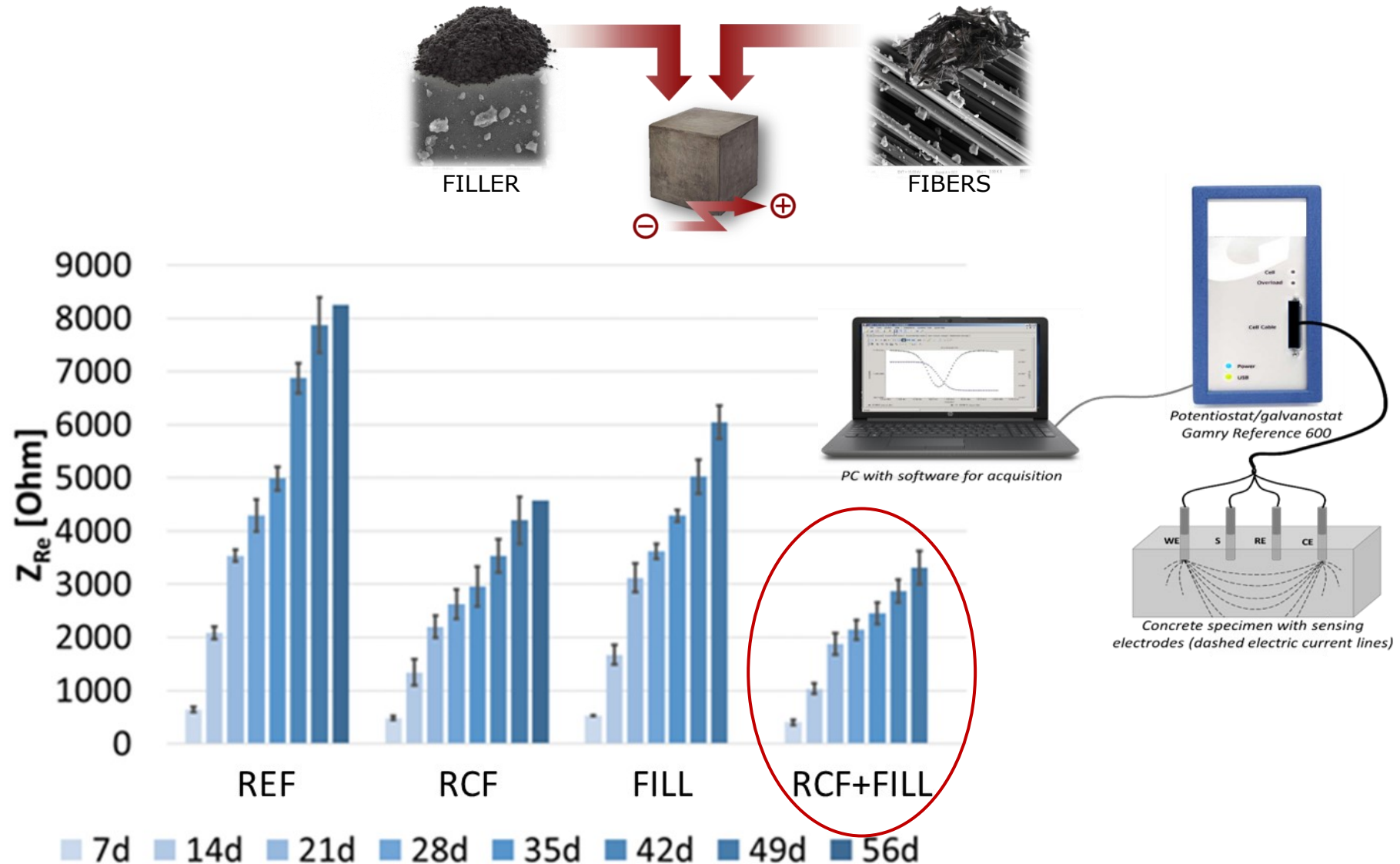


# Electrical performances

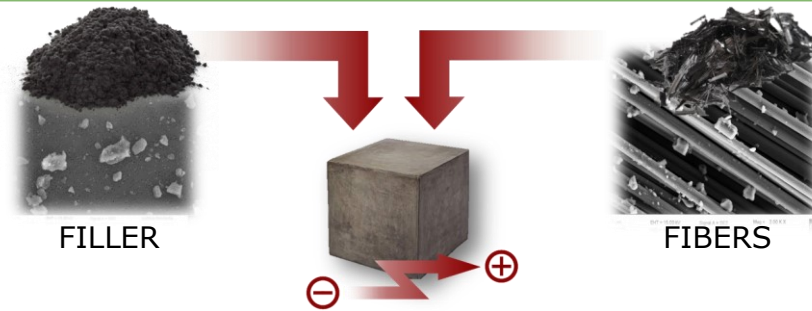




# Electrical performances

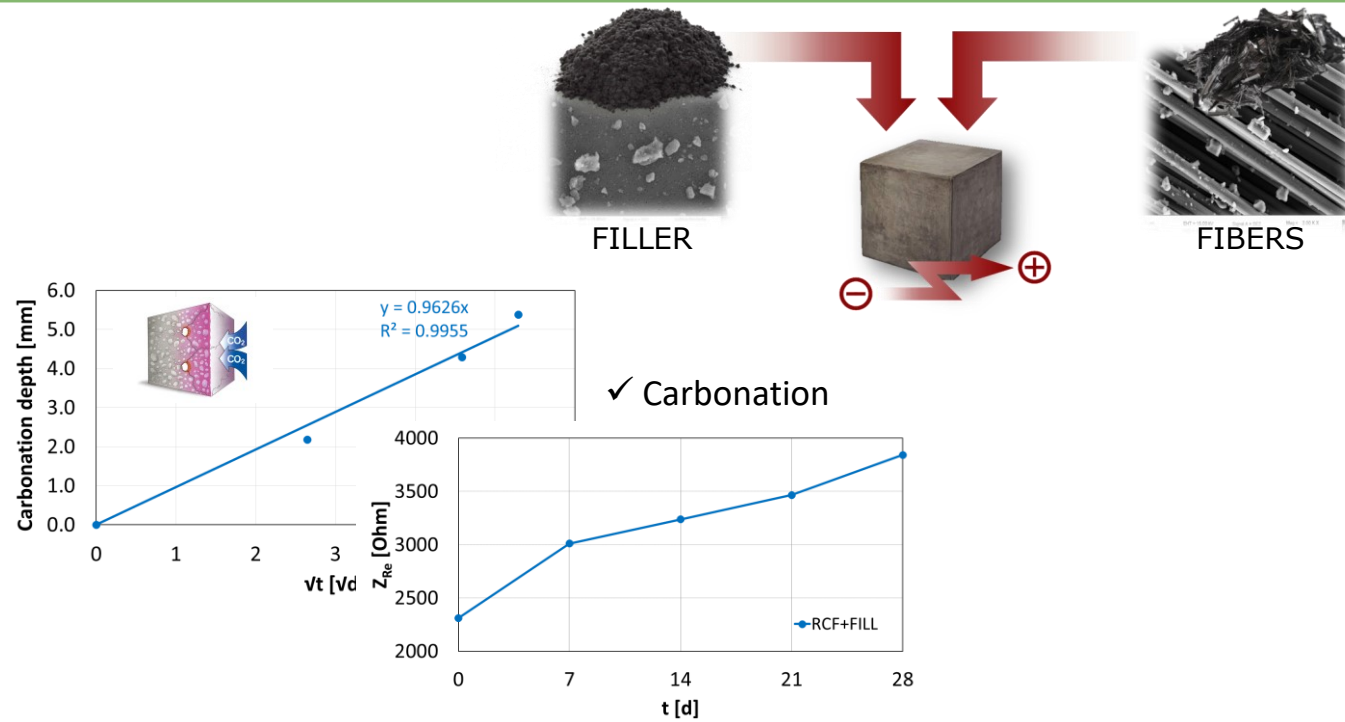


# Self-sensing performances

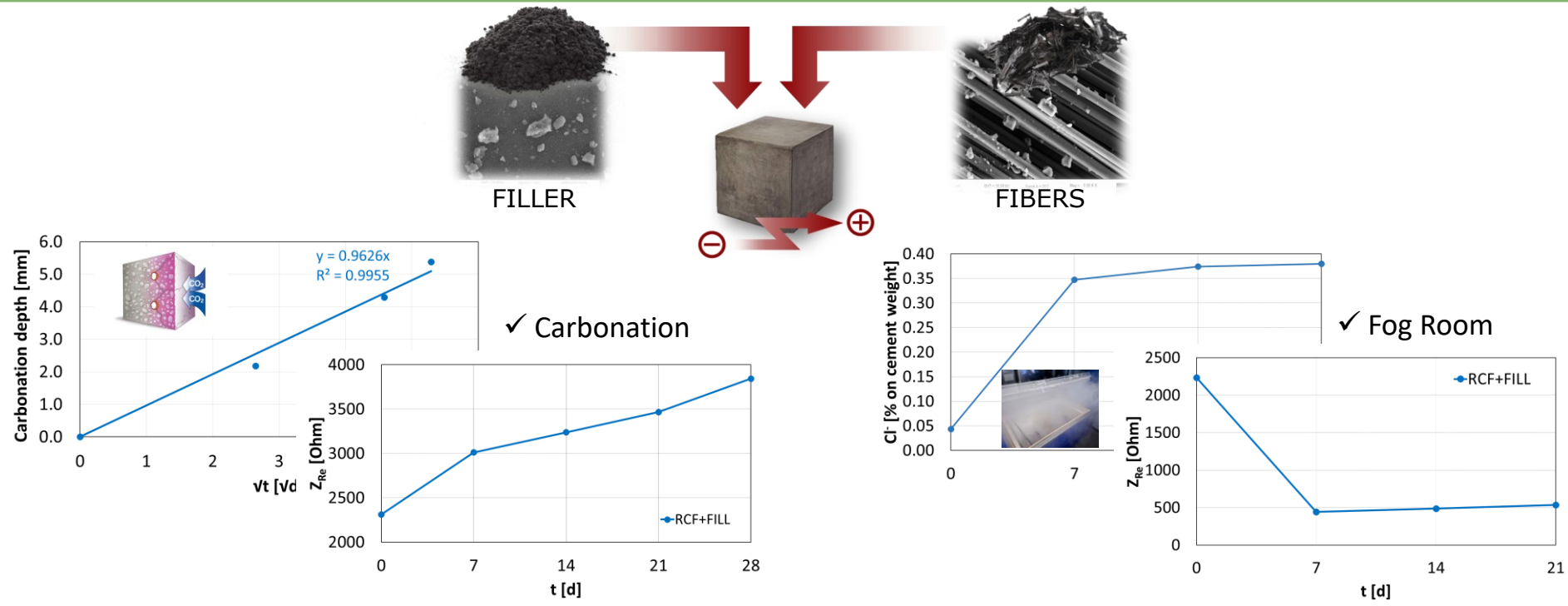




# Self-sensing performances

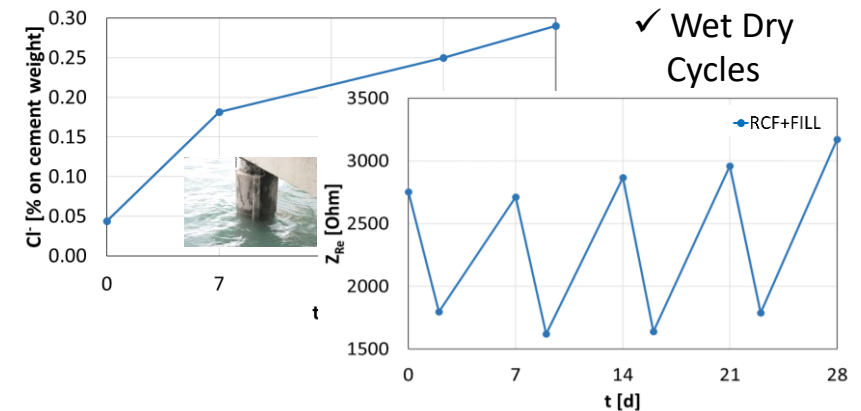
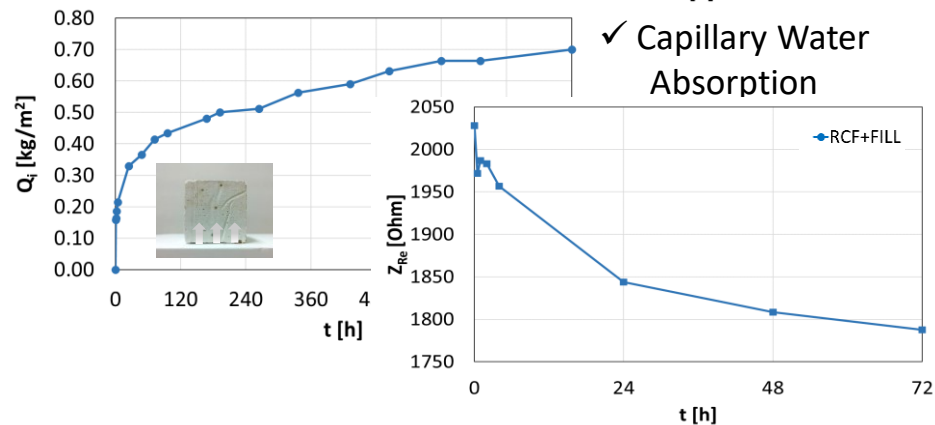
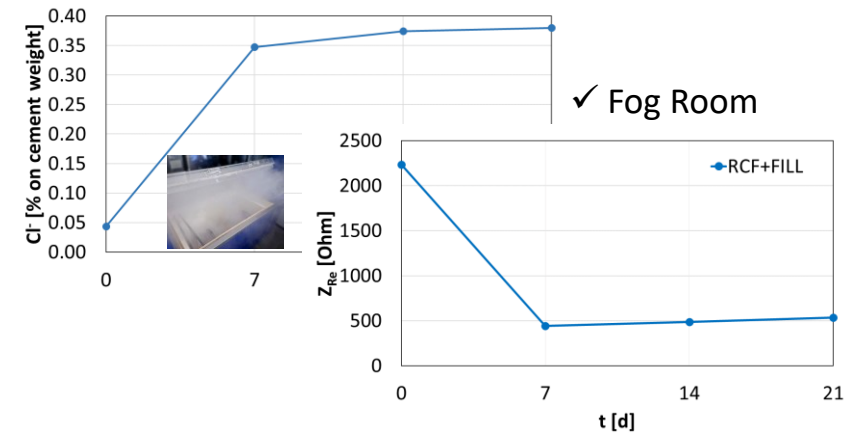
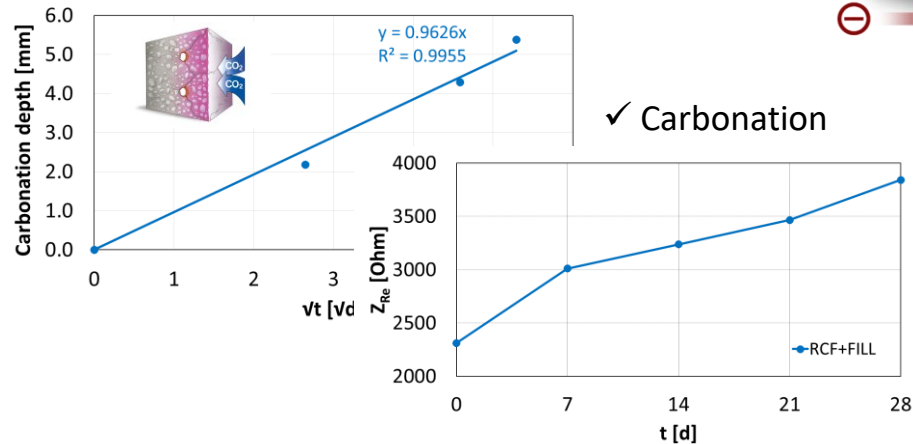
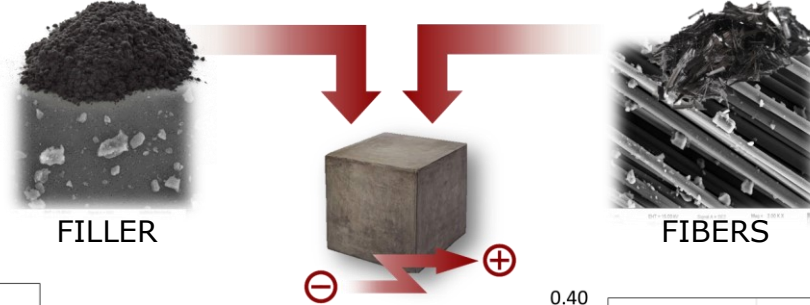


# Self-sensing performances

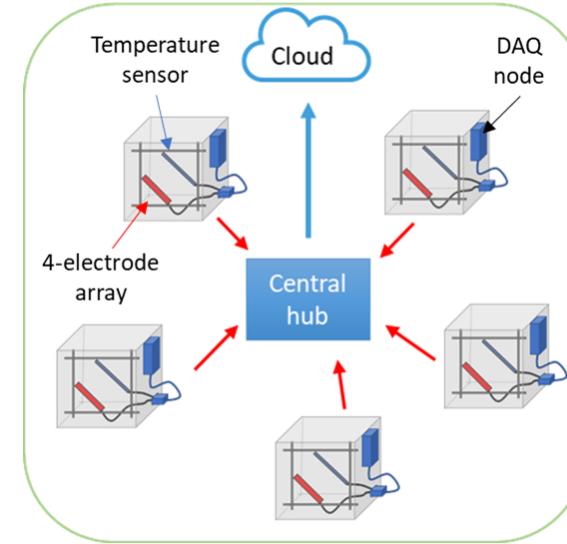
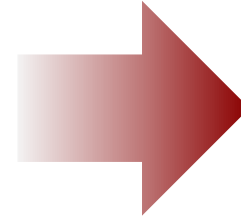




# Self-sensing performances

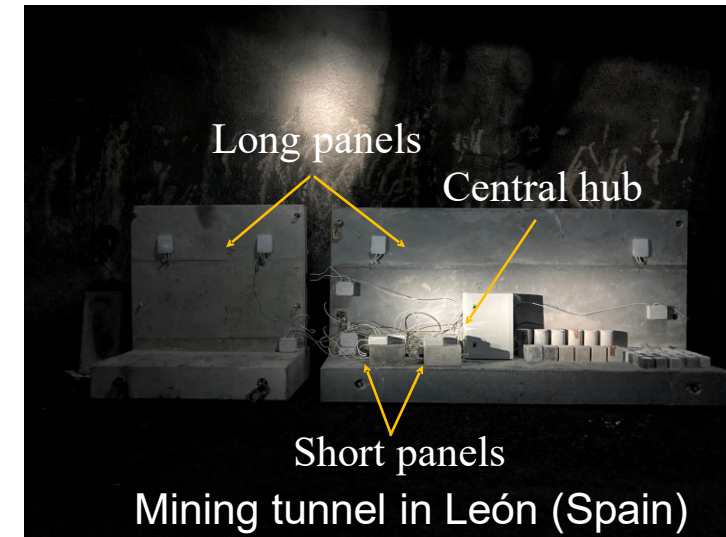
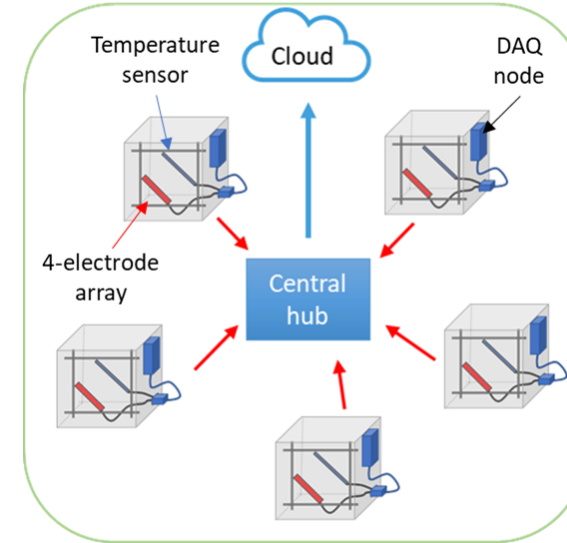
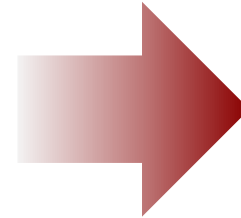


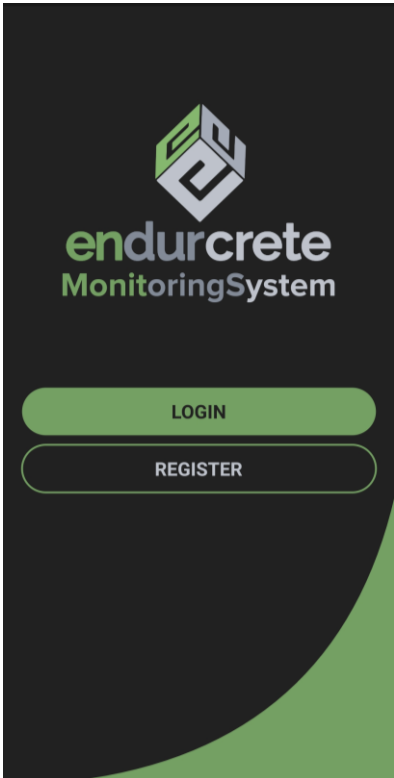
# Monitoring system by self-sensing concrete blocks





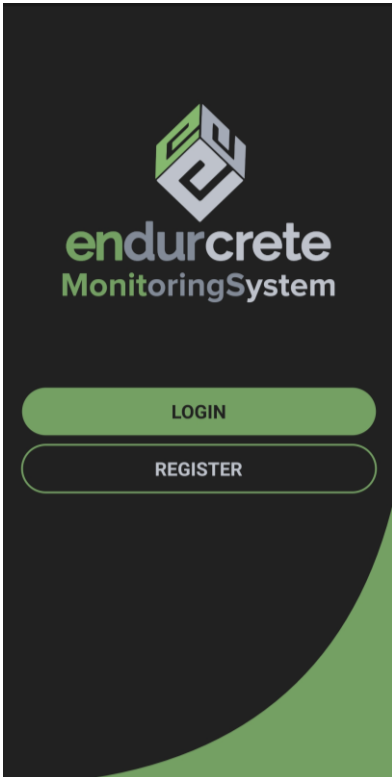
# Monitoring system by self-sensing concrete blocks



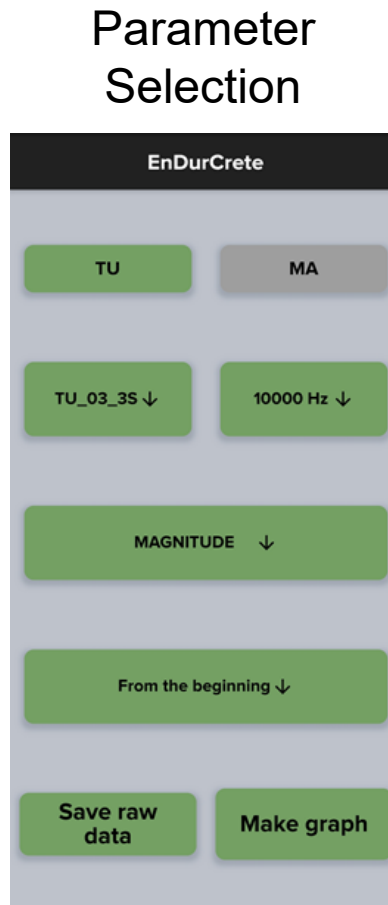


Home Page

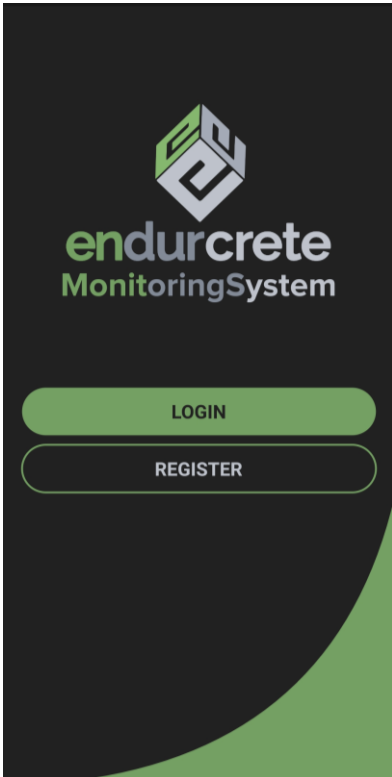




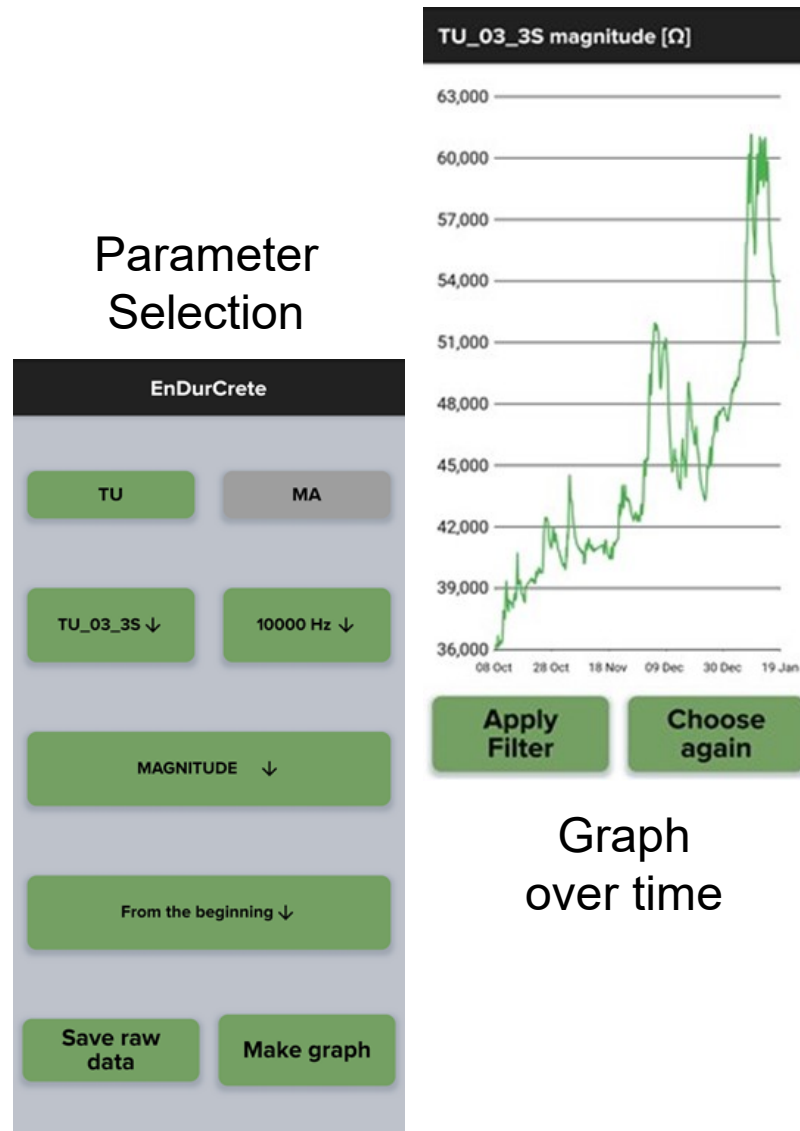
Home Page



# Monitoring system by self-sensing concrete blocks: Mobile Application



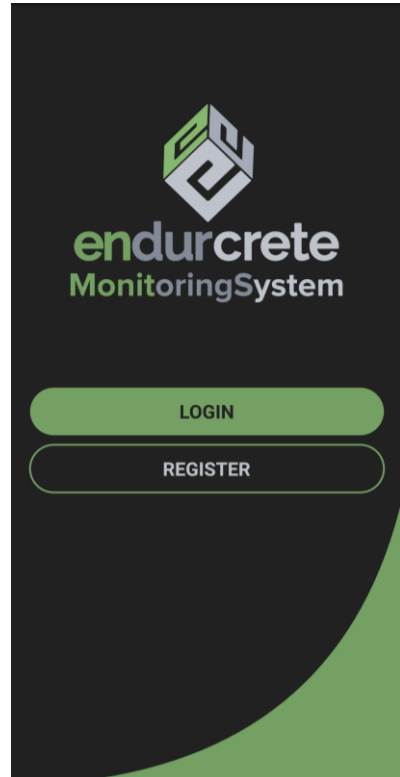
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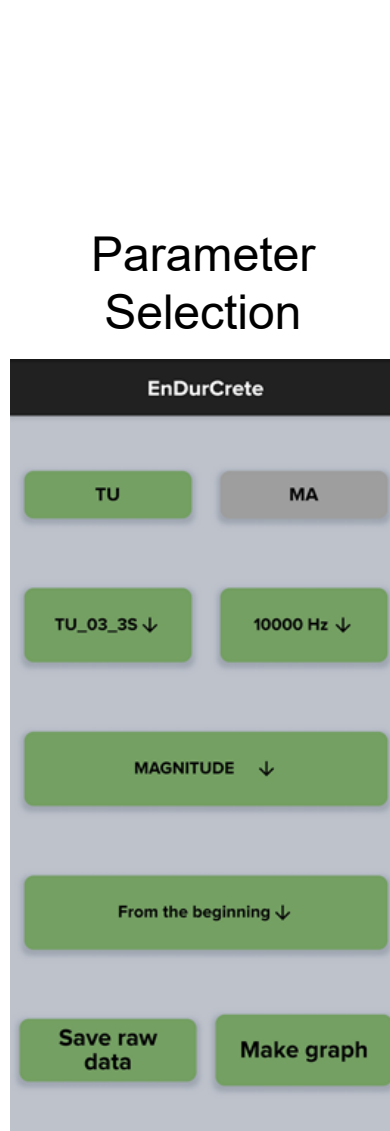
Graph over time



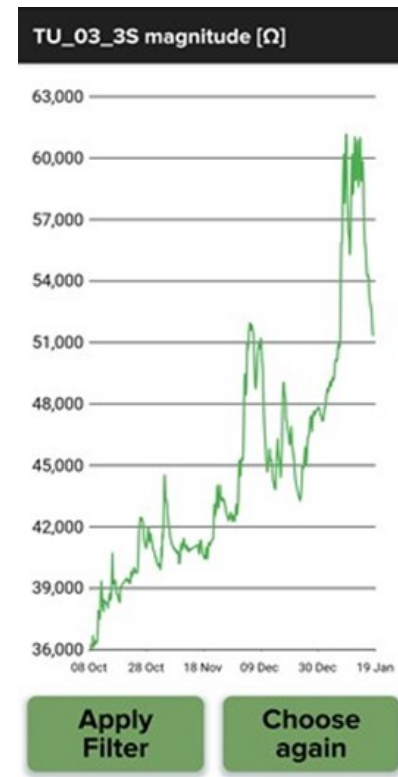
# Monitoring system by self-sensing concrete blocks: Mobile Application



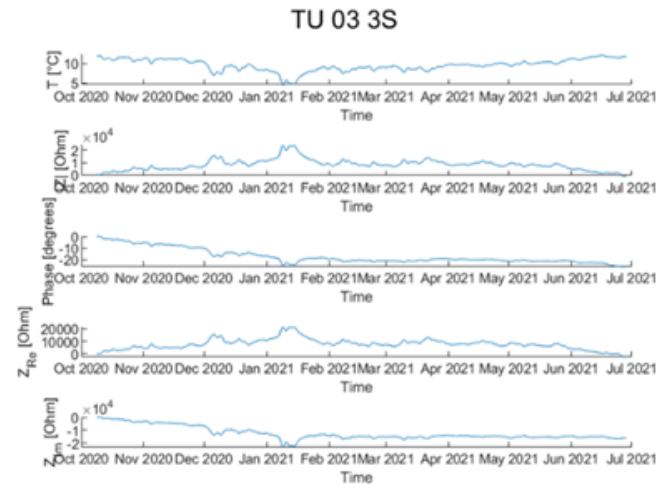
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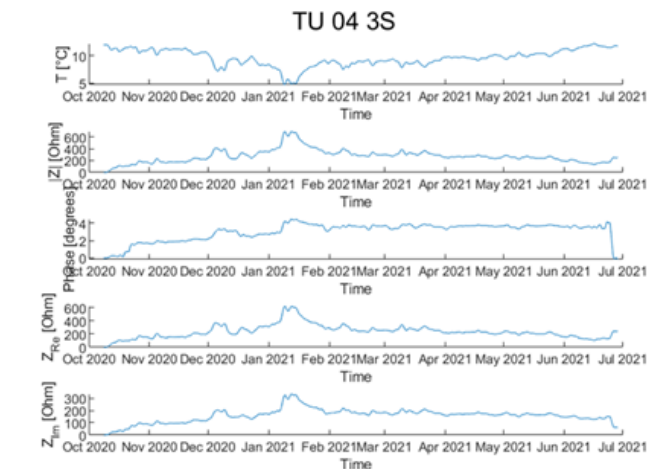
Parameter Selection



Graph over time

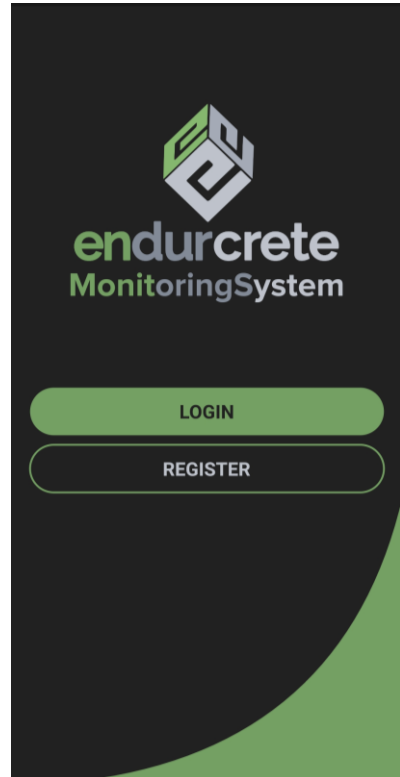


without conductive additions

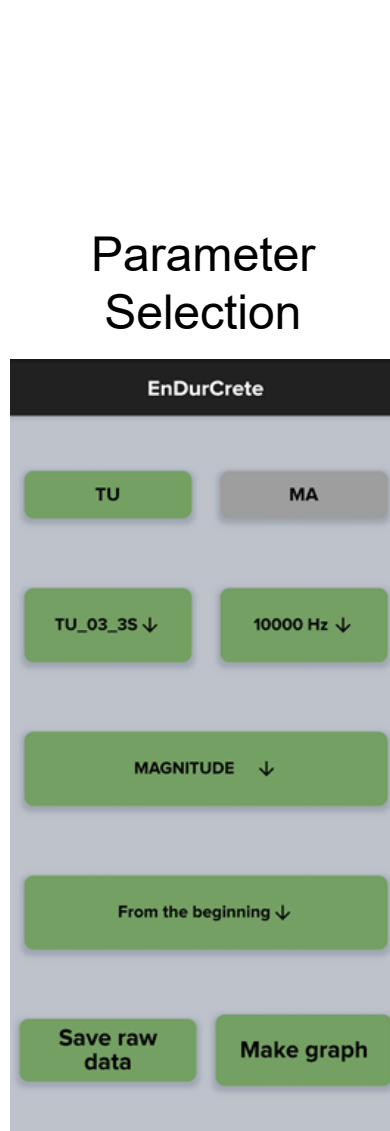


with conductive additions

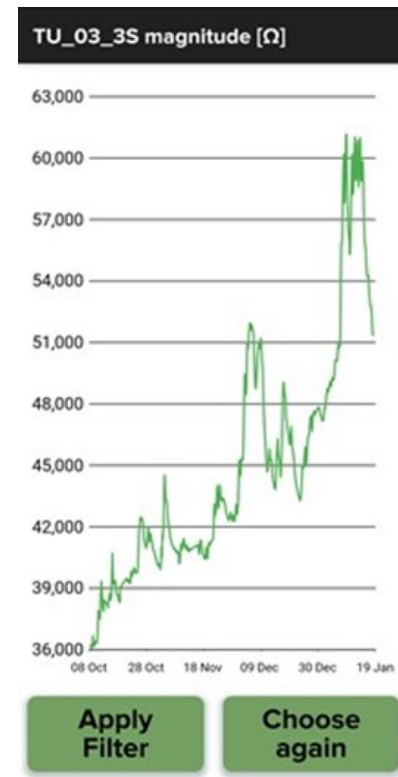
# Monitoring system by self-sensing concrete blocks: Mobile Application



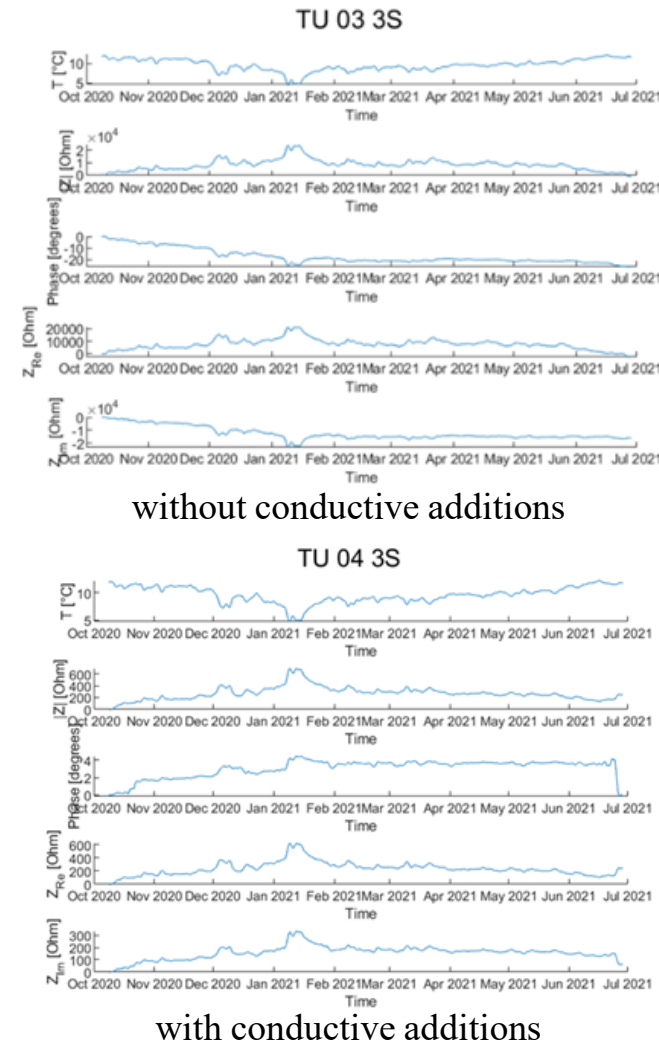
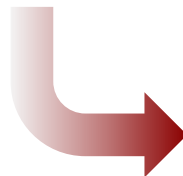
Home Page



Parameter Selection



Graph over time



Main outcomes:

- ✓ signals measured in the panels with conductive additions have a higher SNR with respect to those measured in the panels without additions
- ✓ the monitoring system did not show any faults during the demo test activities
- ✓ data were not affected by any issues attributable to the aggressive exposure





# Textile Reinforced Concrete panels sensorized with distributed Fiber Optic Sensors

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**PAOLO ANTONIO CORVAGLIA**

Project Manager and Research  
Coordinator at Rina Consulting

**Paolo Corvaglia/Rina Consulting S. p. A.**



# Background and concept

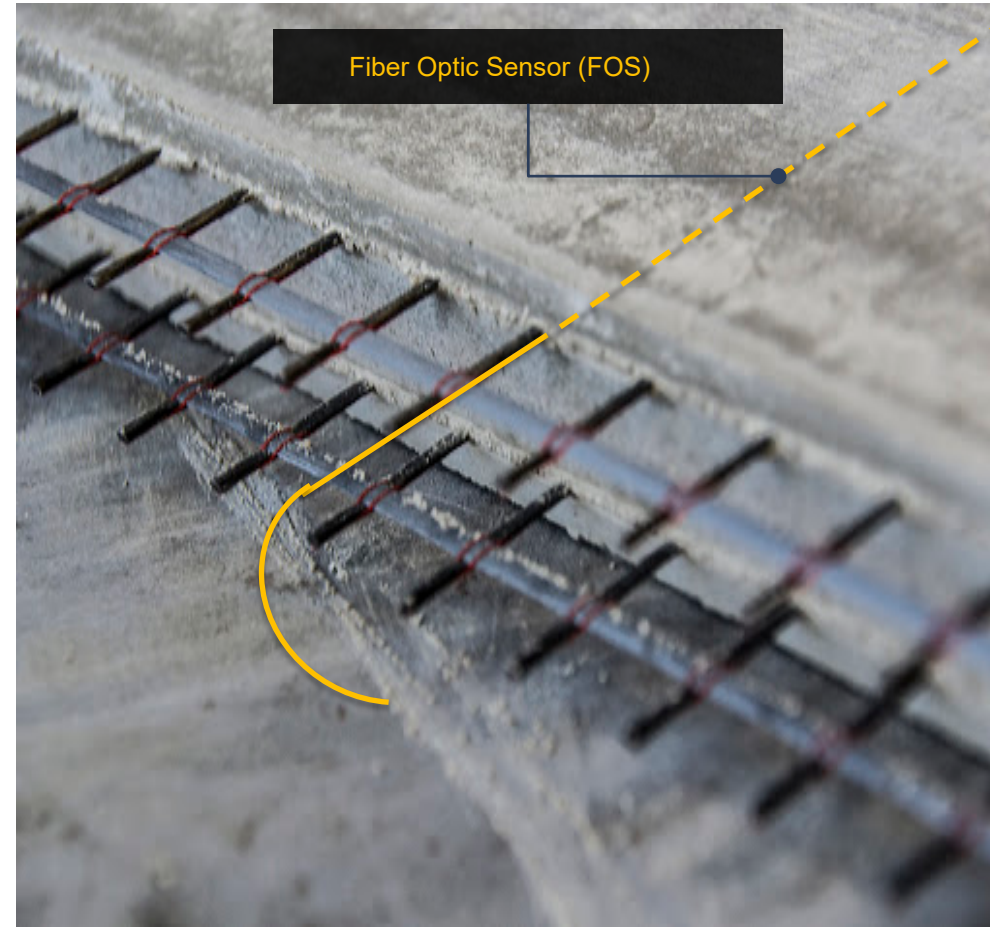
## Textile-Reinforced Concrete (TRC)



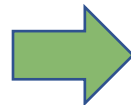
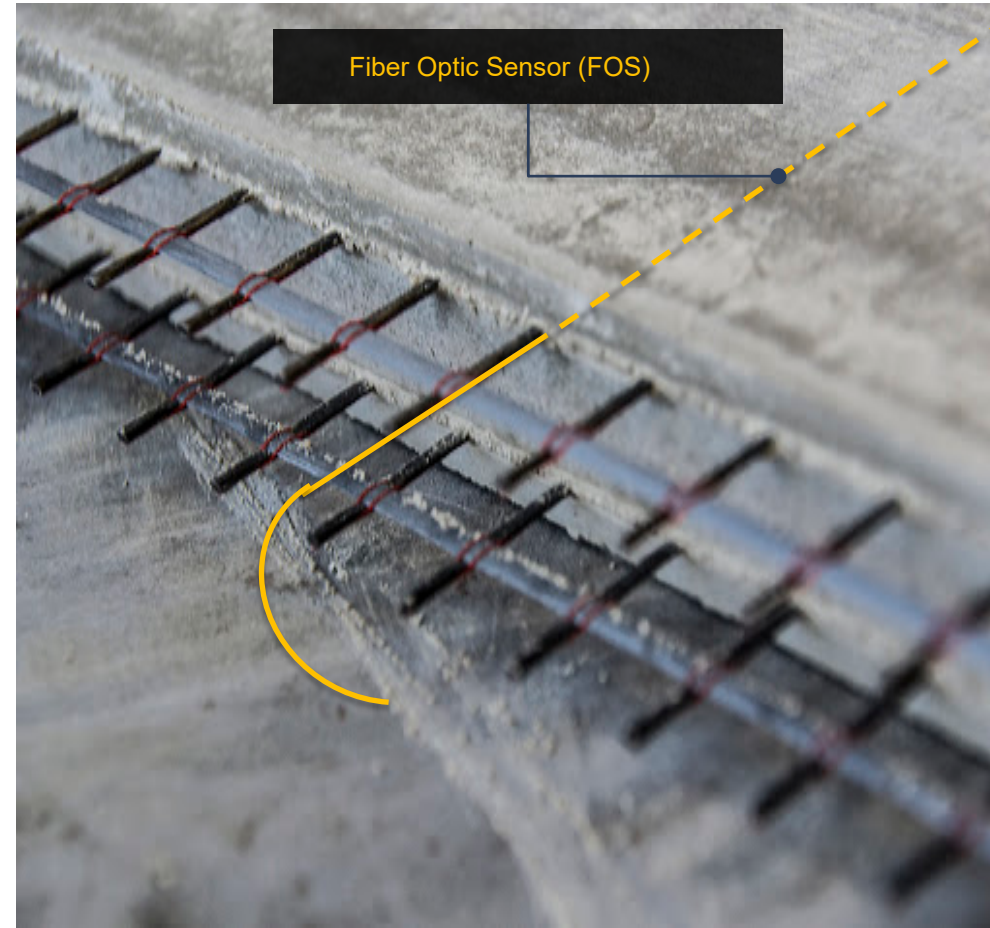
TRC is an innovative cement-based composite material, taking advantage of the non-corrosive nature of fiber materials (such as AR-glass, carbon, or aramid) for realizing slender and durable concrete structural elements.



## Sensorized Textile-Reinforced Concrete (TRC)



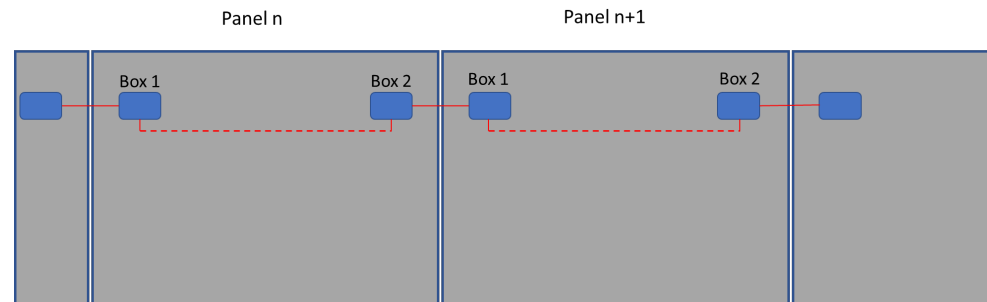
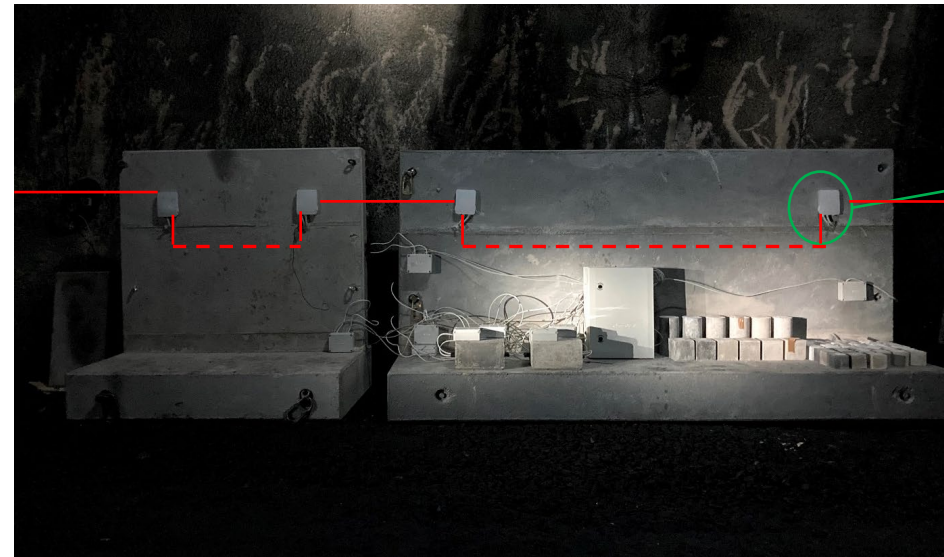
## Sensorized Textile-Reinforced Concrete (TRC)



Built-in structural monitoring capability



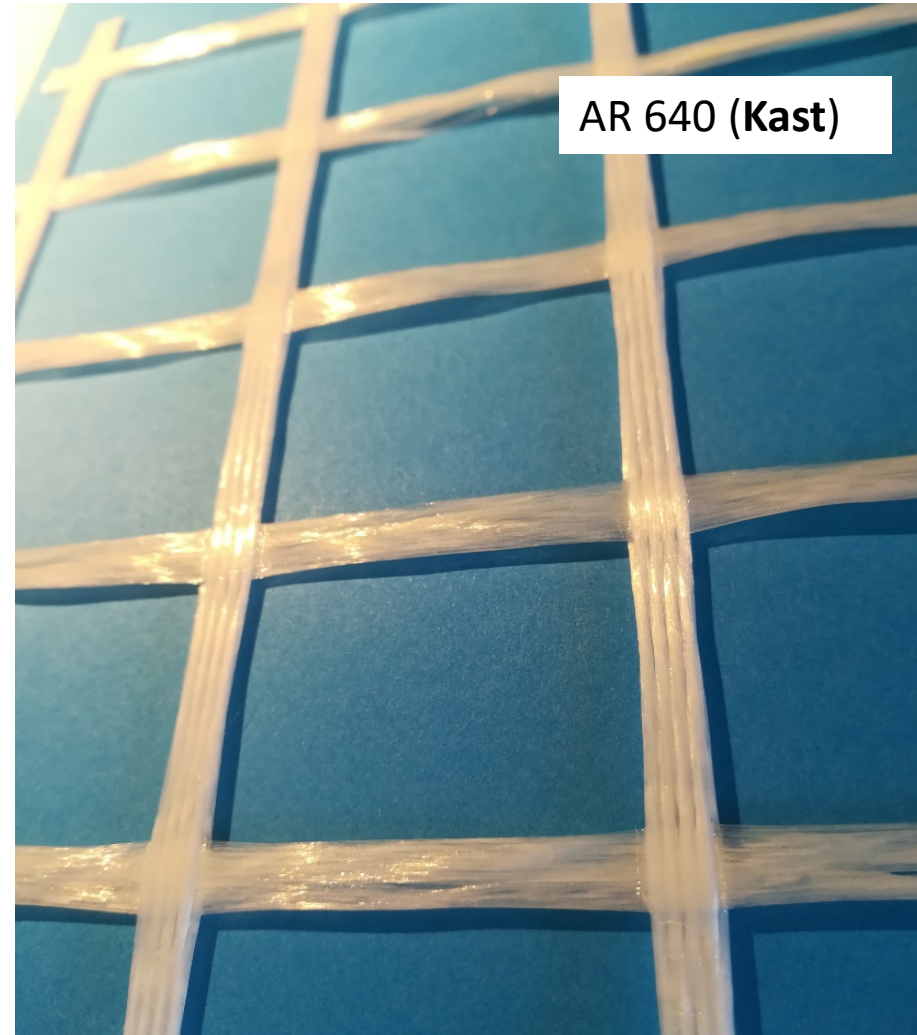
## Sensorized Textile-Reinforced Concrete (TRC): modular solution



----- Internal optical line (concrete-embedded sensor)  
—— External optical line (connection)

## Textile

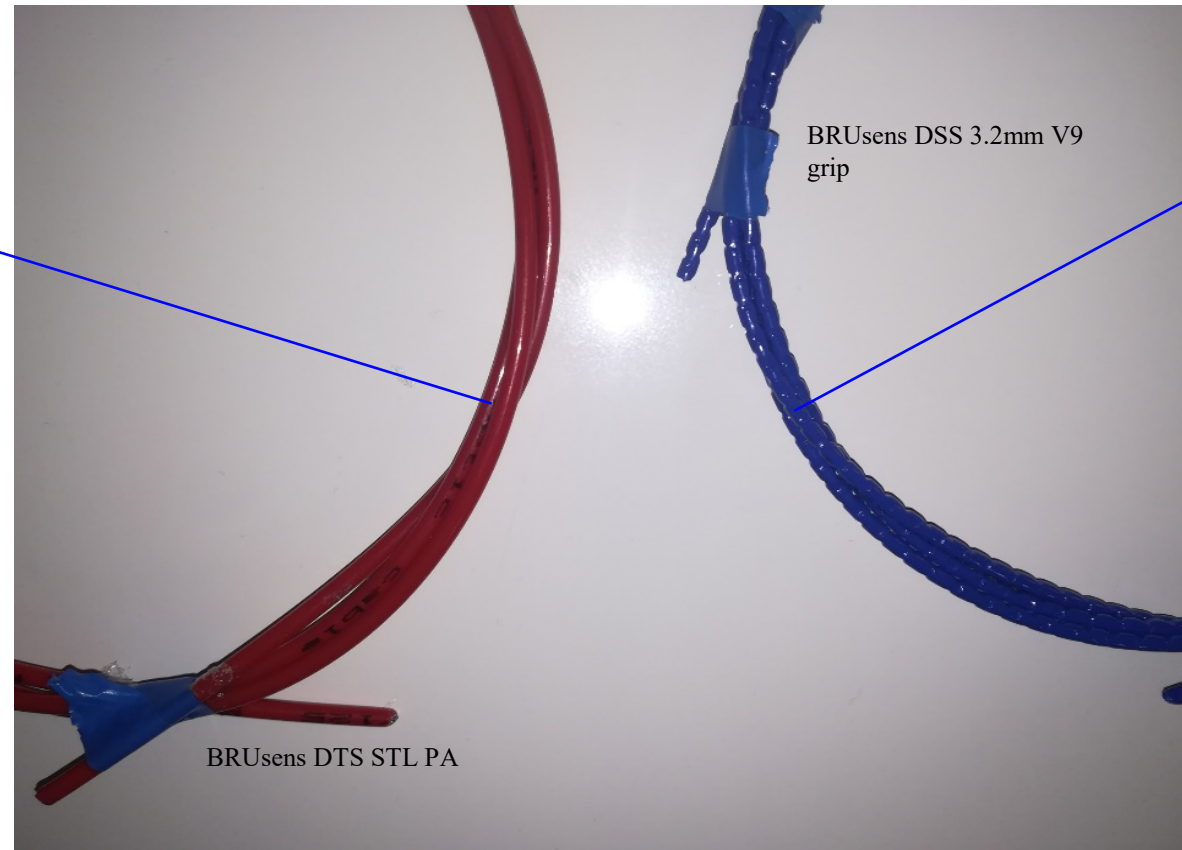
- Fibers material: AR-glass
- Textile structure:
  - Leno woven fabric
  - Mesh opening 3cm x 3cm
  - SBR coating





## Sensor system

strain insensitive cable for  
thermal compensation

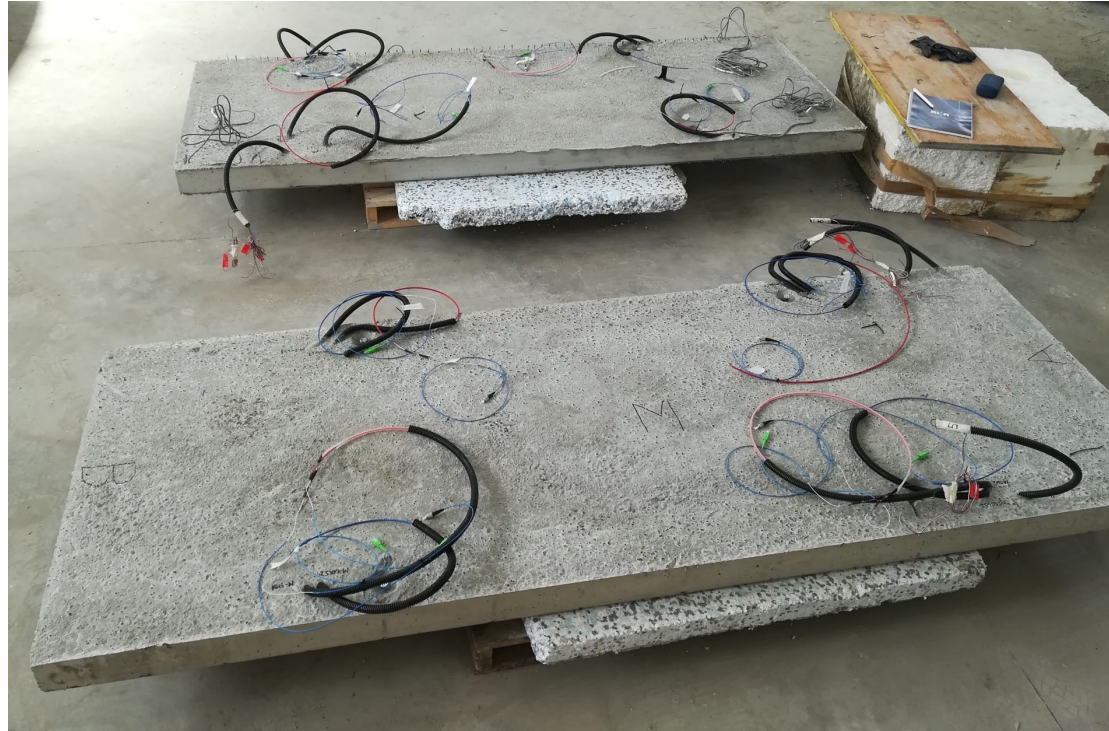


strain sensitive cable

# Design, production and testing

Sample A: reference (ordinary r.c.)

Sample B: Sensorized TRC



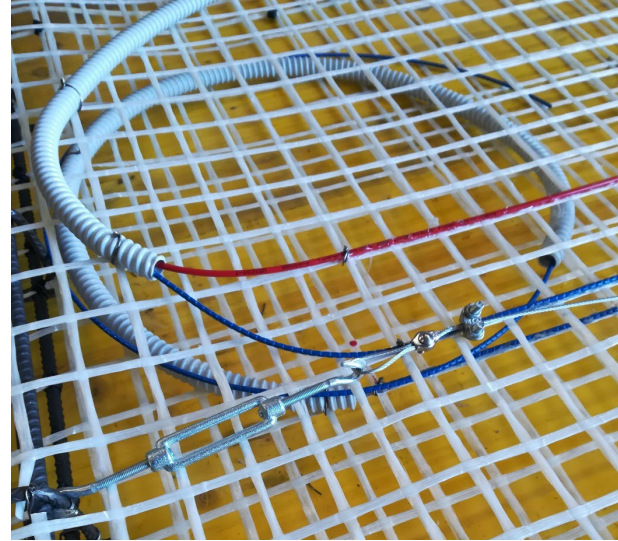
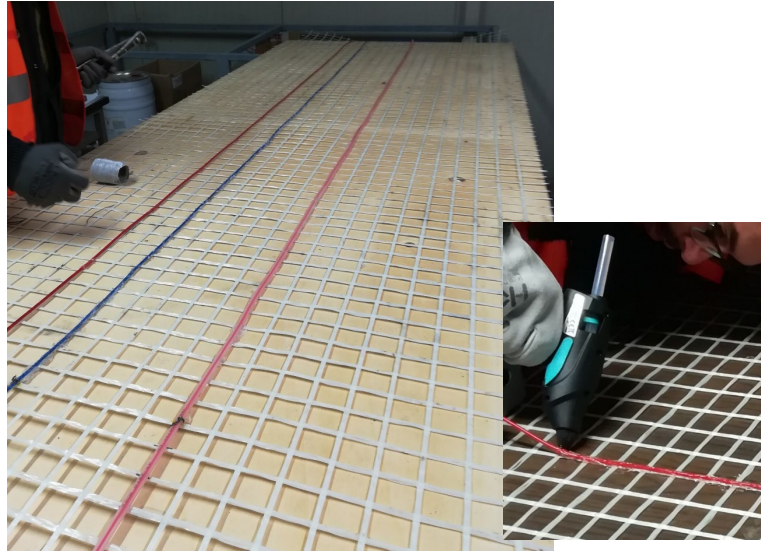
Same stiffness

Overall dimensions 250x90x10 cm



# Design, production and testing

Textile preparation and sensor fastening and protection



Mould preparation



Demoulding



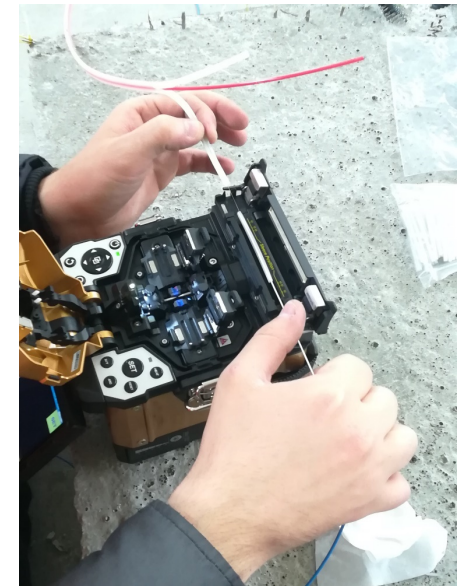
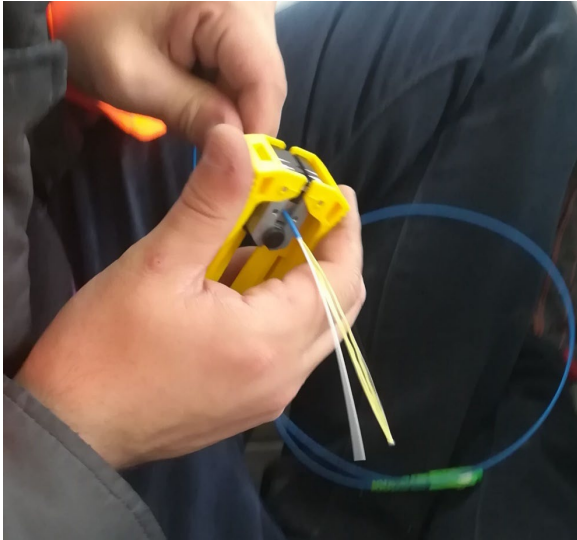
Concrete casting





# Design, production and testing

## Application of standard optical connectors

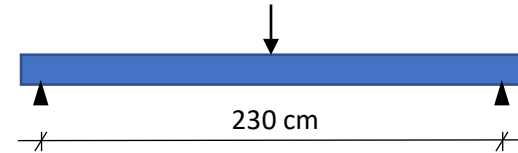




# Design, production and testing

## Flexure tests set-up

Loading scheme



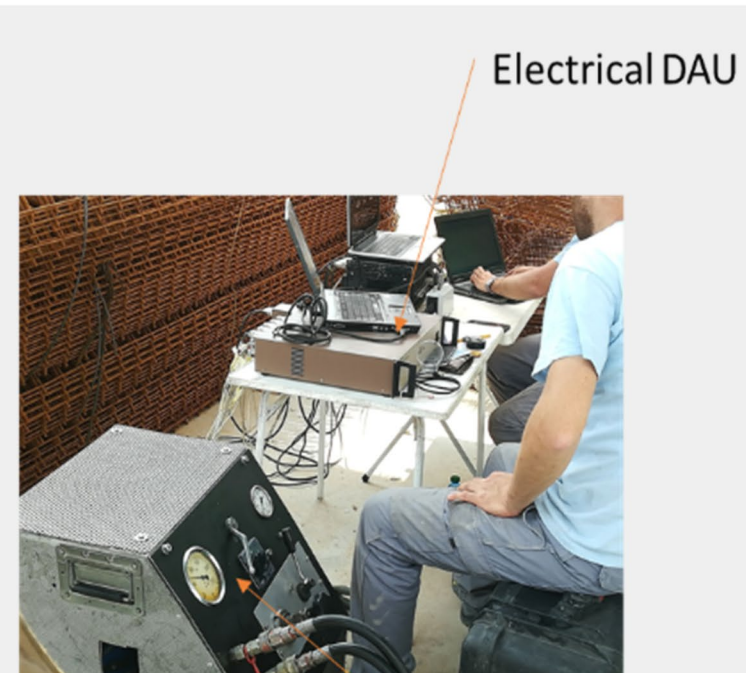
Experimental set-up



LVDT



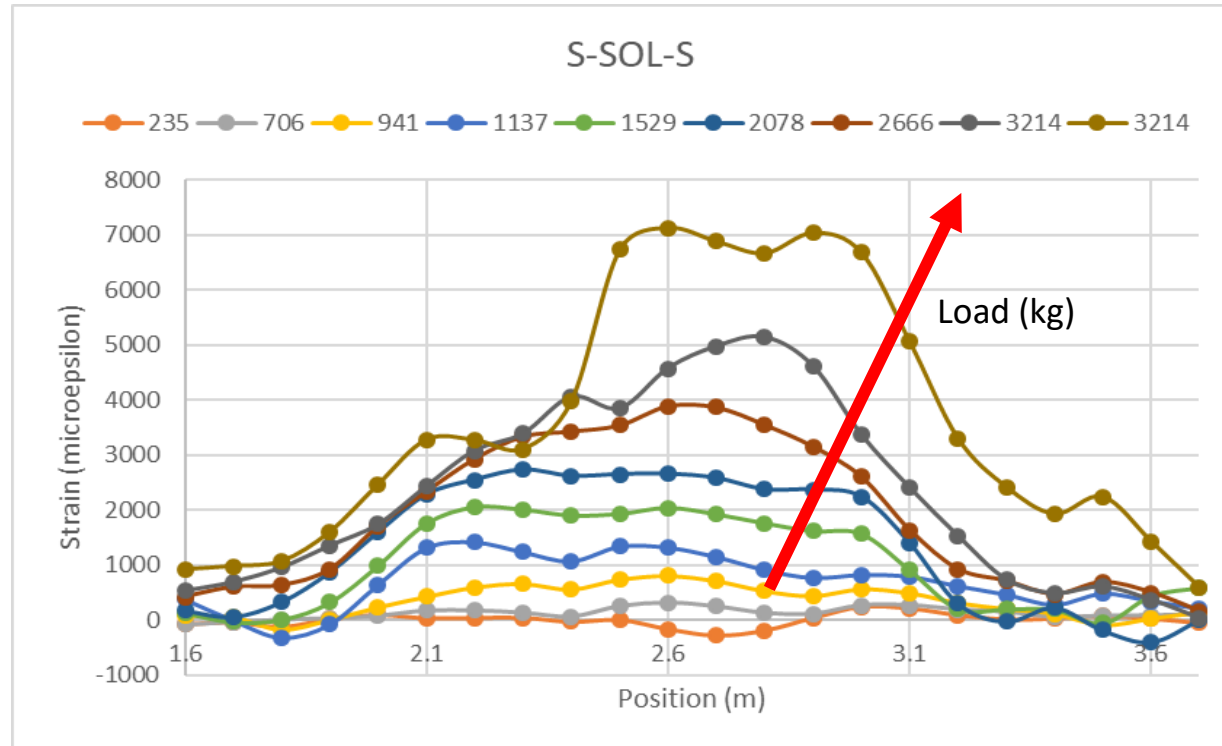
Hydraulic jacks



Loading pump

## Strain measurements capability

Sample B



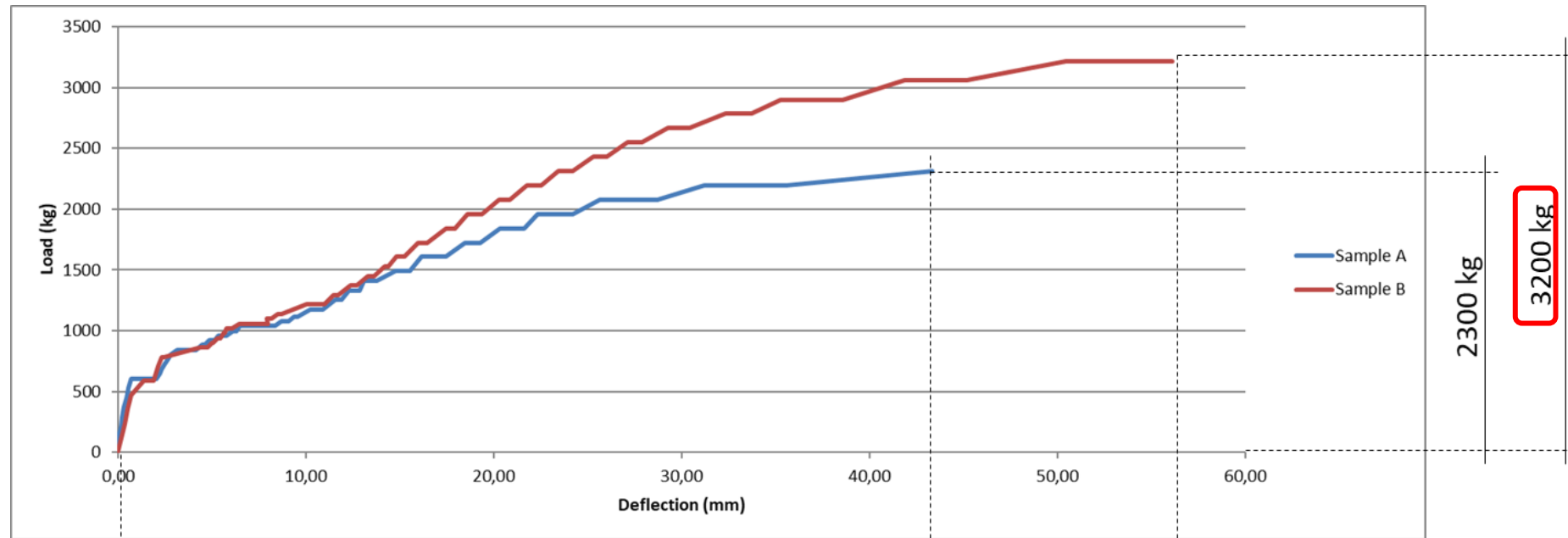
Main outcomes:

- Strain pattern as expected
- Comparable values vs. reference strain gages:





## Comparison between the two reinforcing systems



**+ 39% load  
carrying capacity**



**+30% ductility**

# Prototyping and field validation

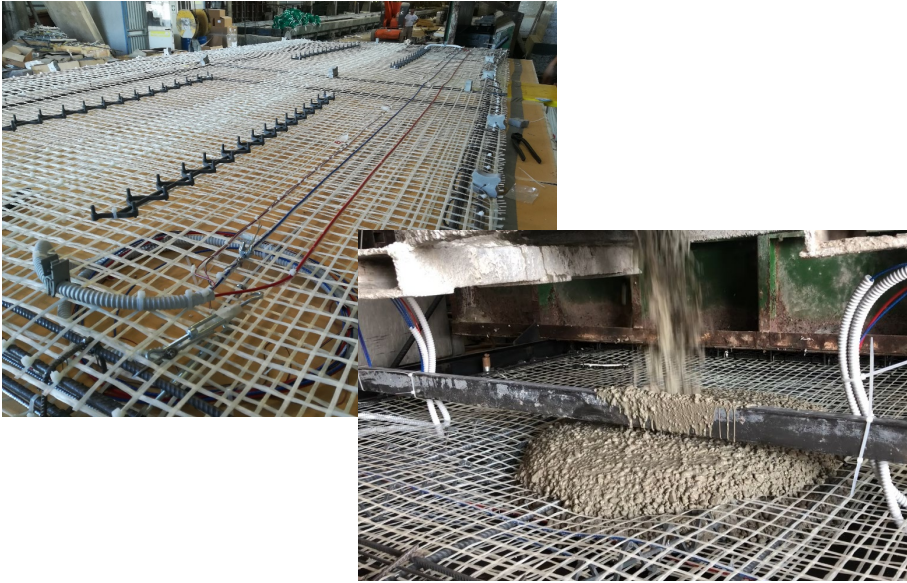


Optical connection between modules  
successfully tested





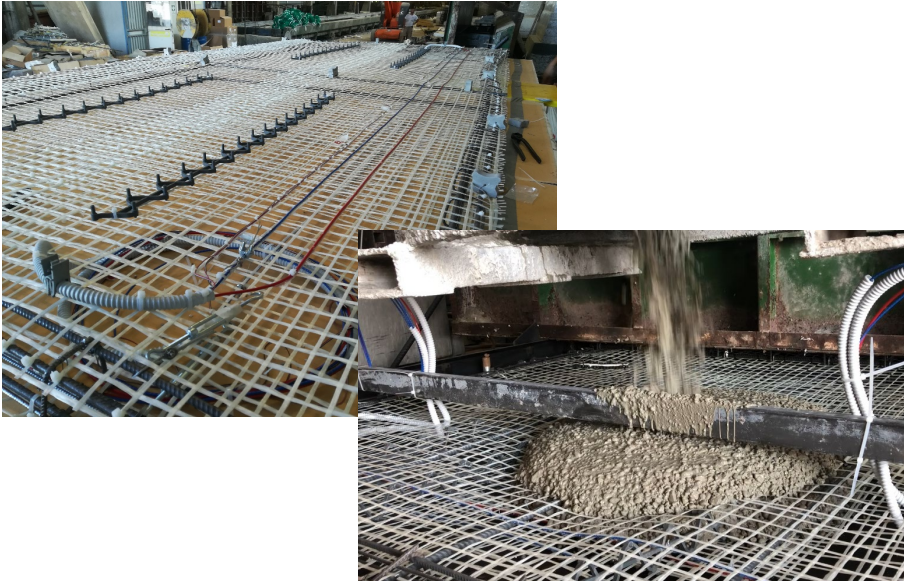
# Prototyping and field validation



Optical connection between modules  
successfully tested



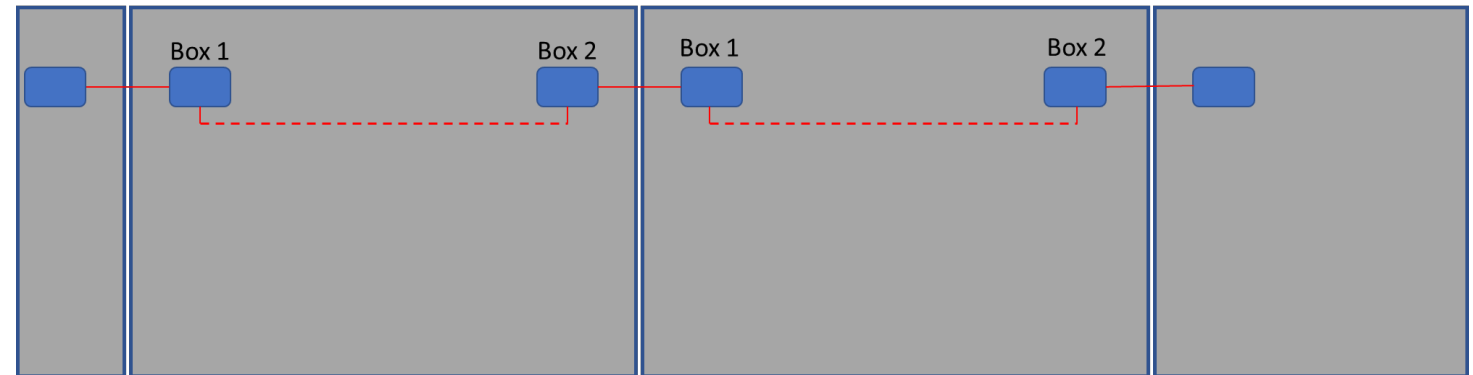
# Prototyping and field validation



Panel n

Panel n+1

Optical connection between modules  
successfully tested



----- Internal optical line (concrete-embedded sensor)

—— External optical line (connection)



# Conclusions

- Development and testing of TRC panels sensorized with distributed FOS
- Modular concept of self-sensing components
- The sensors survived the production process and provided consistent data up to advanced cracking stage;
- Enhanced ductility and load-carrying capacity
- Technology demonstrated by large scale prototypes in tunnel environment





# Multifunctional coatings for concrete's protection

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**MARIA PAPPÀ**

Manager of EU projects at the R&D  
department of AMSolutions Ltd.

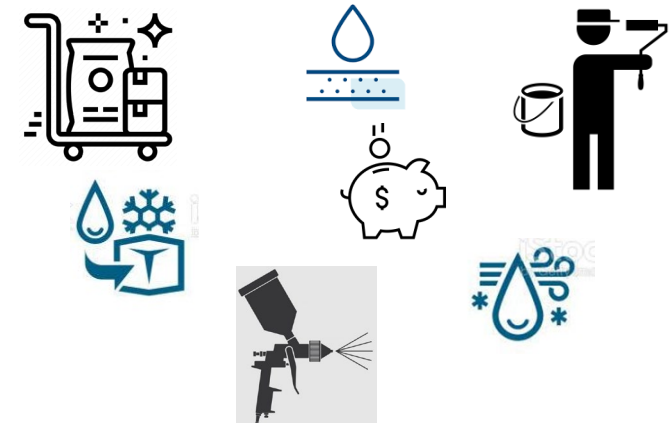
**Maria Pappa, AMSolutions**



# The scope

- **The multifunctional coatings aims to serve the following needs:**

- Protection from long-term exposure to the environment:
  - resistant in weathering, wear and tear, waterproof and increased durability
- Reduced maintenance needs: elimination of frequent repaint needs or replacement of damaged coatings
- Cost savings: reduced raw materials, labor and energy cost for repairing/repainting
- Low cost solution
- Easy application by non specialists: e.g. spraying



- **Achieved by means of:**

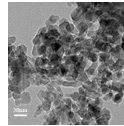
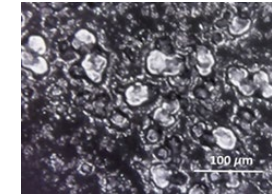
- Self-healing properties (scratch and gap sealing)
- Self-cleaning properties/photocatalytic
- Anti-molding properties
- Water resistant



# The synthesis

## ■ Core materials and synthesis

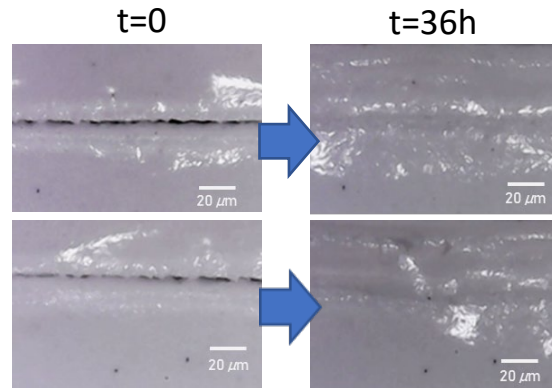
- **Commercial PU paint** used as base for the formulation
- **Self-healing agents: microcapsules** (50µm) containing PU paint. Synthesized via microencapsulation method
- **TiO<sub>2</sub> nanopowder** – P25 grade & mix of anatase/rutile, for:
  - self-cleaning,
  - photocatalytic and
  - anti-molding properties
- **Silver ions** for:
  - Anti-molding properties
- **Antibiotic** for:
  - Anti-molding properties
- **ITO nanopowder** or dispersion of nanoparticles in ethanol, for:
  - IR reflectance





# The results in the lab

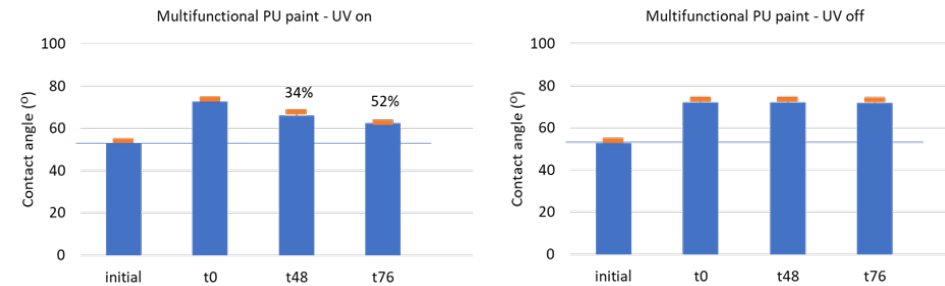
## ➤ Self-healing activity



*PU-based microcapsules by 7.5wt.% loading*

## ➤ Self-cleaning activity

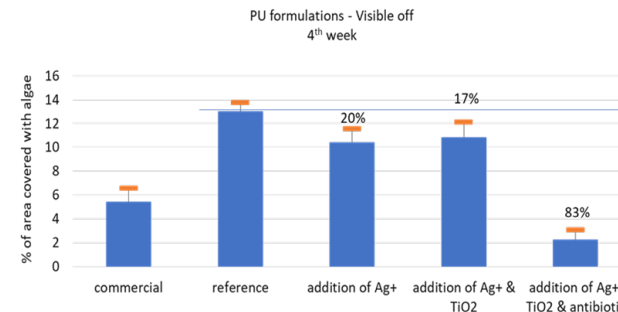
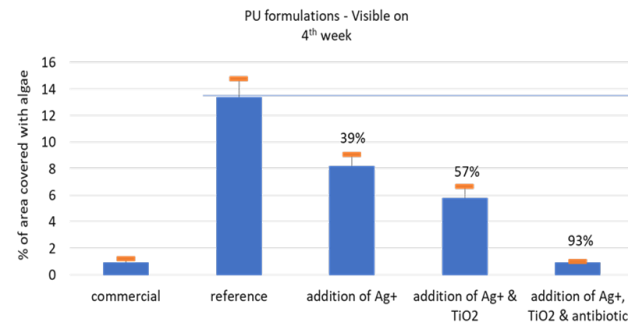
Water angle test - ISO 27448-1 standard



*0.4 wt.% of TiO<sub>2</sub> (P25 grade)*

## ➤ Anti-molding activity

Resistance to fungal growth (BS 3900:1989 Part G6)



*0.002wt.% of silver ions, 0.40 wt.% of TiO<sub>2</sub> and 0.0015 wt.% of antibiotic*

- **Bond strength by pull off test - standard EN 1504-2.2004:**  $2\text{N/mm}^2$
- **Capillary water absorption - SIST EN 1062-3:2008:**  $W_{24\text{hours}} < 0,1 \text{ kg/m}^2\text{h}^{0.5}$
- **Water vapor permeability - SIST EN ISO 7783:2018:** Diffusion-equivalent air layer thickness  $s_d = 1.8\text{m}$

***Tests conducted by Slovenian National Building And Civil Engineering Institute***

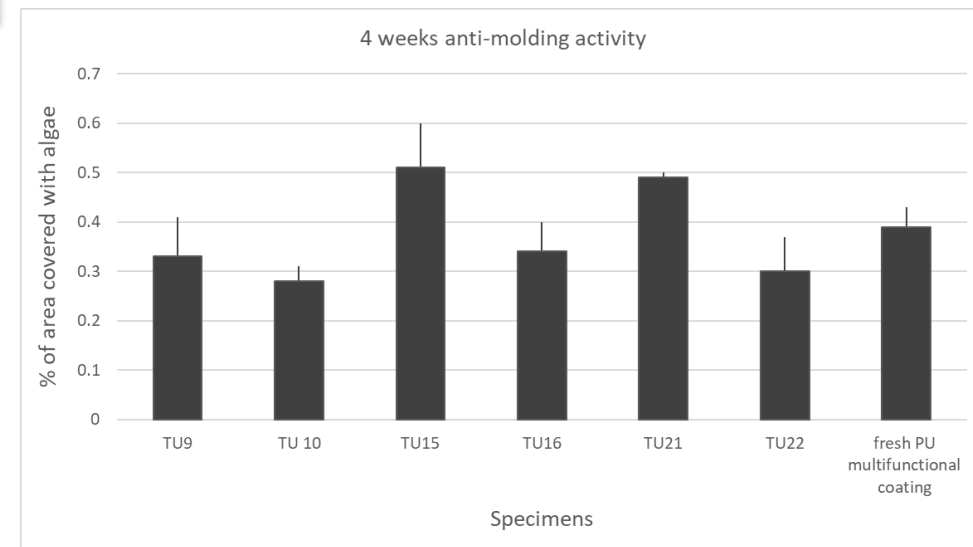
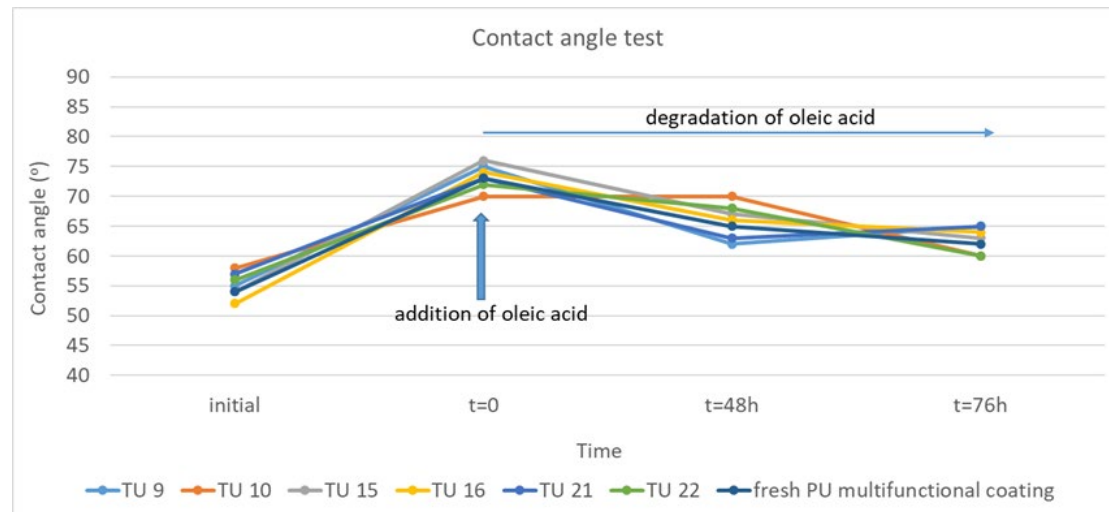
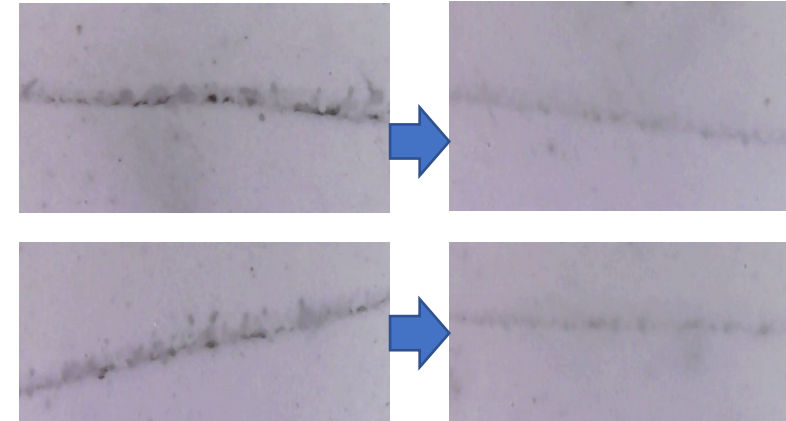


# Performance evaluation in the tunnel



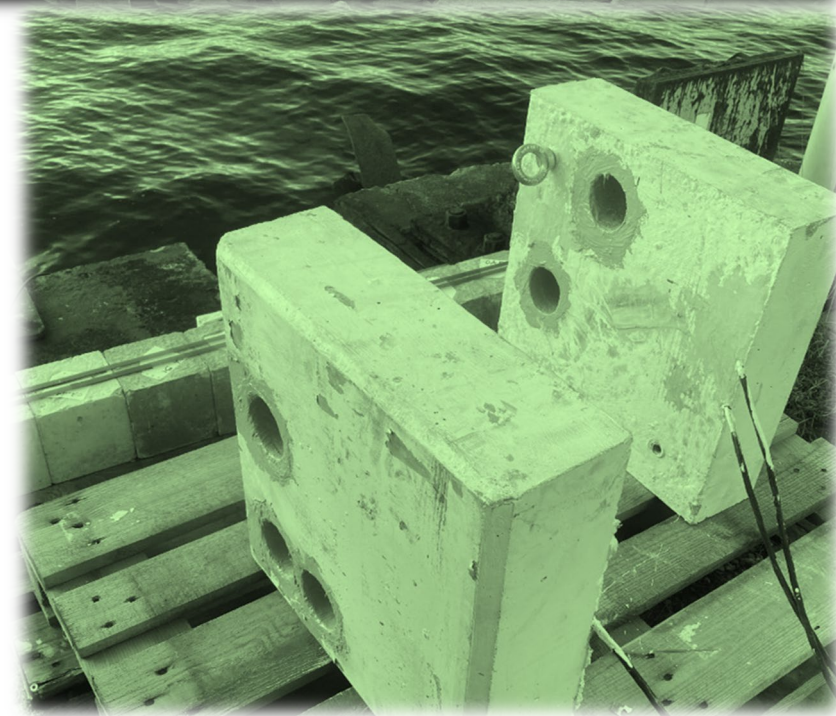
t=0

t=36h





Break ⑤ minutes





# Demonstration sites

## **SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**DR. IRINA STIPANOVIC**

Managing Director of Infra Plan and  
Visiting Assistant Professor at University  
of Twente in the Netherlands

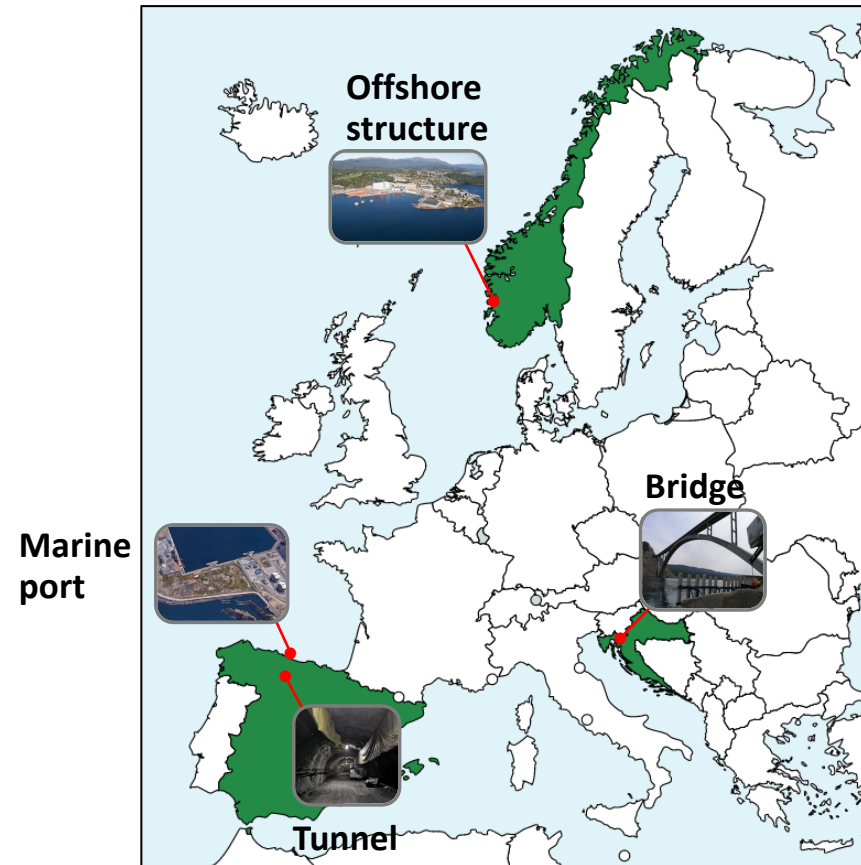
**Dr. Irina Stipanovic, Infra Plan**



# Demonstration sites accross Europe

**Demonstrate and validate novel concrete solutions** (materials & technologies) developed in EnDurCrete project

Sites include:





# Demo projects included:

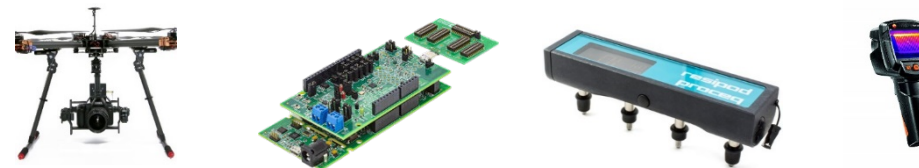
- EnDurCrete technologies: cements, corrosion inhibitors, carbon-based green micro-fillers, textile reinforcement, multi-functional protective coatings



- Demo specimens' characteristics: number of specimens, dimensions, exposure class, rebar system, requirements



- Monitoring and testing: Structural Health Monitoring (SHM), Corrosion/environmental sensors, Non-Destructive Testing (NDT), destructive testing

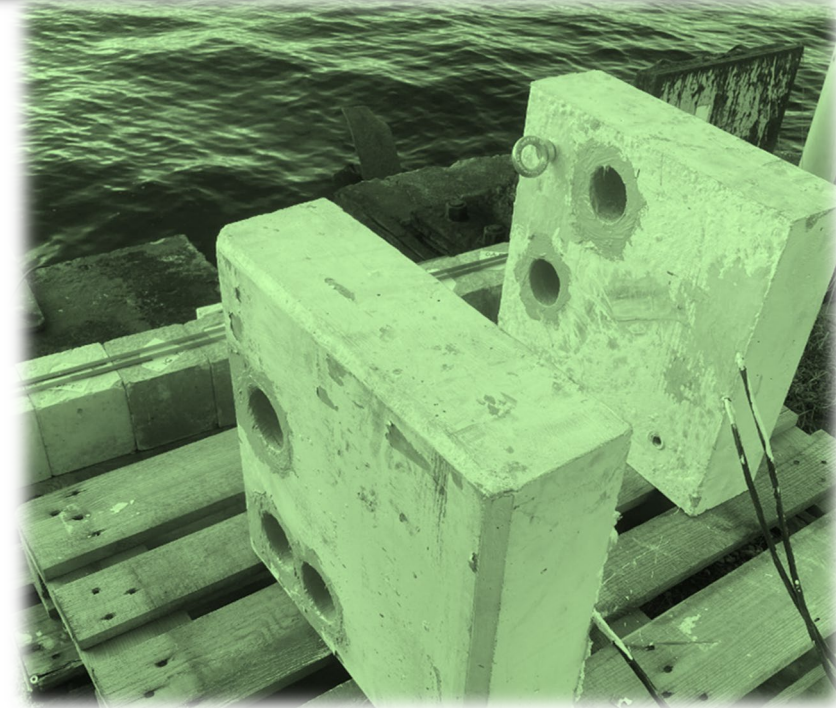




**Demo site: Offshore platform in Norway**

**Main partners: KVAERNER/Aker Solutions**

**Contributors: ZAG, ACCIONA, RINA, AMS, Nuova  
Tesi System S.r.l.**





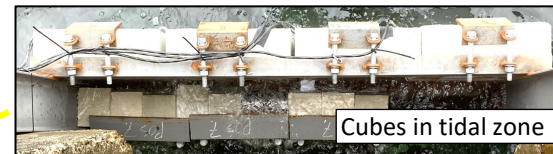
- **2 Offshore Concrete (OC) types:**  
**EnOC** - CEM II/C-M (S-LL) vs  
**RefOC** - CEM I 52,5 R + 5%SF.  
w/b 0,36, binder content – 440...470 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- **3 exposures + reference storage** in +20°C water
- **15 concrete panels** 500 x 500 x 150 mm<sup>3</sup>:
  - 3 - with textile reinforcement and optical fibers
  - 10 - with corrosion ER sensors
  - 2 - lab storage
  - 4 – with waterproofing coating (AMSolutions), where 2 off with self-healing additive
- **23 cubes (100mm side)** and **25 cubes (150 mm side)**
- Continuous temperature and humidity monitoring



# Set up. Scope of work



Towards the container for data collection



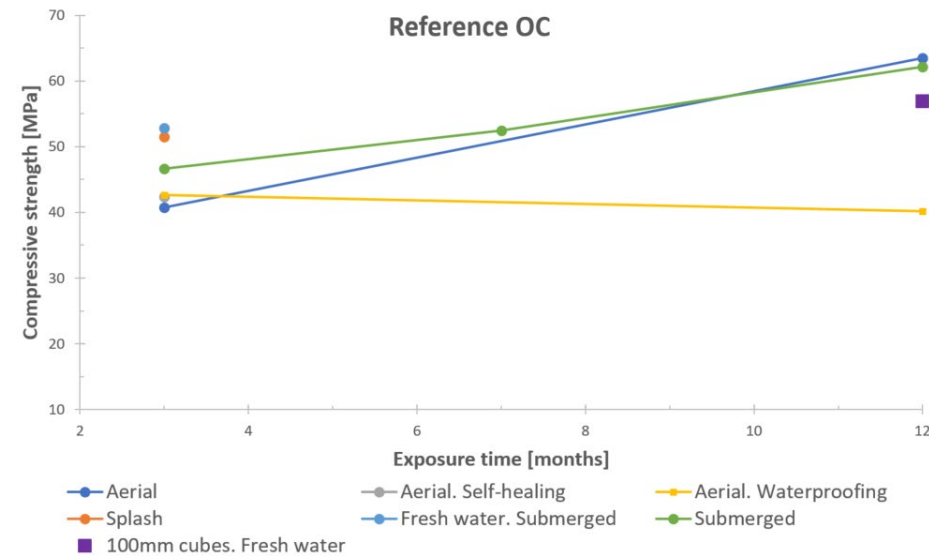
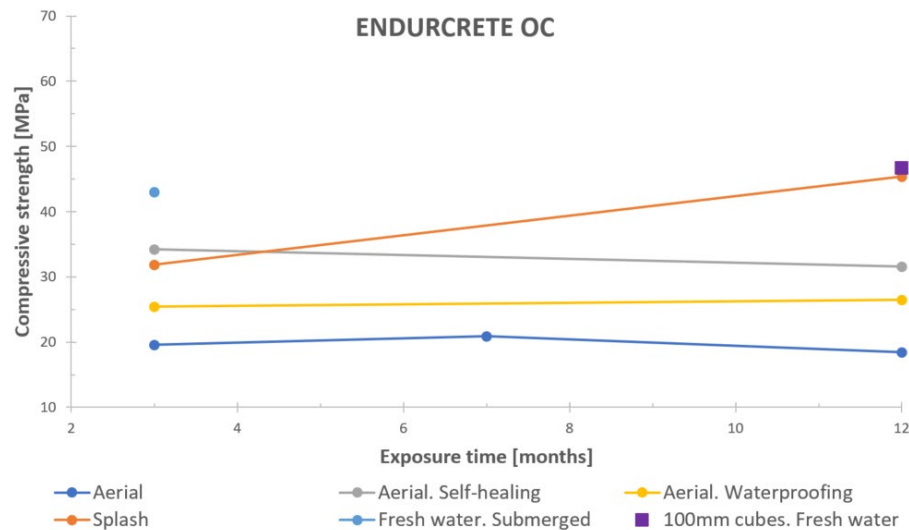
RefOC panels

Panels with optical fibers and textile reinforcement

- **Compressive strength** – drilled cores, cubes
- **Porosity analysis (PF-test)** – cubes stored in +20°C water + exposed to site conditions (after 12 months)
- **Chloride penetration test** – drilled cores
- **Salt-frost scaling slab test** – cubes, exposed to site conditions (after 12 months)
- Sampling for **contact angle measurements**



# Compressive strength

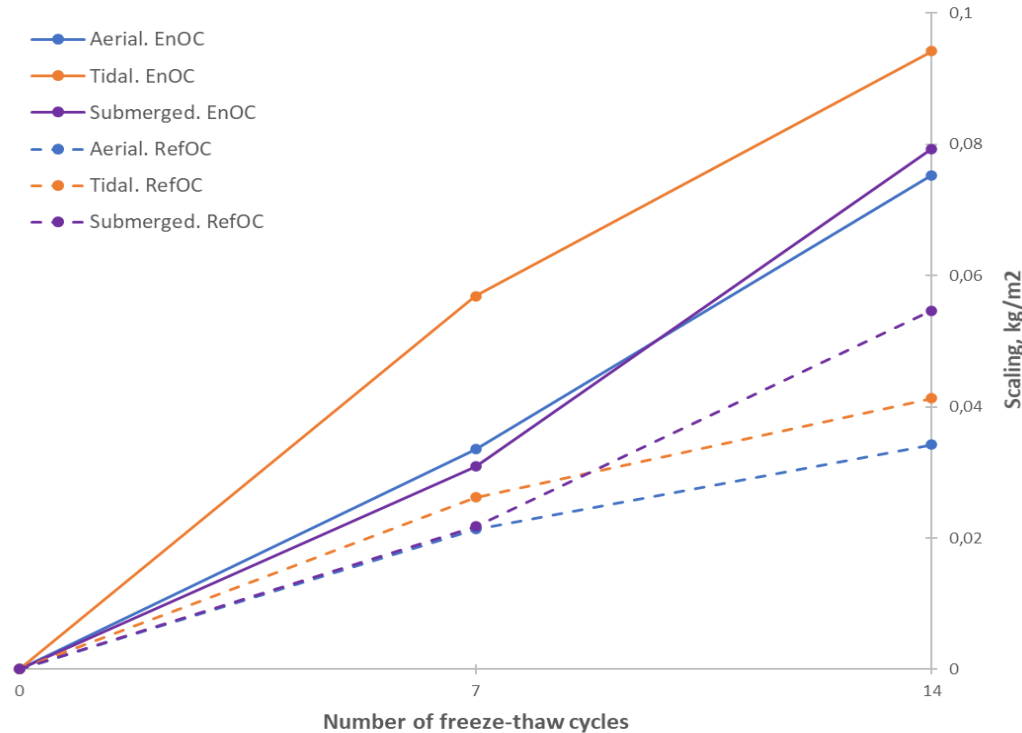


- Panels were water-cured for 42 days, dried about 2 weeks before the exposure
- The compressive strength of RefOC is higher for all the exposures
- Waterproofing membrane stagnates strength development, yet the panels with the membrane gained more strength than without
- Considerable increment of strength in aerial exposure for RefOC vs negligible effect for EnOC supposedly due to difference in permeability

Note: Graphs show only the test results with variation <10%.



# Freeze-thaw testing. Preliminary



- Salt-frost slab test is performed acc. to CEN/TS 12390-9
- 3 slabs from 2 cubes taken from each exposure for both concrete qualities
- EnOC seems to be more prone to scaling, yet the amount of scaling is still very small
- Mixes were tested with the same pre-conditioning despite high share of GGBFS in EnOC mix





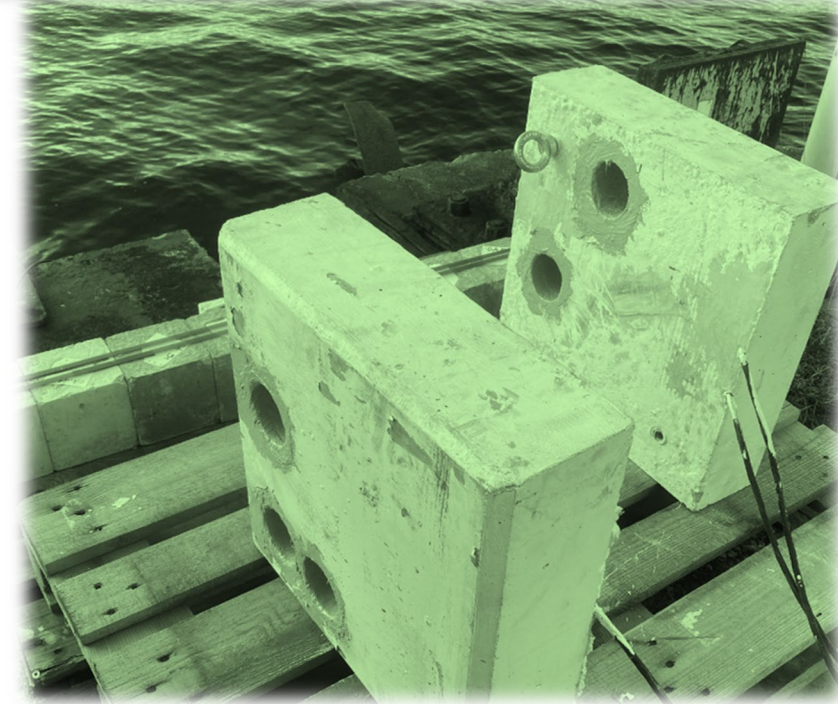
- **Porosity analysis (PF-test)** shows that EnOC is less permeable than RefOC. The pore protection factor for both concrete is  $>0.25$  (total air content varying 5.0...6.2%), a good pre-requisite to be frost resistant.
- **Chloride penetration test (water soluble  $\text{Cl}^-$ )** No apparent difference in chloride penetration depth between EnOC and RefOC over 12 months. Highest chloride penetration depth (8mm) in splash zone and submerged zone. Treated panels show minor presence of chlorides up to 5mm depth.
- **Measurements on the ER sensors** (by ZAG) in the first 12 months of exposure did not detect corrosion activities
- **Contact angle measurements of waterproofing membrane** (by Acciona) showed good wettability of the surface implying its hydrophilic properties, as expected.



**Demo site: Marine port in Spain**

**Main partners: ACCIONA**

**Contributors: NTS, AMS, IBOX, VITO, HC, SIKA**






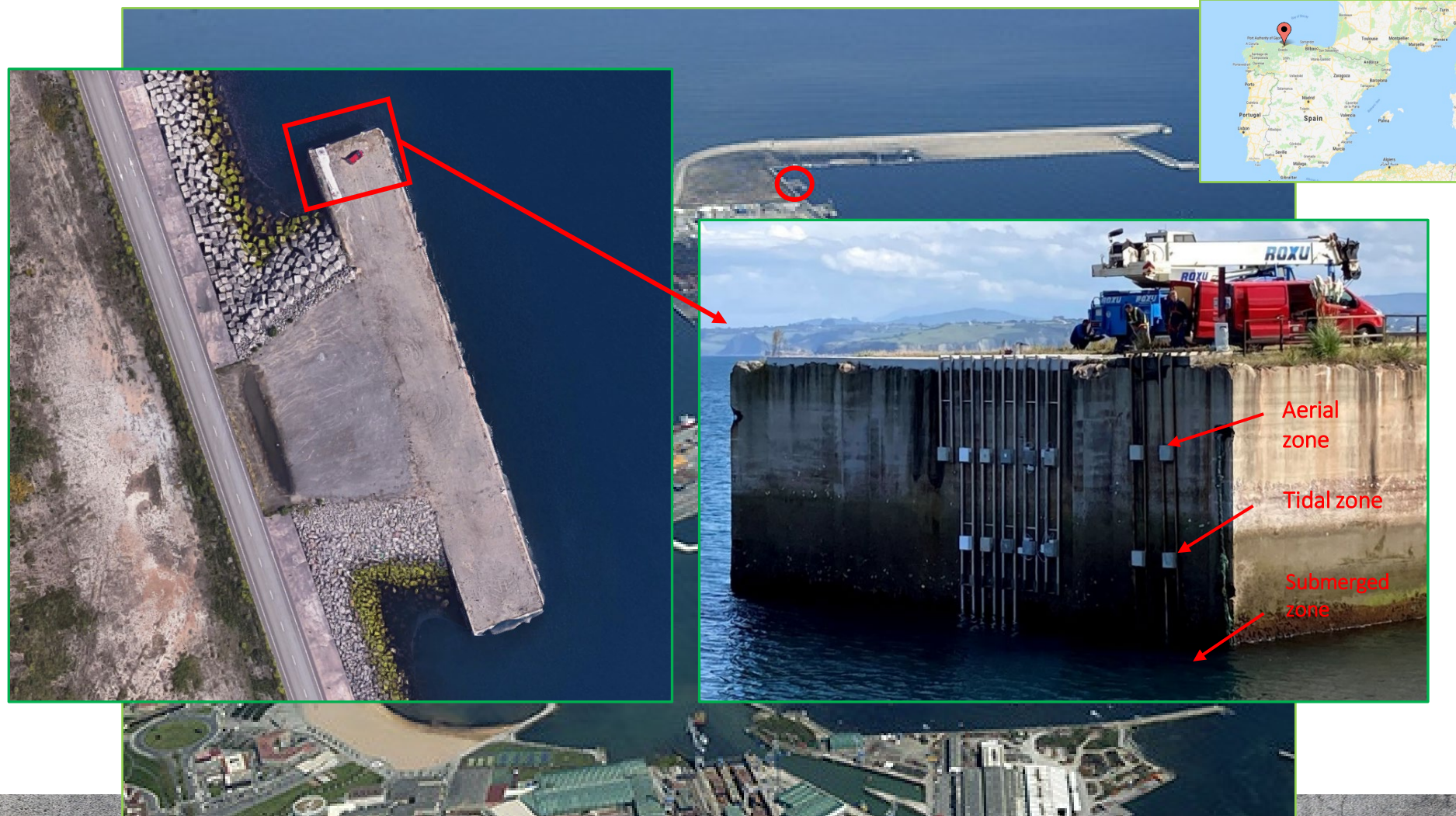
# Test site in Spain: marine environment

Prototypes were installed in a concrete dock of the Port Gijón “El Musel” (Spain), supported by Port Authority and coordinated by ACCIONA.



# Test site in Spain: marine environment

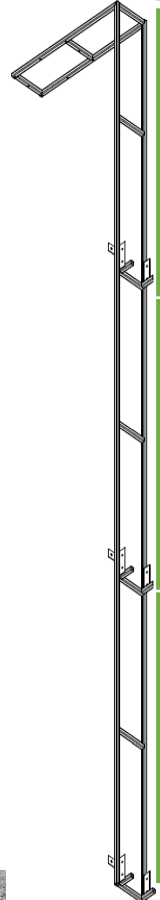
Prototypes were installed in a concrete dock of the Port Gijón “El Musel” (Spain), supported by Port  Puerto de Gijón  
Autoridad Portuaria de Gijón  
Authority and coordinated by ACCIONA.



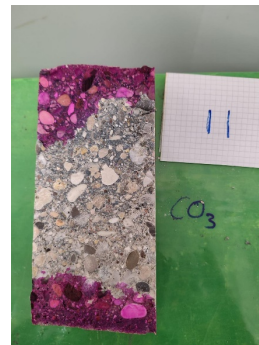
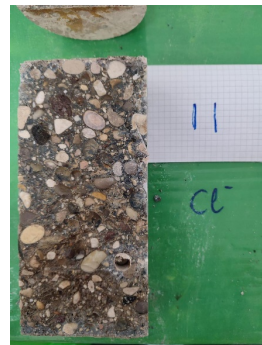
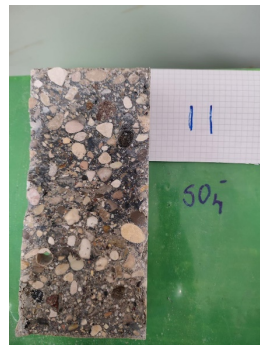


# Test site in Spain: marine environment

## Marine C35/45 concrete

	19 PANELS	MARINE REF CEM III/A 42.5 N	MARINE CEM II/C-M (S-LL)	MARINE + Polyurethane coating	MARINE + Corrosion inhibitors	MARINE + Biochar + Recycled Carbon Fibres (RCF)
	AERIAL testing zone XS1	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity
	TIDAL testing zone XS3	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity
	SUBMERGED testing zone XS2	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	Carbonation Chlorides Sulphates Compressive strenght Electrical resistivity	

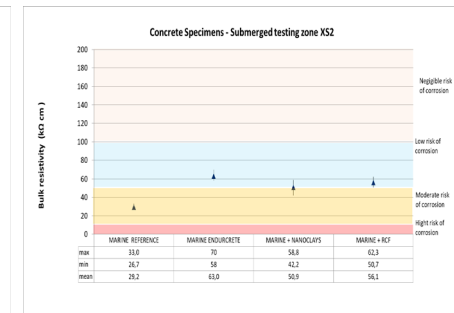
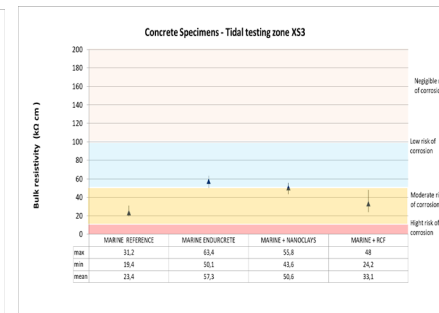
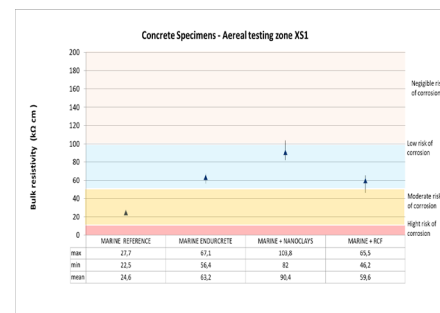
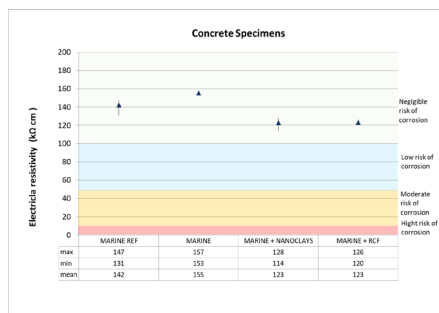
# Test site in Spain: marine environment



## EXPOSED SAMPLES 12 MONTHS

PENETRATION TESTS (mm)		Marine REF CEM III/A 42.5 N	Marine EnD CEM II/C-M (S- LL)	Marine EnD + Corrosion inhibitors	MARINE EnD + biochar + RCF
Aerial zone	SULFATES	-	-	-	-
	CHLORIDES	5	-	-	3
	CARBONATION	5	-	-	1
Tidal zone	SULFATES	-	-	-	-
	CHLORIDES	10	5	11	5
	CARBONATION	-	-	-	-
Submerged zone	SULFATES	7	-	-	-
	CHLORIDES	22	11	11	12
	CARBONATION	-	-	-	-

COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH (MPa)	Marine REF. CEM III/A 42.5 N	Marine EnD. CEM II/C-M (S- LL)	Marine EnD+ Corrosion inhibitors	MARINE EnD + biochar + RCF
Aerial zone	61	64	67	62
Tidal zone	64	66	68	67
Submerged zone	70	62	68	65



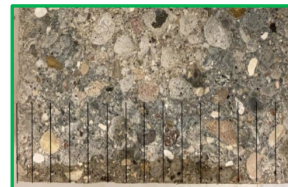
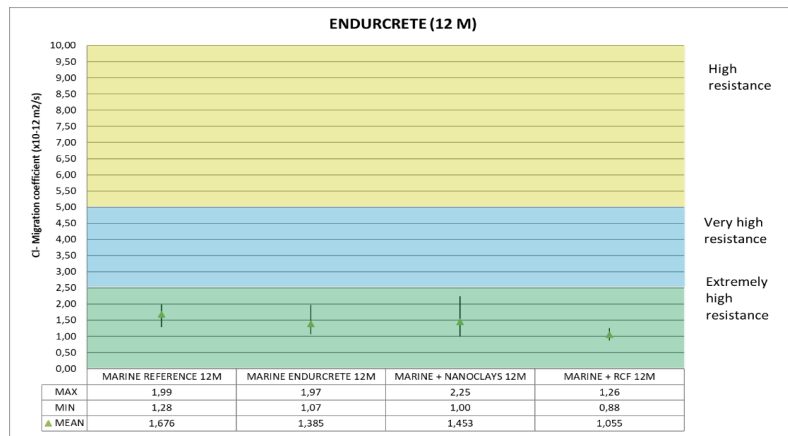


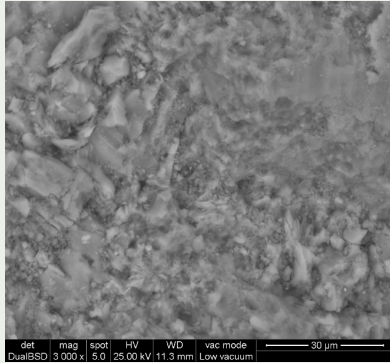
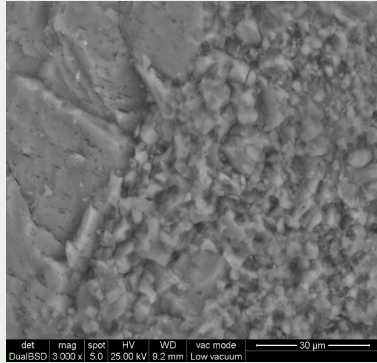
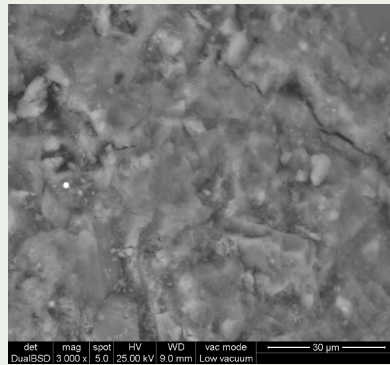
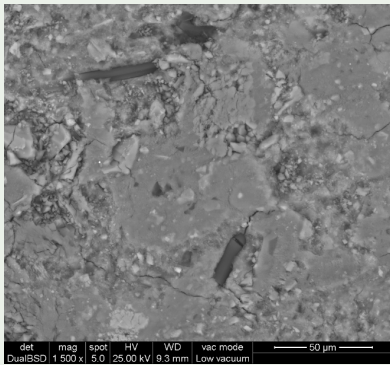
# Test site in Spain: marine environment

## HUMIDITY CHAMBER (12 MONTHS)

POROSITY ASSESSMENT UNE - EN 1936	Marine REF. CEM III/A 42.5 N	Marine EnD. CEM II/C-M (S-LL)	Marine EnD+ Corrosion inhibitors	MARINE EnD + biochar + RCF
mean pore size	0.04 $\mu\text{m}$	0.02 $\mu\text{m}$	0.02 $\mu\text{m}$	0.02 $\mu\text{m}$
apparent density	2.38 g/mL	2.35 g/mL	2.14 g/mL	2.19 g/mL
porosity	6.27 %	7.28 %	8.55 %	8.39 %

PENETRATION OF WATER UNDER PRESSURE UNE-EN 12390-8	Marine REF. CEM III/A 42.5 N	Marine EnD. CEM II/C-M (S-LL)	Marine EnD+ Corrosion inhibitors	MARINE EnD + biochar + RCF
Maximum water penetration (mm)	15	5	6	8
Mean value	7	2	4	5



REFERENCE	MARINE ENDURCRETE
	
ENDURCRETE + CORROSION INHIBITORS	ENDURCRETE + BIOCHAR + RCF
	

- **SULFATES PENETRATION:**
  - Splash and tidal: no penetration
  - Submerged: best results with CEM II/C-M (S-LL)
- **CHLORIDES PENETRATION:**
  - Best results with CEM II/C-M (S-LL) in all zones
- **CO<sub>2</sub> PENETRATION:**
  - No penetration with CEM II/C-M (S-LL)
- **BULK RESISTIVITY:**
  - CEM III/A 42.5 N - moderate risk of corrosion
  - CEM II/C-M (S-LL) – low risk of corrosion
- **SEM**
  - No significant differences

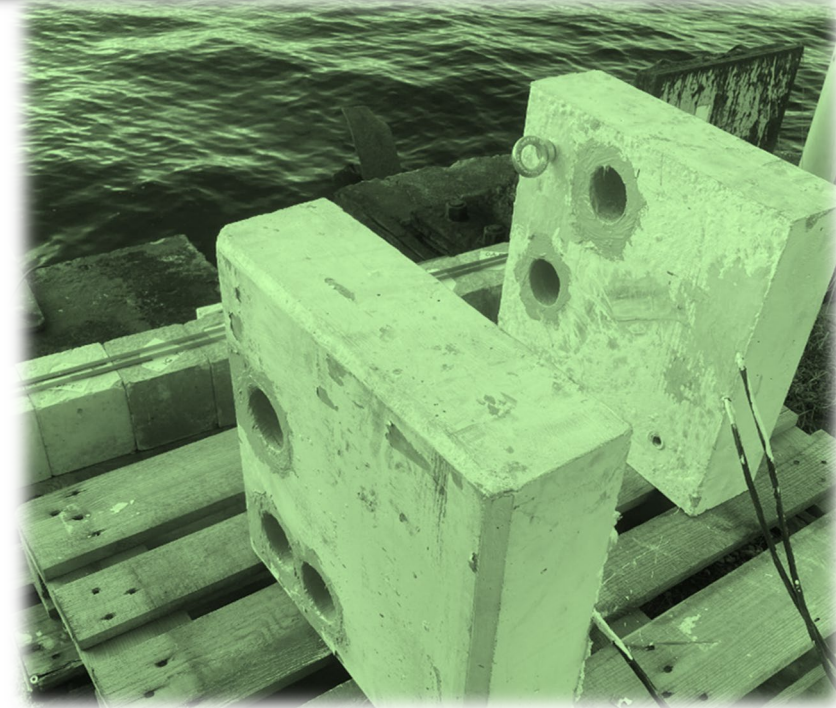




**Demo site: Tunnel in Spain**

**Main partners: ACCIONA**

**Contributors: NTS, AMS, IBOX, VITO, HC, SIKA**





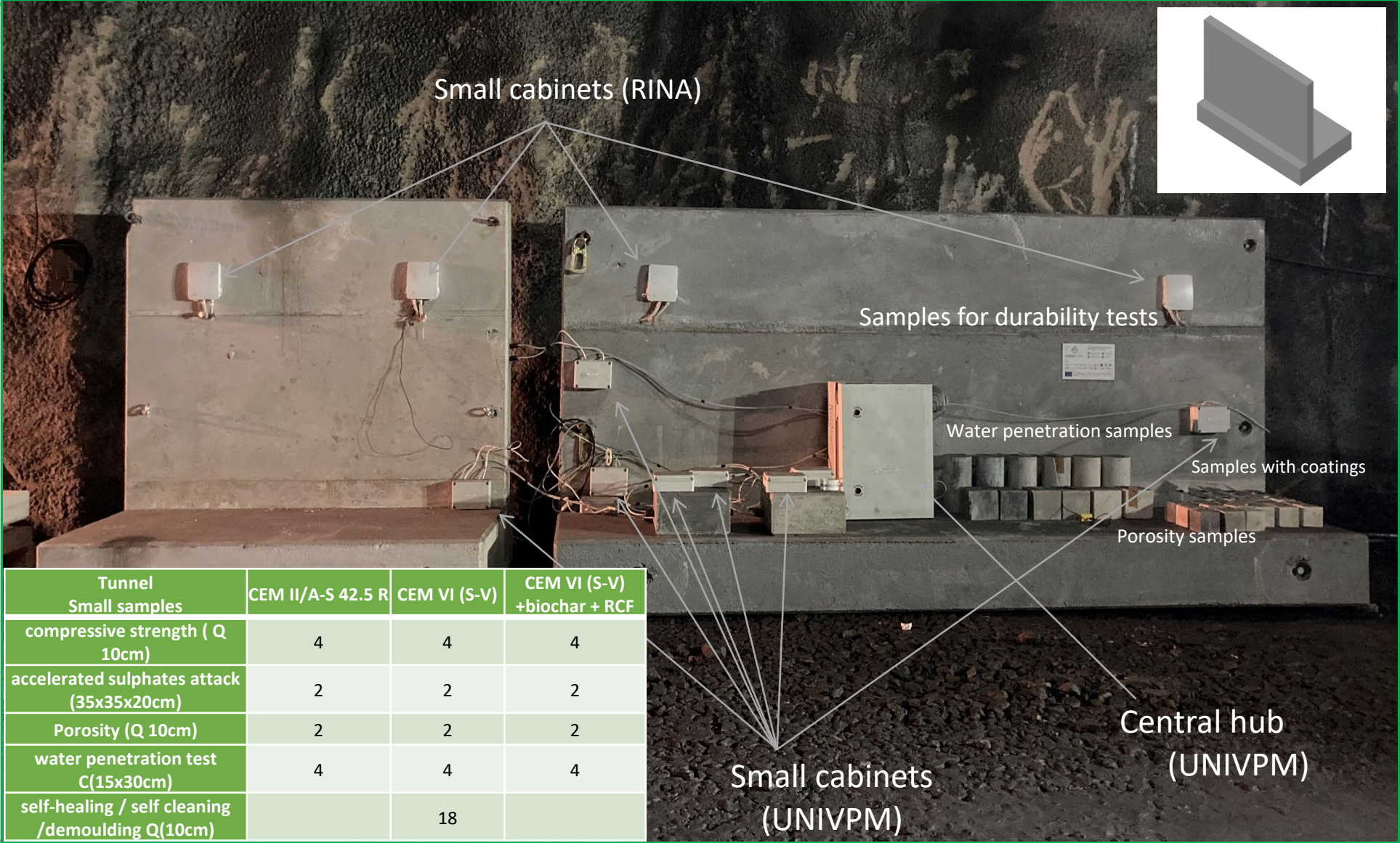
# Test site: tunnel environment

FSB is a public entity engaged in the mining, construction, renewable energies. Tunnel is a coal mine out of service used as a research centre, investigation of excavation techniques, spraying shotcrete tests...





# Test site: tunnel environment





# Test site: tunnel environment

Monitoring system: Rebars together with textile reinforcement and sensors

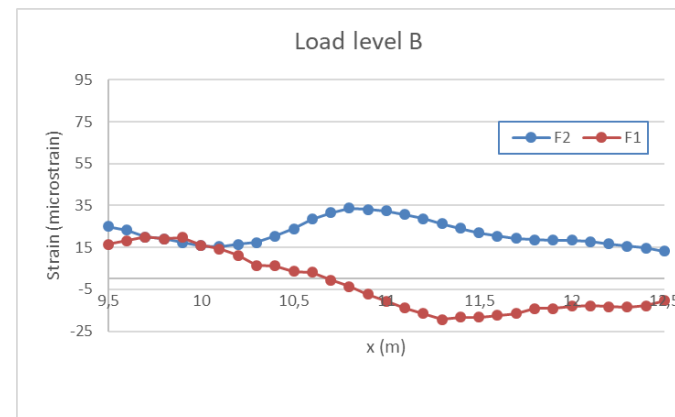


Load was increased gradually at steps of  $73 \text{ kg/m}^2$  each



**Load level A:** full row of 4 water tanks, maximum load  $730 \text{ kg/m}^2$

**Load level B:** full row of 4 water tanks + 2 water tanks in the middle; maximum load  $1100 \text{ kg/m}^2$



Use of the device equipped with a depth sensor to deal with the surface roughness, making the use of markers unfeasible

## COMPUTER VISION




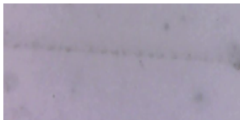
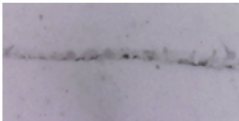

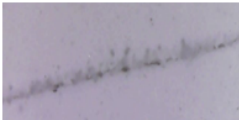
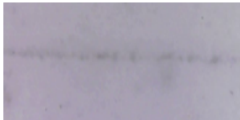

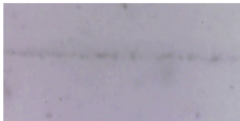


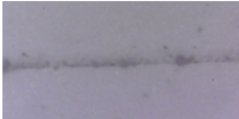
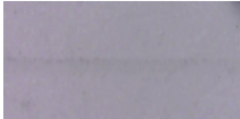
Despite the reduced thickness, the algorithm was able to identify the crack and measure them



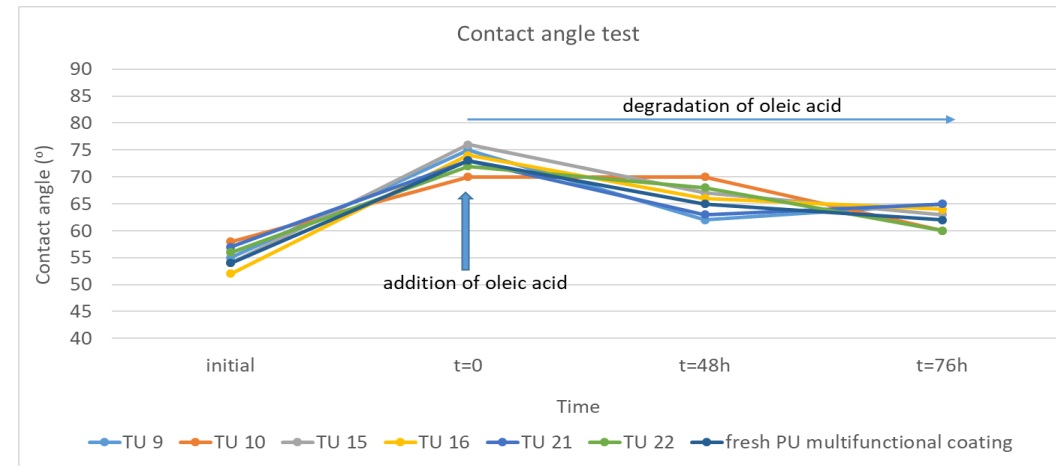


# Test site: tunnel environment

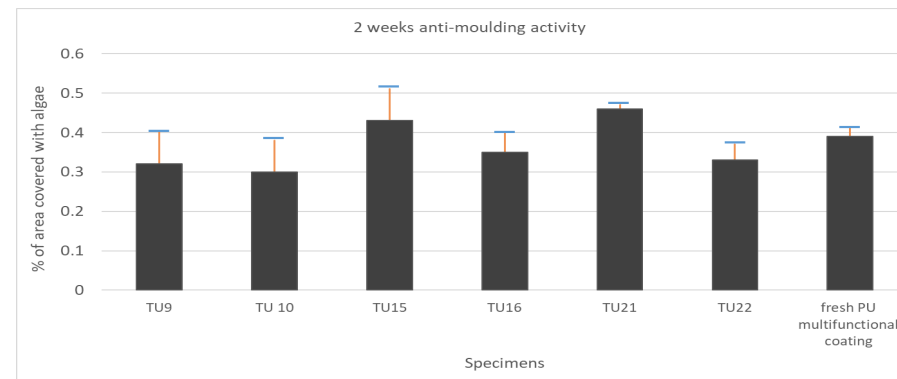
- Self-healing properties assessment (AMSolutions): seal gaps on its surface caused by crack formation

Specimen code	t=0	t=36h
TU 09		
TU 10		
TU 15		
TU 16		
TU 21		
TU 22		

- Self-cleaning properties assessment (AMSolutions): ISO 27448


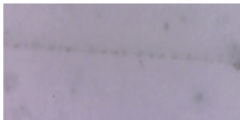
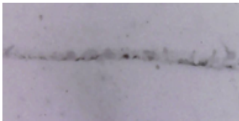

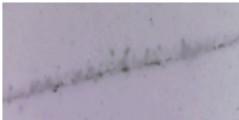
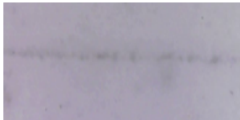

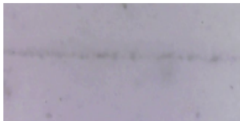


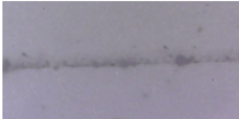
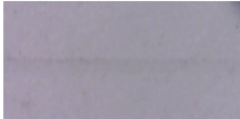


- Anti-moulding properties assessment

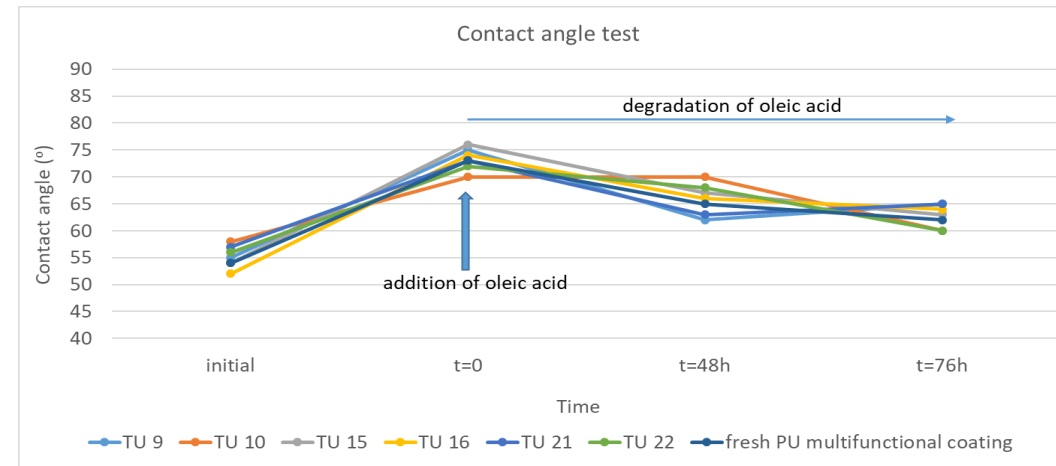


# Test site: tunnel environment

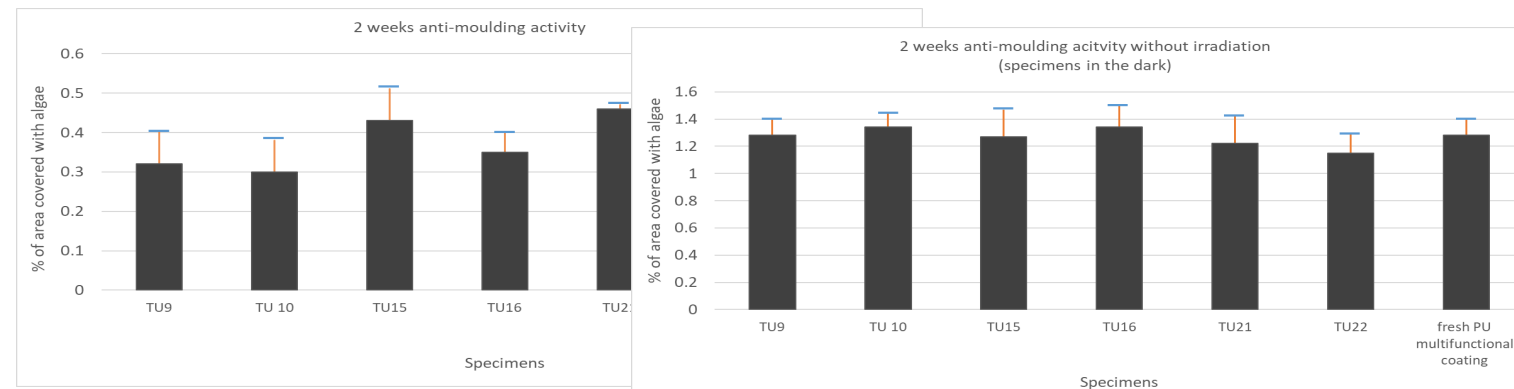
- Self-healing properties assessment (AMSolutions): seal gaps on its surface caused by crack formation

Specimen code	t=0	t=36h
TU 09		
TU 10		
TU 15		
TU 16		
TU 21		
TU 22		

- Self-cleaning properties assessment (AMSolutions): ISO 27448



- Anti-moulding properties assessment





# Test site: tunnel environment

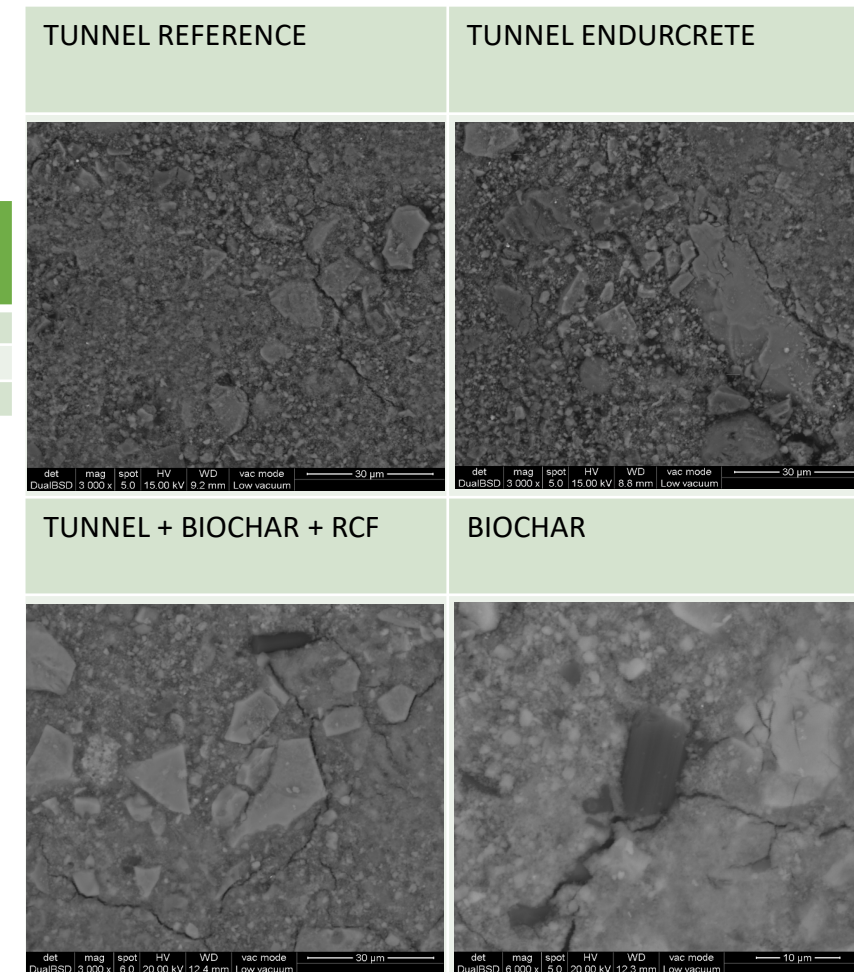
## Durability tests

Compressive Strength (Mpa)	Tunnel REF. CEM II/A-S 42.5 R	Tunnel EnD CEM VI (S-V)	Tunnel End. + biochar + RCF
12 MONTHS	67 MPa	75 MPa	75 MPa

POROSITY ASSESSMENT UNE - EN 1936	Tunnel REF. CEM II/A-S 42.5 R	Tunnel EnD CEM VI (S-V)	Tunnel End. + biochar + RCF
mean pore size	0.04 $\mu\text{m}$	0.02 $\mu\text{m}$	0.02 $\mu\text{m}$
apparent density	2.22 g/mL	2.25 g/mL	2.28 g/mL
porosity	7.24 %	7.94 %	8.46 %

PENETRATION OF WATER UNDER PRESSURE UNE-EN 12390-8	Tunnel REF.	Tunnel EnD.	Tunnel EnD + biochar + RCF
Maximum water penetration (mm)	14	NO PENETRATION	NO PENETRATION
Mean value (mm)	10	NO PENETRATION	NO PENETRATION

- **NO SULFATES PENETRATION**
  - No penetration in any mix design
- **SEM**
  - No significant differences at microstructural level

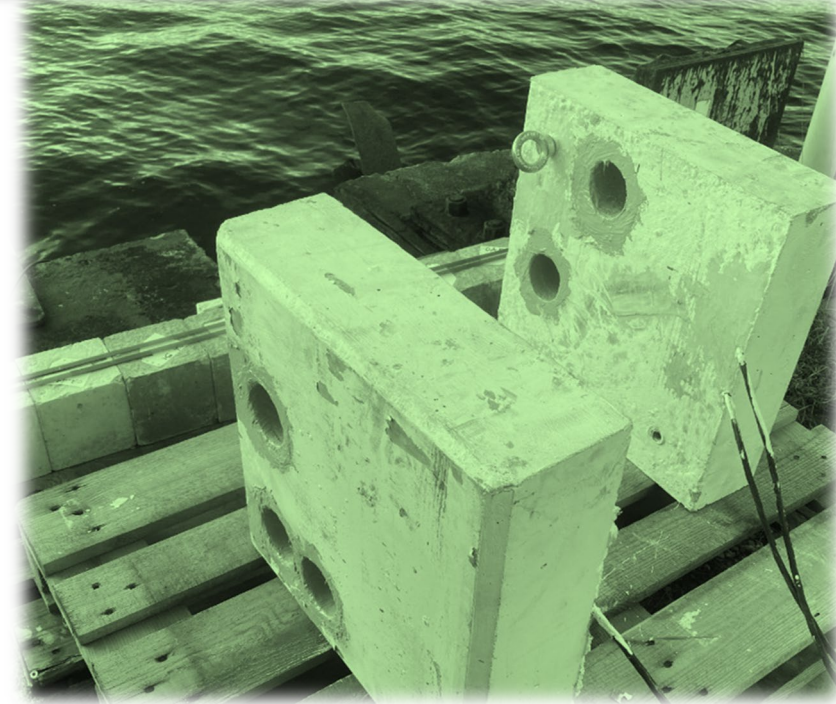




**Demo site: Krk bridge in Croatia**

**Main partners: Infra Plan, ZAG**

**Contributors: HC, AMS, CEA, NTNU**





# Test site: marine environment



- **5 materials:** 3 NEW concrete systems (2 cements, 1 coating) & 2 refer. mat.
- **2 types of corrosion sensors:** CME & ER
- **3 zones of exposure:** submerged, tidal, splash
- 12 columns and 56 cubes in different exposure zones
- **Continuous corrosion monitoring** with wi-fi data acquisition system and **environmental monitoring**
- **Periodic testing of concrete durability properties** (chloride profile, porosity, mineral phase change, mass, ultrasound velocity, Eigen frequency)

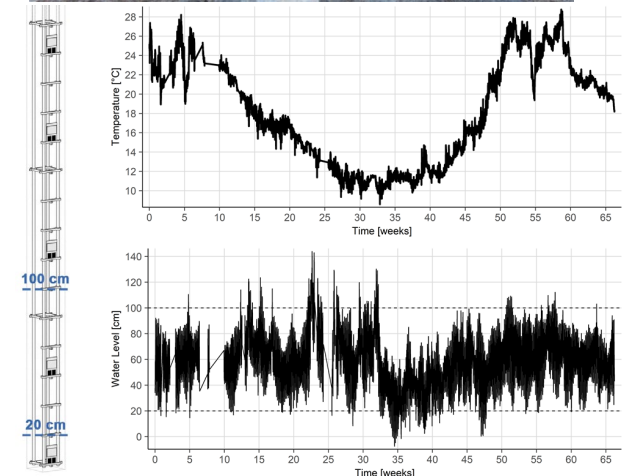


100 cm

Tidal

20 cm

Submerged



# Corrosion tests



1 column contains:

a) 16 CME sensors

Measuring **partial (corrosion) currents**, distributed **between exposure zones** over period of **time**.

b) 5 ER sensors

Physical corrosion monitoring technique, measuring **thickness reduction** of ER sensor due to corrosion over period of **time**.

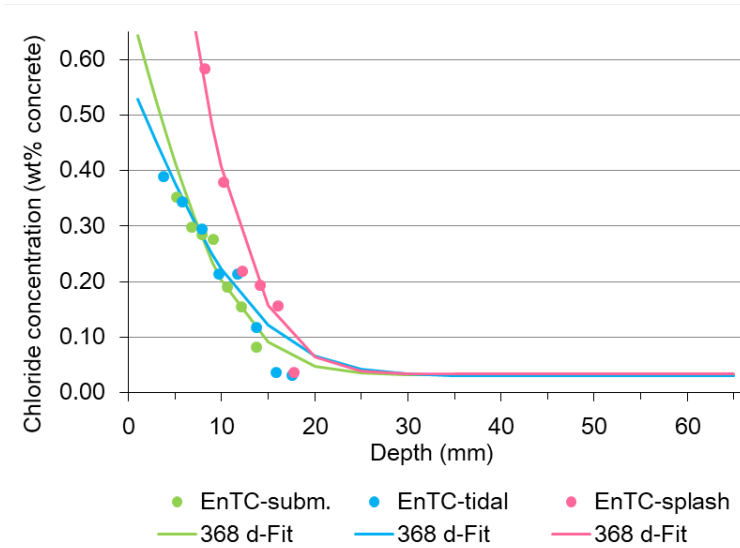
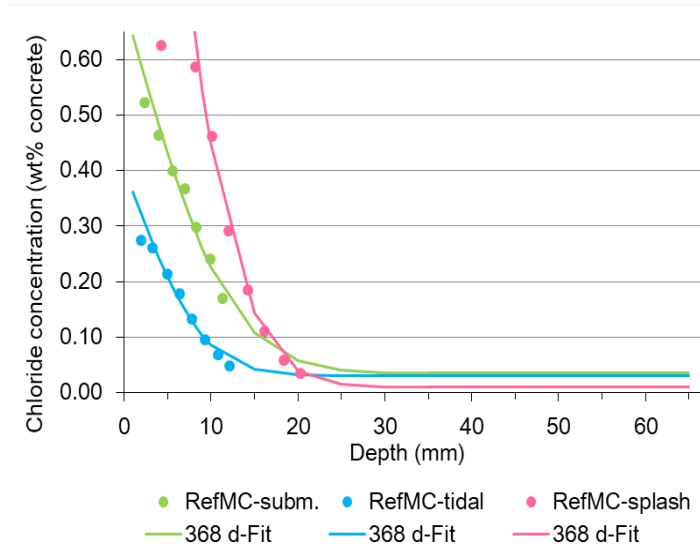
c) 4 steel reinforcing rebars

Final visual examination



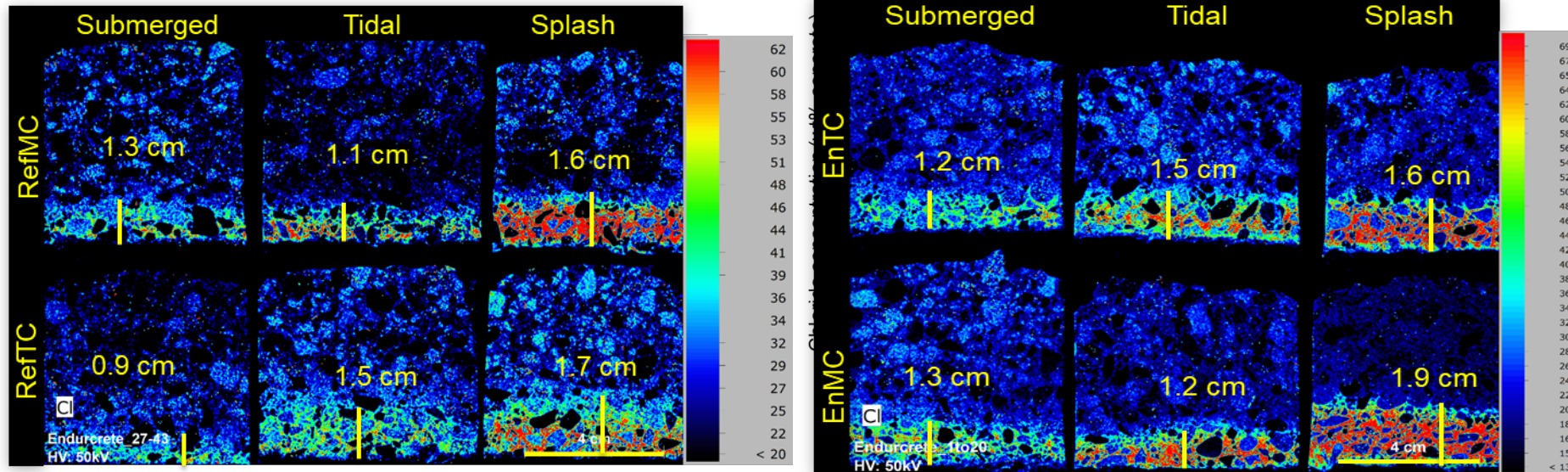


# Chloride penetration results



	EnMC			RefMC		
	Subm.	Tidal	Splash	Subm.	Tidal	Splash
Initial chloride content (wt%)	0.049	0.011	0.046	0.035	0.030	0.010
Chloride content at the exposed surface (wt%)	0.780	0.927	1.328	0.700	0.405	1.975
Non-steady state diffusion coefficient ( $10^{-12} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ )	1.35	0.84	1.62	1.39	0.76	1.06
Coefficient of determination $R^2$	0.927	0.990	0.967	0.964	0.987	0.990

# Chloride penetration results

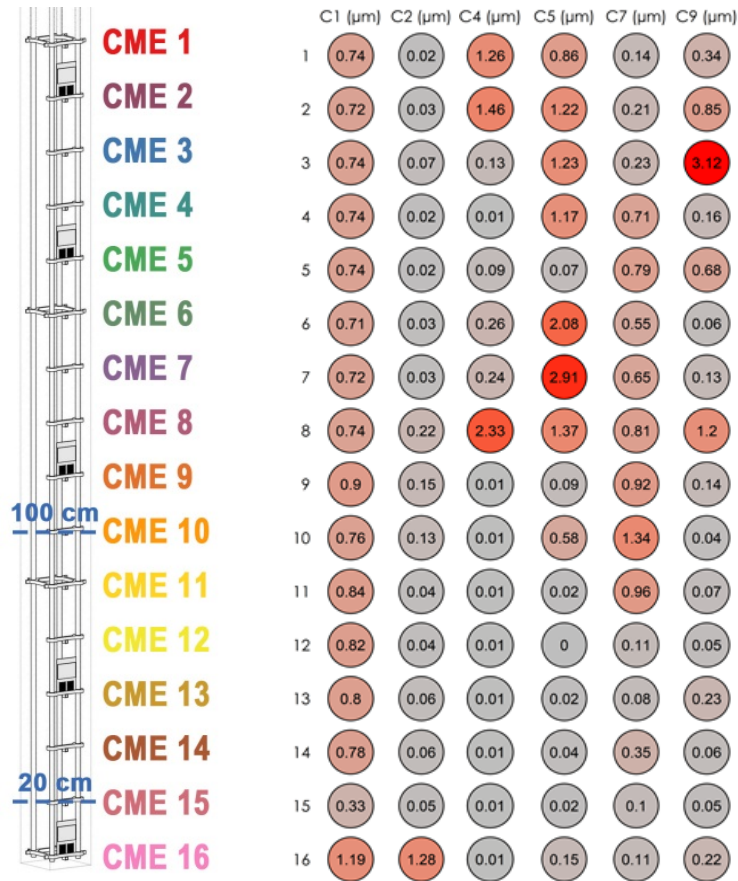


	EnMC			RefMC		
	Subm.	Tidal	Splash	Subm.	Tidal	Splash
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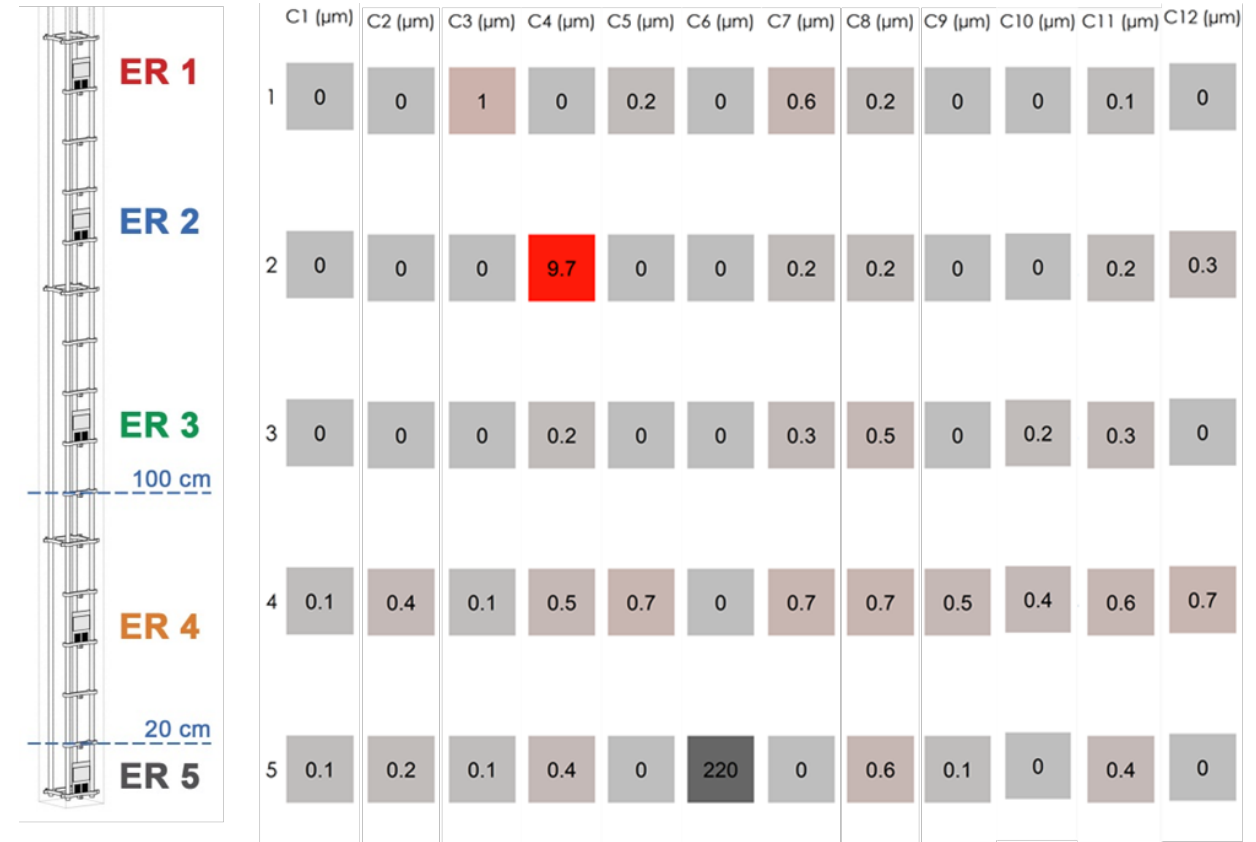


# Corrosion monitoring results

## Coupled multi-electrode measurements



## Electrical resistivity measurements



- no significant corrosion activity to make final conclusions about different materials and exposure zones
- only different current fluctuations among different columns and no evident stable anodic and cathodic currents so far
- Minor differences in durability properties
- New cements are comparable to reference cements (CEM II / A-S 42,5R and CEM III / A 42,5N (EDC-PL))



# Presentation of the cluster project

**COORDINATOR**

RESHEALIENCE



**LIBERATO FERRARA**

Professor of Structural Analysis and  
Design at Politecnico di Milano

**Liberato Ferrara,  
Representative of the  
Reshealience project**



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Rethinking coastal defence and Green-energy Service infrastructures  
through enHancEd-durAbiLity high-performance cement-based materials

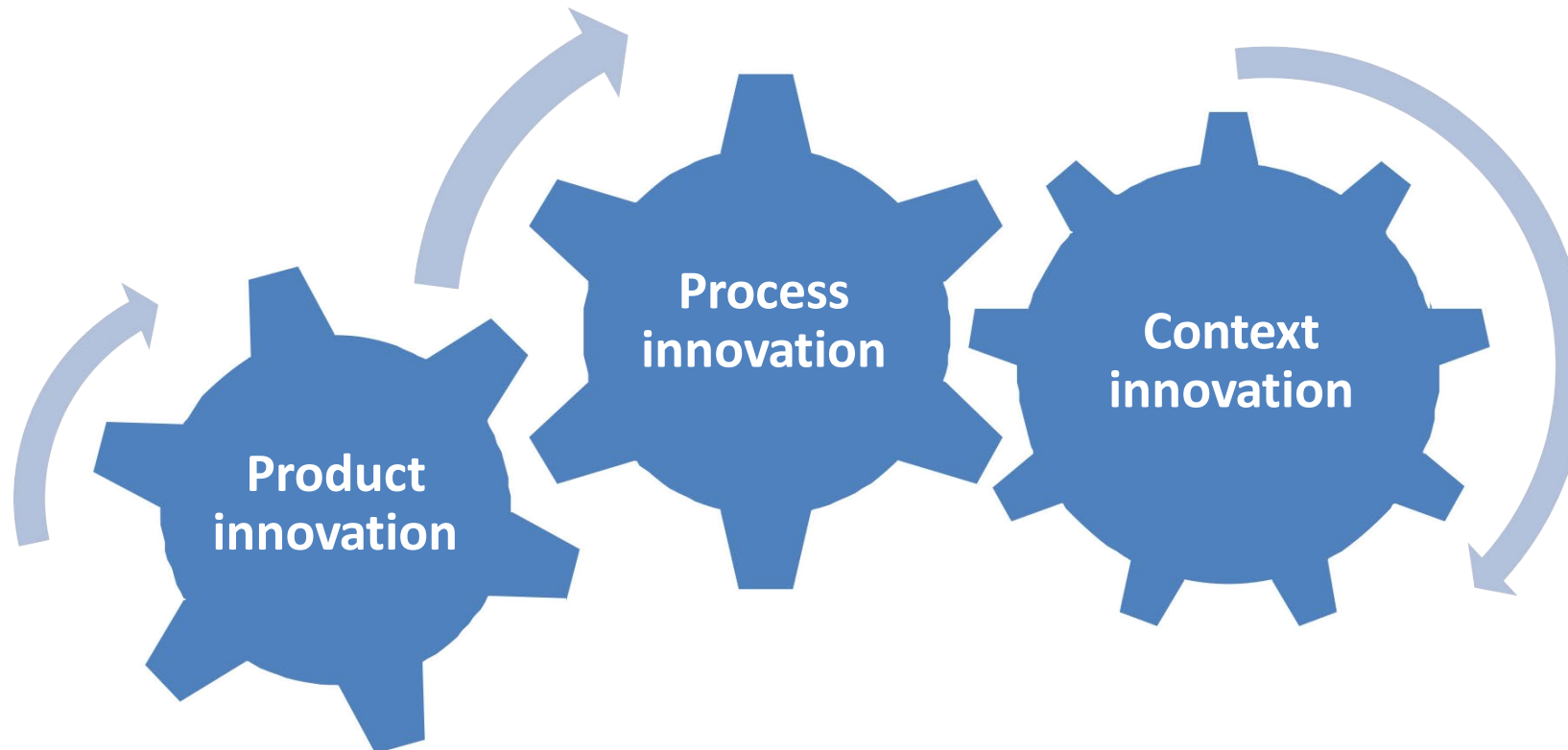
## The concrete construction industry and the XXI century societal and economic challenges: the vision and approach of the ReSHEALience project

Liberato Ferrara

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Politecnico di Milano



# The «sustainability» strategy



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

## Transportation Infrastructures :

1% GDP investment in infrastructures results into +1.5% GDP in 4 years

[http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction/index_en.htm)



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

## Transportation Infrastructures :

Every year road interruptions and traffic congestion delays cost an average of USD 3600 to each household!



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano

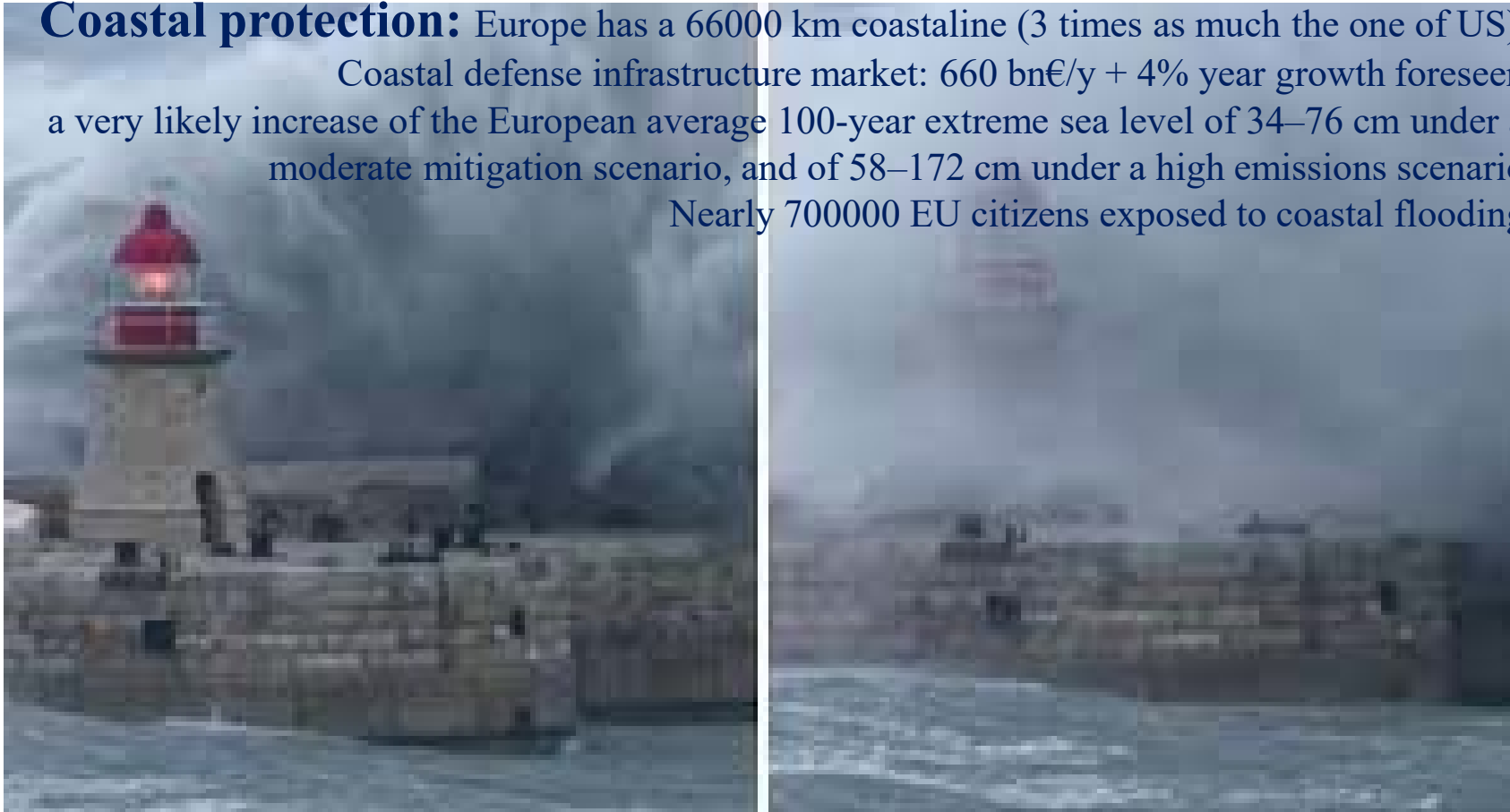


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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

**Coastal protection:** Europe has a 66000 km coastline (3 times as much the one of US)  
Coastal defense infrastructure market: 660 bn€/y + 4% year growth foreseen  
a very likely increase of the European average 100-year extreme sea level of 34–76 cm under a moderate mitigation scenario, and of 58–172 cm under a high emissions scenario  
Nearly 700000 EU citizens exposed to coastal flooding



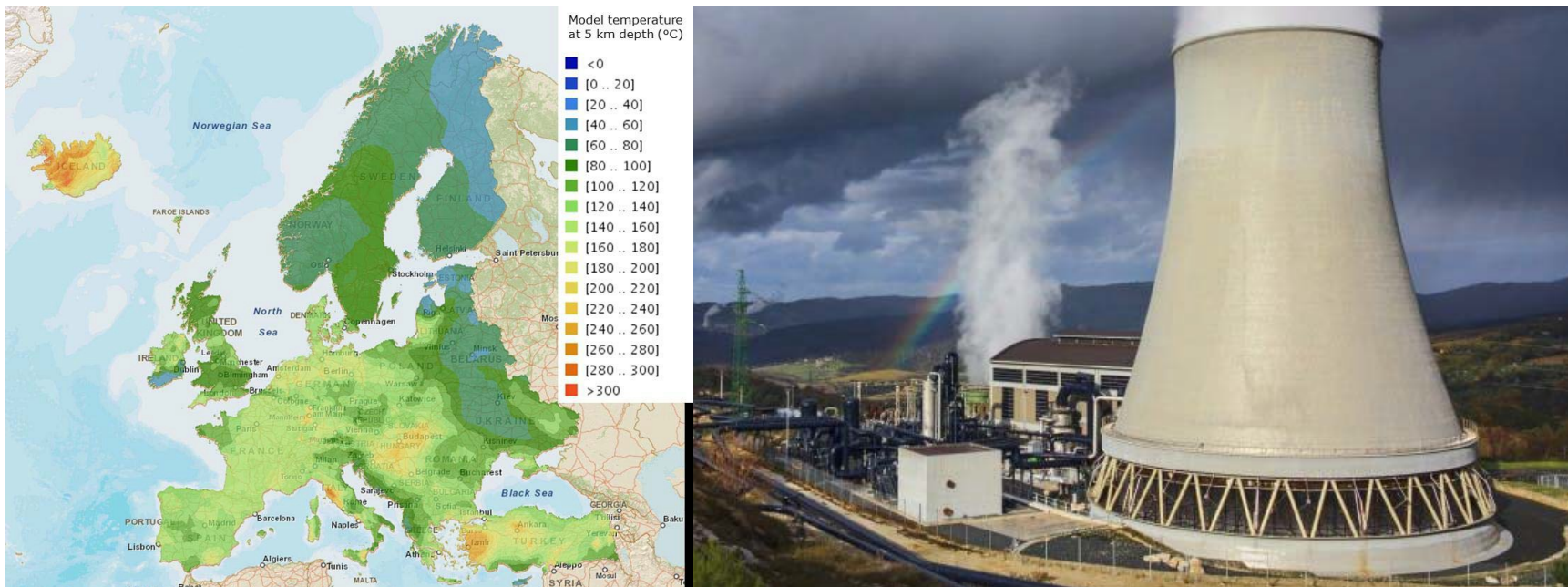


# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

## Green growth: promoting the growth of clean energy production

EGS: engineered geothermal system - stimulating deep hot resources that are otherwise not exploitable - provided technological challenges are overcome, the installed capacity of EGS technology could reach between 1200 GW to 12000 GW worldwide (currently it is 60 GW)

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/new-report-analyses-geothermal-energy-sector>



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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

## Green growth: promoting the growth of clean energy production

Offshore wind

[https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/blue\\_growth\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/blue_growth_en)



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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

**Blue growth:** doubling revenues in 2020-2030 (from 5 to 10 bln€)

70% of the planet is water but only 5% of economy develops in it. The 'blue' economy represents roughly 5.4 million jobs and generates a gross added value of almost €500 billion a year.

[https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/blue\\_growth\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/blue_growth_en)



Table 2.3 Preliminary assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 economic crisis on the Blue Economy

Sector	Size	Initial impact	Recovery path
<b>Established sectors</b>			
Marine living resources	Medium	Strong	Lagged
Marine non-living resources	Small	Medium	Prompt
Marine renewable energy	Nascent	Strong	Prompt
Port activities	Medium	Strong	Prompt
Shipbuilding and repair	Small	Medium	Lagged
Maritime transport	Medium	Strong	Prompt
Coastal tourism	Very large	Strong	Very lagged
<b>Emerging sectors</b>			
Blue bioeconomy	Small	Strong	Prompt
Ocean energy	Nascent	Small	Prompt
Desalination	Nascent	Small	Prompt
Maritime defence	Small	Small	Prompt
Cables	Nascent	Small	Prompt
Research and Education	Nascent	Small	Prompt
Marine observation	Nascent	Small	Prompt

Source: Commission Services.

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# The blue growth and the challenges for civil engineering



**durable and resilient infrastructures  
to support and boost blue growth**

YEARLY COST OF CORROSION: 2.5 USD TRILLION (3.4% WORLD GDP)

Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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# The blue growth and the challenges for civil engineering



**durable and resilient infrastructures  
to support and boost blue growth**

DICA, Politecnico di Milano



**Horizon H2020 European Union Funding for Research & Innovation**

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# The green growth and the challenges for civil engineering



lasting and resilient infrastructures  
to support and boost green growth

Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano

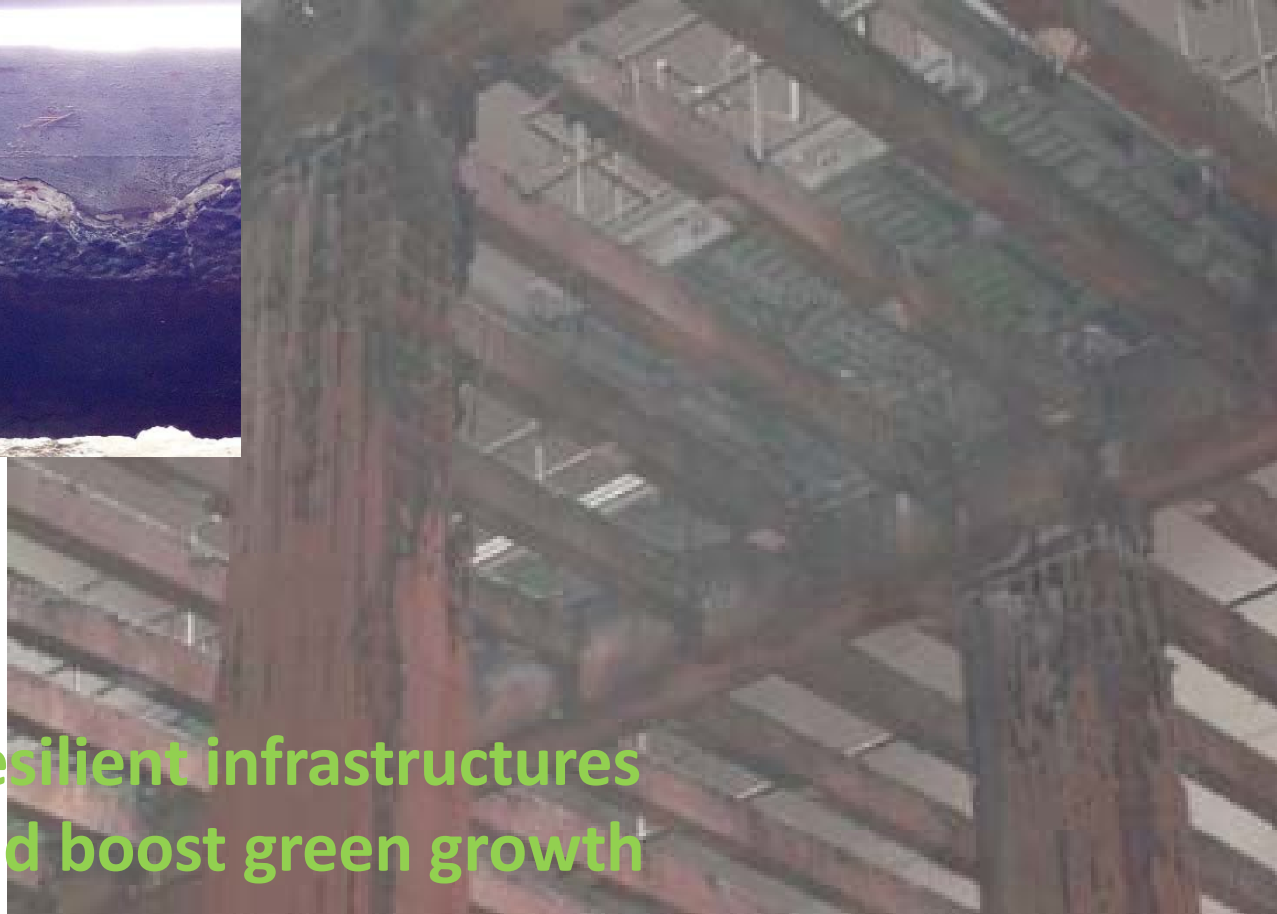


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# The green growth and the challenges for civil engineering



**durable and resilient infrastructures  
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Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

Structures in XS/XA exposures

Design prescriptions (EN 1992-1-1; *fib* Model Code 2010, ACI)



	Maximum w/c	minimum cement content		minimum compressive strength	minimum concrete cover	maximum crack width
		kg/m <sup>3</sup>		MPa	mm	mm
XS	0.40 - 0.65	300 - 400		25 - 40/50	25 – 75	0.1 - 0.4
				150 (UHPC)	10 – 30	?
XA	0.45 - 0.65	275	- 400	25/30 to 40/50	-	0.1 - 0.3
		325				
		325				



# The ReSHEALience project challenge

## The challenge

*Improved material durability in buildings and infrastructures, including offshore*

13 (+1) partners + 3 LTPs from 7 (+1) countries

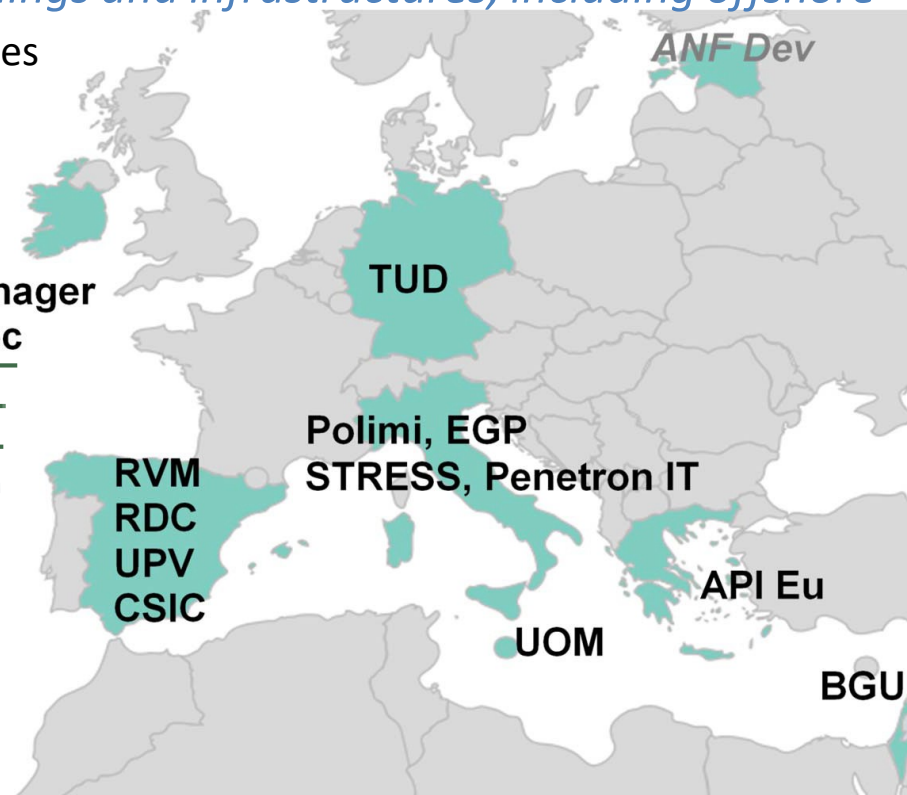
5.5 M€



JANUARY  
1  
2018



MARCH  
31  
2022



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# The «ReSHEALience» project consortium



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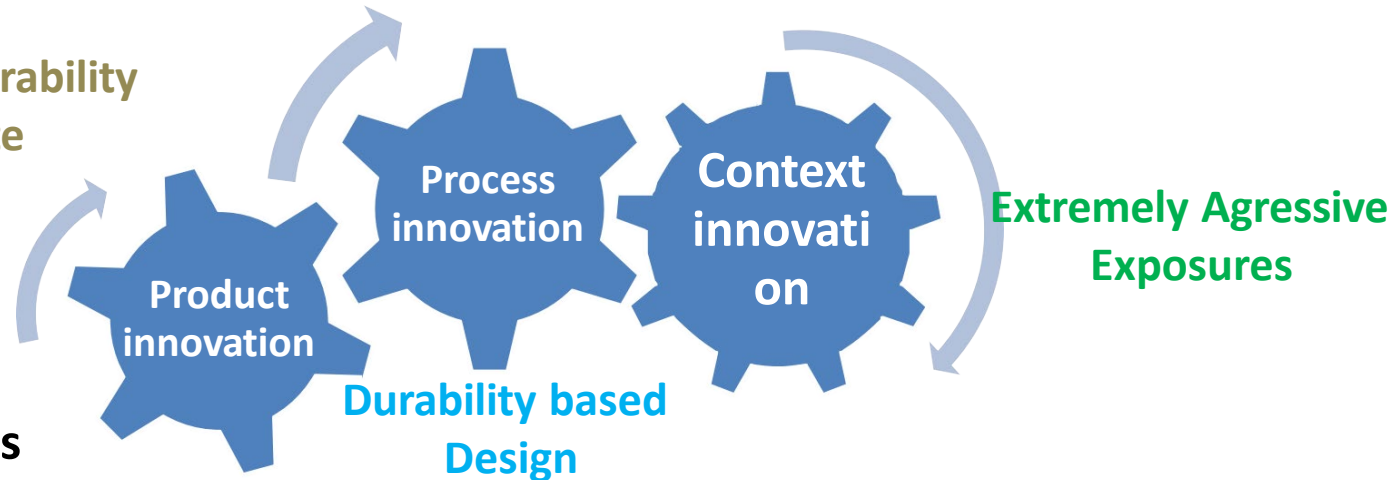


# The «ReSHEALience» project concept

## The strategy

Develop a **Ultra High Durability Concretes (UHDCs)** and a methodology for **Durability modelling** of materials and **Durability Assessment-based Design** of buildings and structures to improve durability and predict their **long-term performance** under **Extremely Aggressive Exposures**

Ultra High Durability  
Concrete



## The objectives

<b>MATERIAL</b> <b>100%</b> of improvement in un-cracked state	<b>STRUCTURAL</b> <b>30%</b> of improvement in cracked state	<b>RESILIENCE</b> <b>30%</b> of increase of service life	<b>COSTS</b> <b>50%</b> of reduction of maintenance costs	<b>ACCURACY</b> <b>75%</b> of accuracy of the modelling	<b>BUSINESS PLANS</b> <b>7</b> One per industrial partner	<b>IMPACT</b> <b>300</b> subscribers per year to the newsletter
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# The ReSHEALience project concept Material innovation: UHDC

Can UHPFRC be the starting point?

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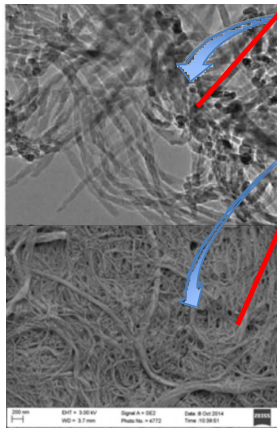


# The ReSHEALience project concept

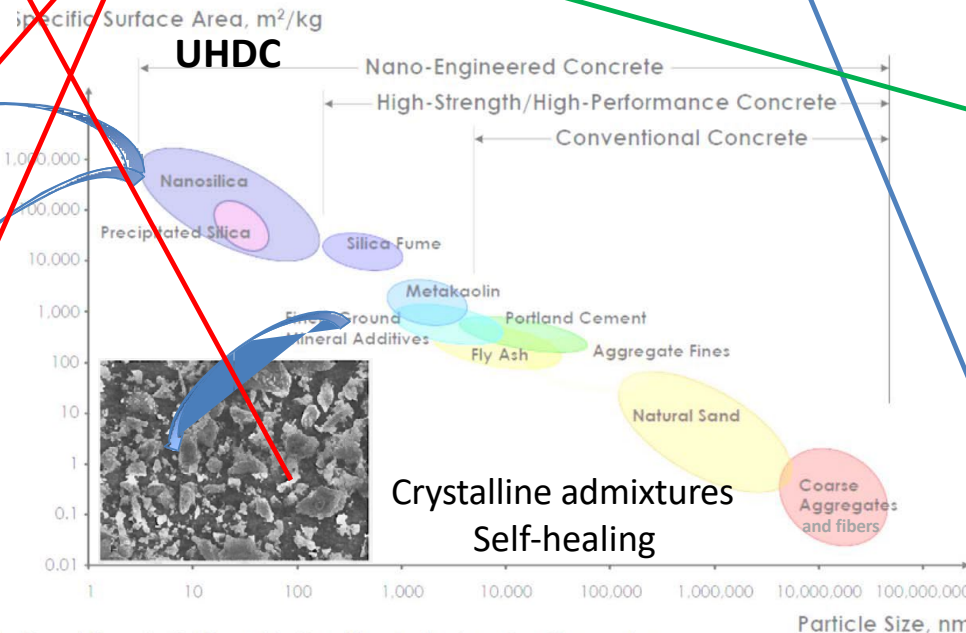
## Material innovation: UHDC

Ultra High Durability Concrete (UHDC): *“strain-hardening fibre/textile reinforced cementitious material with micro- and nano-scale functionalizing constituents, especially added to obtain a high durability in the cracked state under extremely aggressive exposure conditions”.*

Alumina nanofibres  
Nano-reinforcement



Cellulose nanofibrils  
and nanocrystals  
Self-curing



[1] Sobolev K. and Ferrada-Gutiérrez M., How Nanotechnology Can Change the Concrete World: Part 2. American Ceramic Society Bulletin, No. 11, 2005, pp. 16-19.

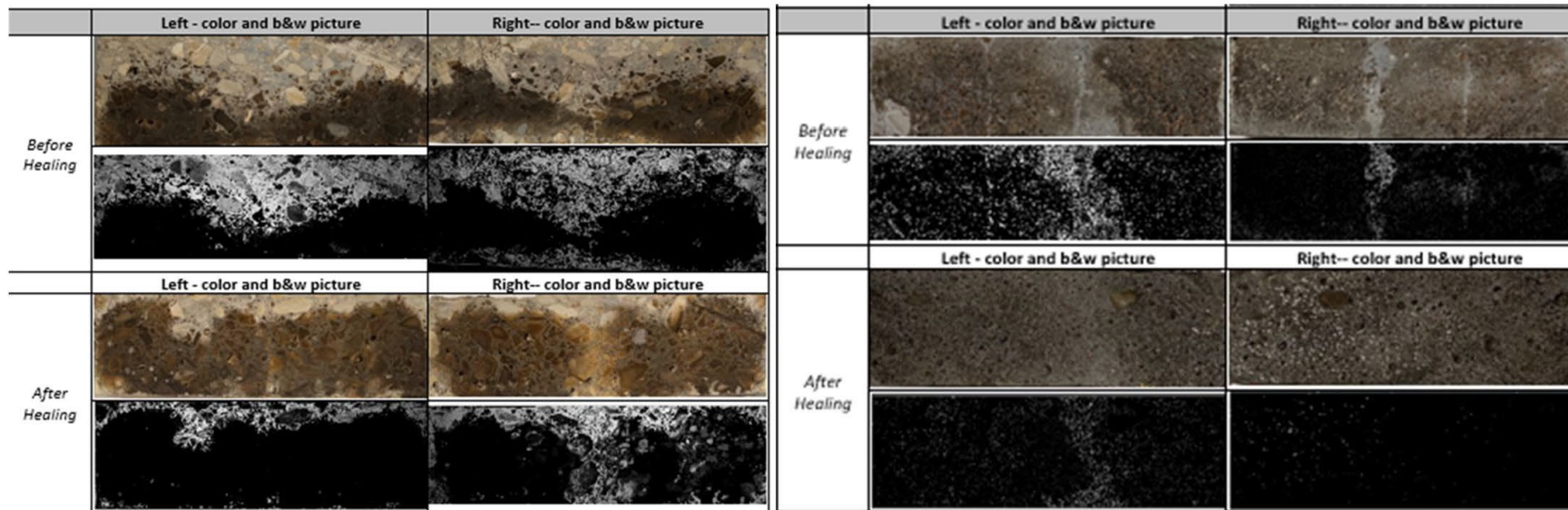


# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Material innovation: from UHPC to UHDC

Self-healing stimulators: crystalline admixture (Penetron Admix<sup>®</sup>)

Resistance to chloride penetration – tests made at UPV



Conventional concrete

UHPC + self-healing stimulator

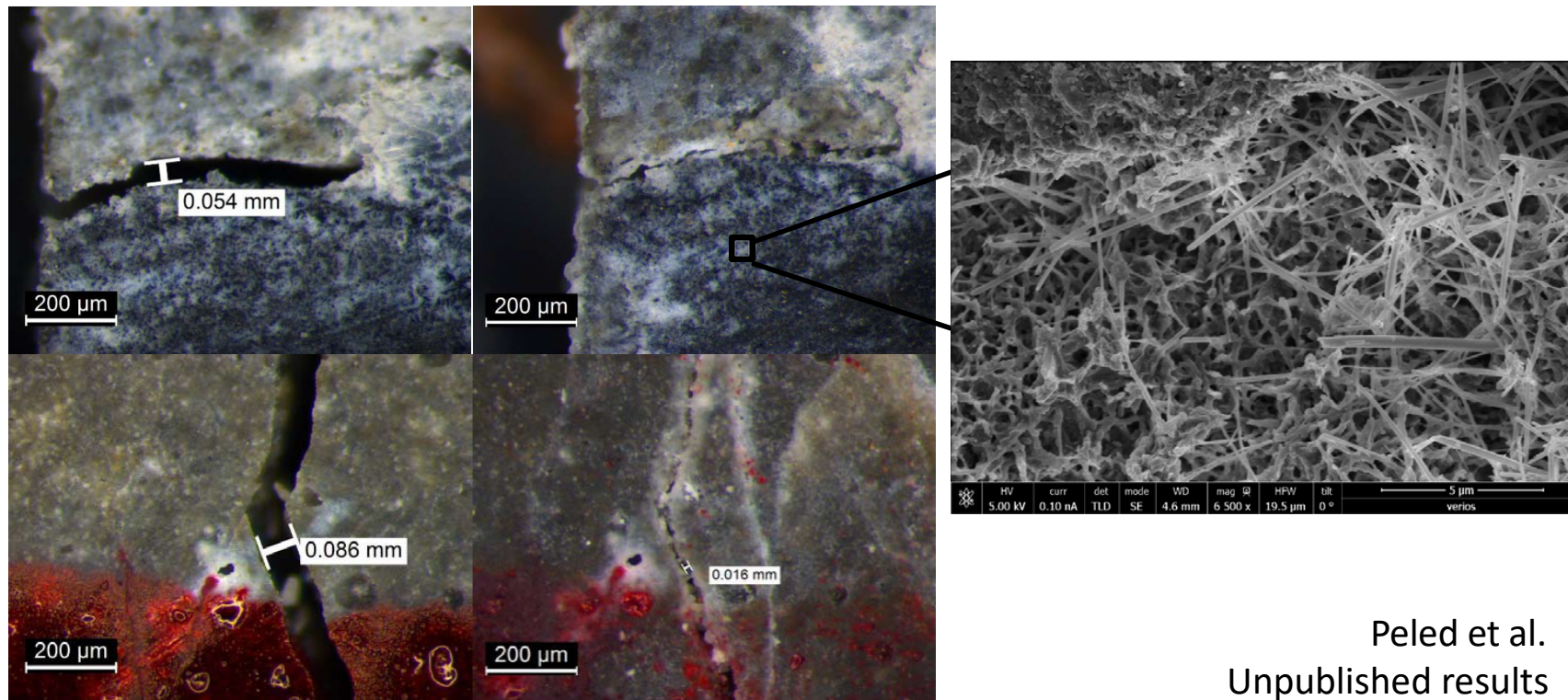
Serna and Roig-Flores  
Unpublished results



# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Material innovation: from UHPC to UHDC

Self-healing stimulators: crystalline admixtures (Penetron Admix<sup>®</sup>)  
Recovery of (im)permeability: tests on TR-UHDC – tests made at BGU



Peled et al.  
Unpublished results

Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



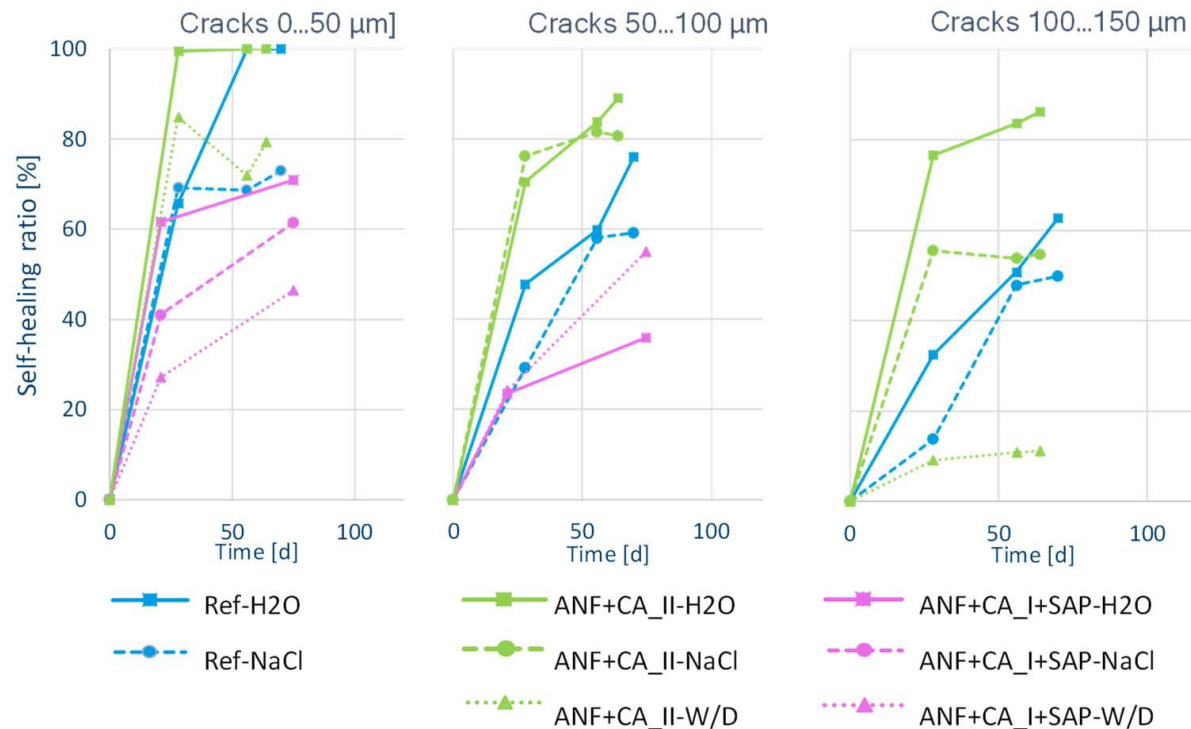
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# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Material innovation: from UHPC to UHDC

Crystalline admixture (Penetron Admix®) and alumina nanofibres (Nafen®)  
effectiveness of crack closure: tests on TR-UHDC made at TUD



Unpublished results  
from partner TUD

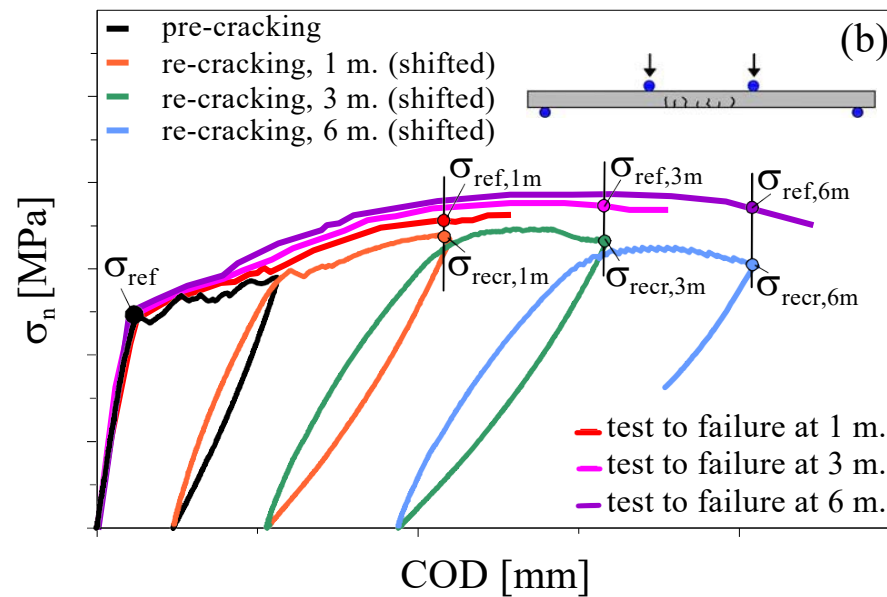


# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Material innovation: from UHPC to UHDC

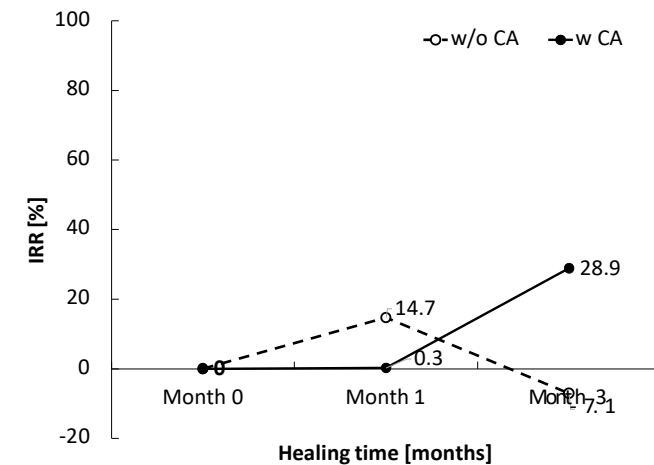
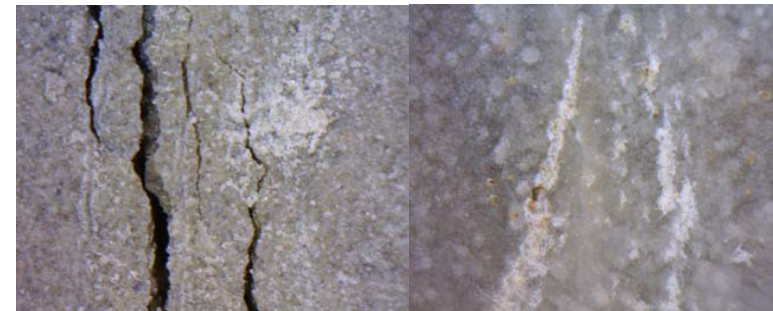
Self-healing stimulators: crystalline admixture (Penetron Admix<sup>®</sup>)

Stability of mechanical performance – tests made at PoliMi



$$IRR[\%] = \left( \frac{U_{recr,i} - U_{ref,i}}{U_{ref}} \right) 100$$

Cuenca et al., unpublished results



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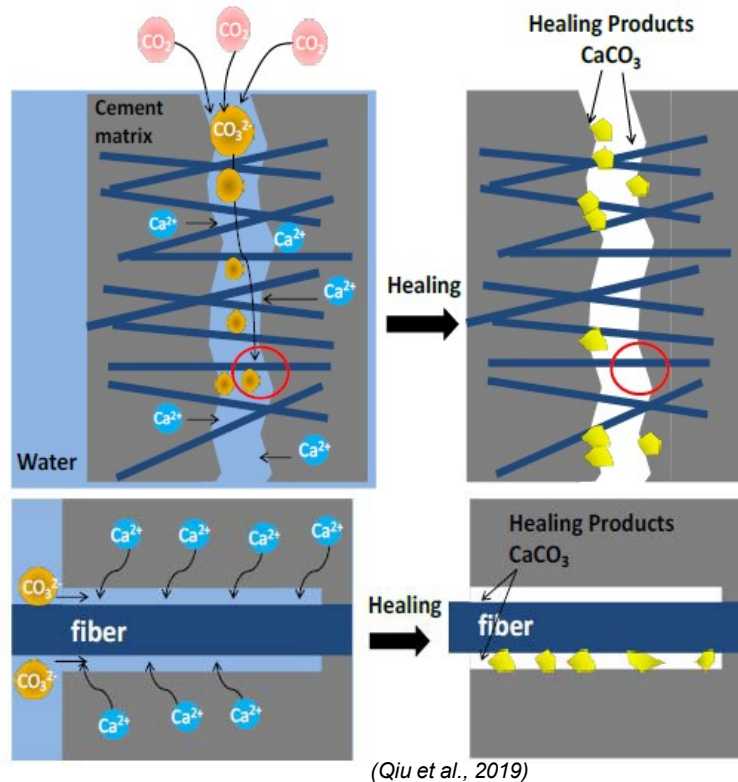
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# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Material innovation: from UHPC to UHDC

Self-healing stimulators: crystalline admixtures

Stability of mechanical performance – tests on self-levelling UHDC



[www.uhdc.eu](http://www.uhdc.eu)

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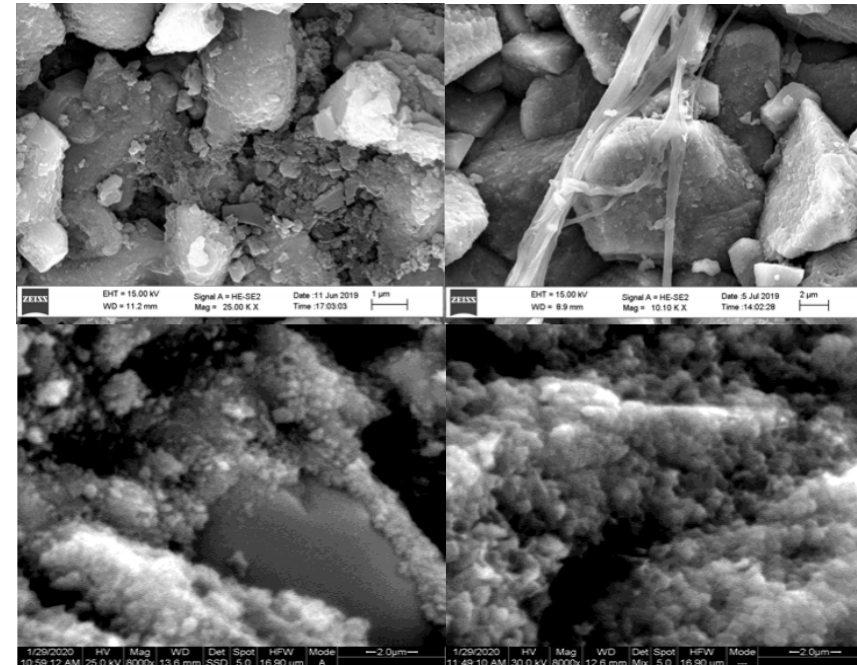
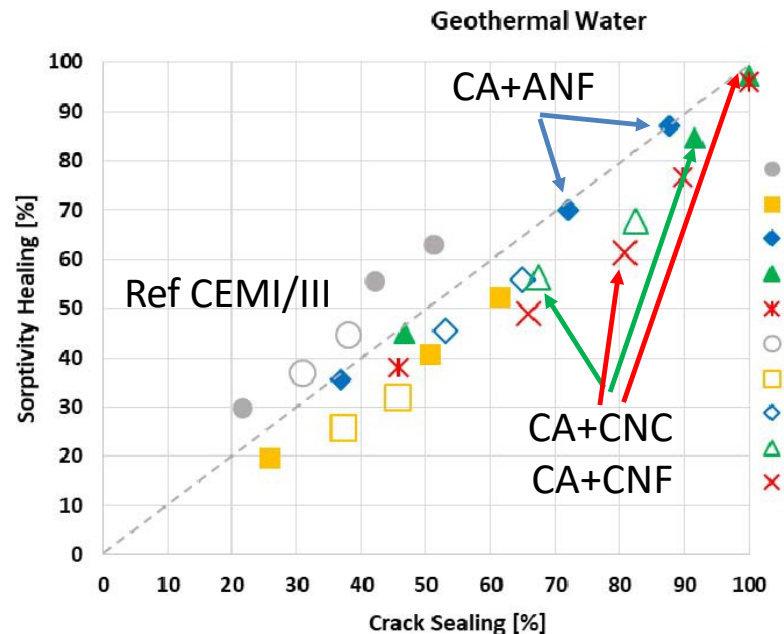
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# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Material innovation: from UHPC to UHDC

Synergy between crystalline admixtures (Penetron Admix<sup>®</sup>) and alumina nanofibres (Nafen<sup>®</sup>) or cellulose nanofibrils/crystals (API Europe<sup>®</sup>) effectiveness of (im)permeability recovery: tests made at PoliMi



Construction and Building Materials, in review

Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano

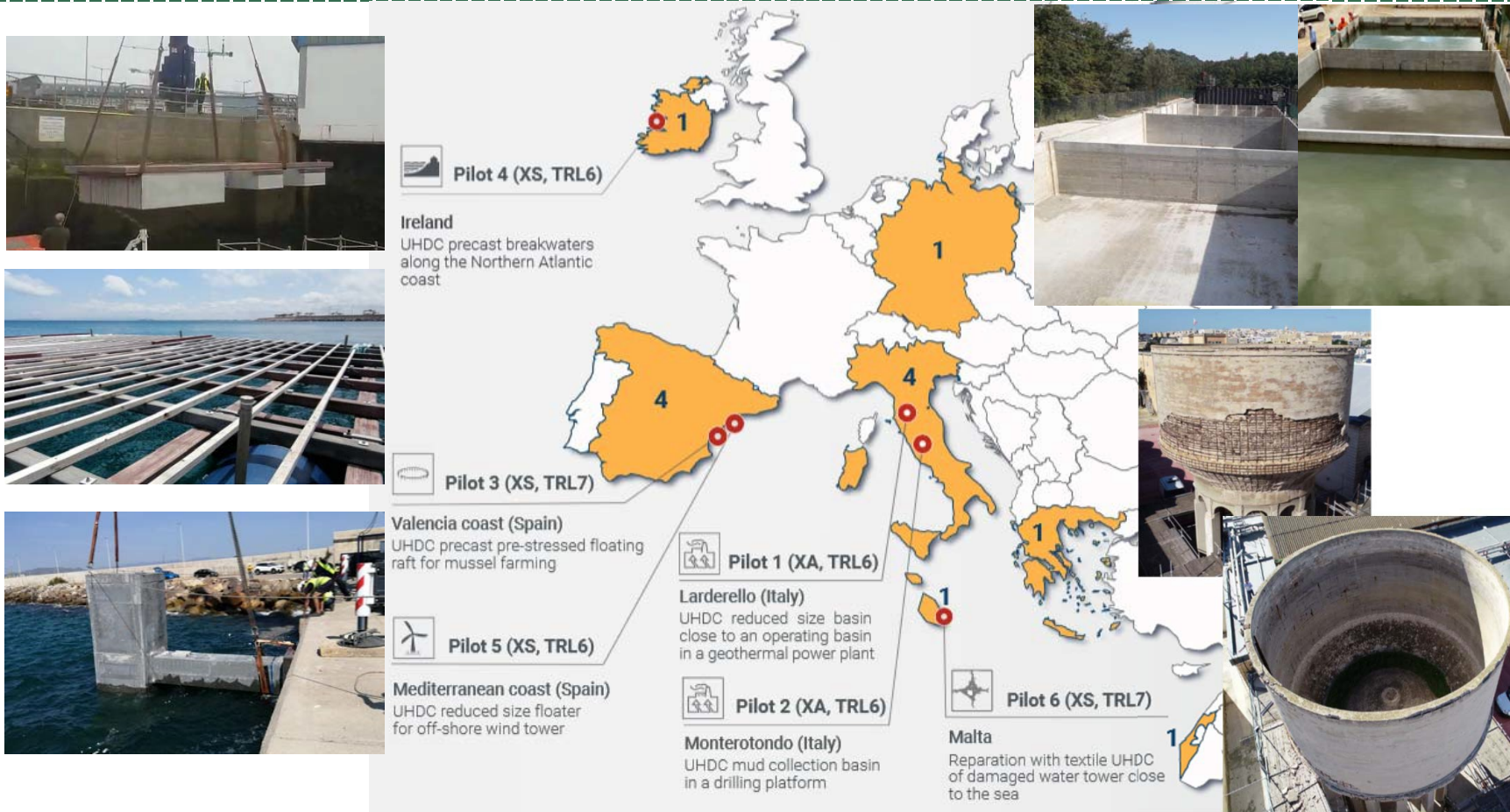


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# The ReSHEALience project concept - Context innovation:

## Blue Growth, Green Energy, R/C Heritage Conservation



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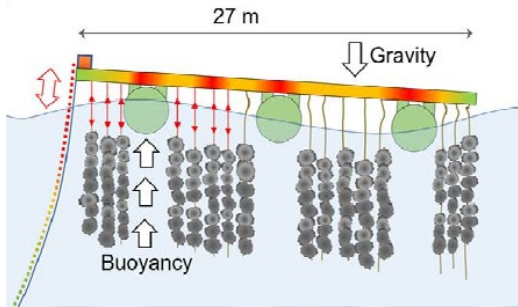


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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



RDC

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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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DE VALÈNCIA



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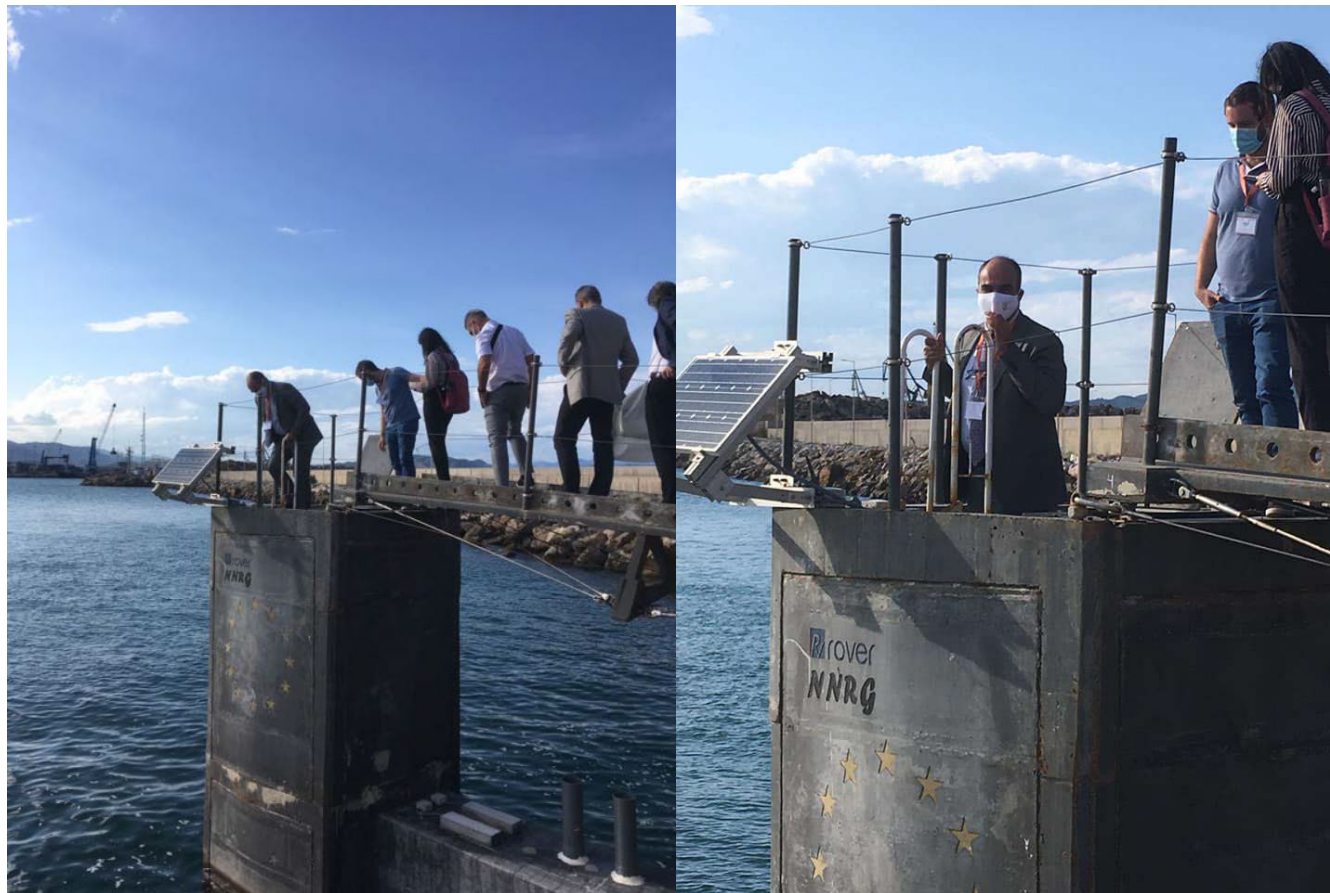


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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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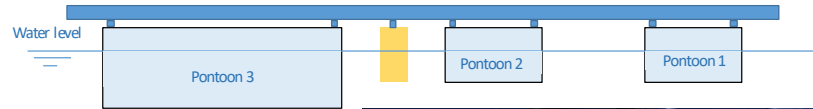


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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



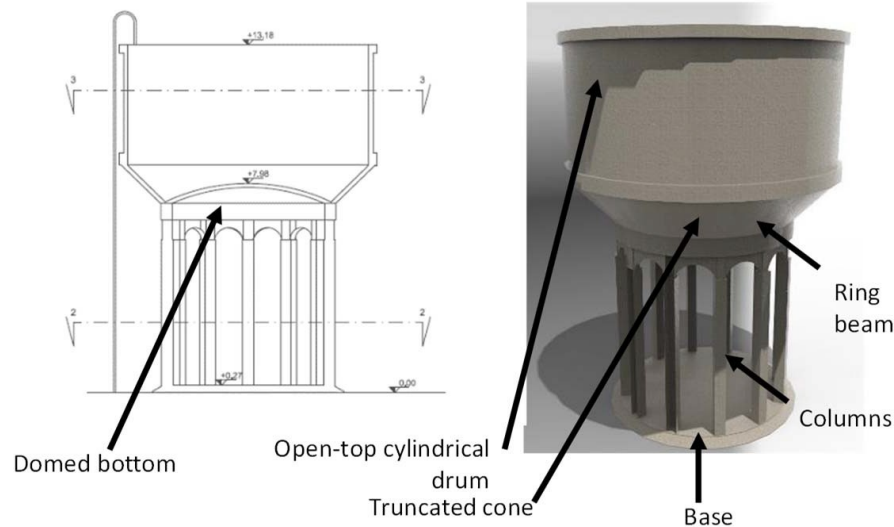
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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



L-Università  
ta' Malta



Ben-Gurion University  
of the Negev



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



L-Università  
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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept

Ultra High Durable Concrete (UHDC): *“strain-hardening (fibre reinforced) cementitious material with functionalizing micro- and nano-scale constituents (alumina nanofibers, cellulose nanofibers/crystals, crystalline admixtures, especially added to obtain a high durability in the cracked state under extremely aggressive exposure conditions”.*



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept



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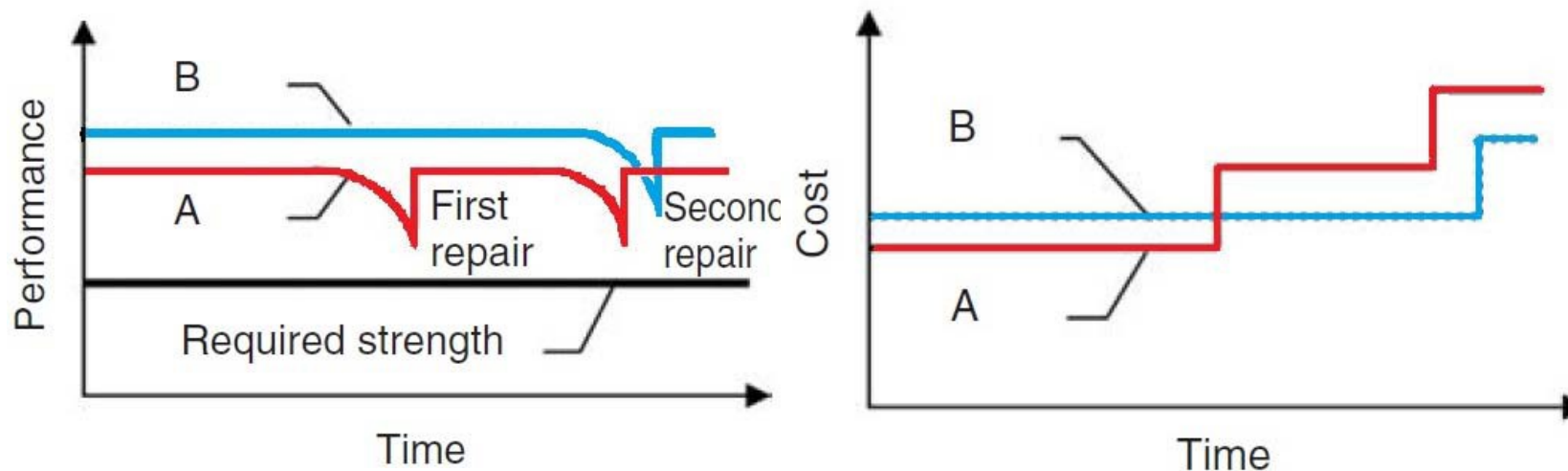
# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept

Constituents	XA-	XA-CA CEMIII	XA-CA +ANF	XA-CA +CNC	XA-CA +CNF
<i>CEMI 52,5 R</i>	600	-	600	600	600
<i>CEM III</i>	-	600			
<i>Slag</i>	500				
<i>Water</i>	200	200	200	200	200
<i>Steel fibers</i>		120	120	120	120
<i>Azichem Readymesh</i> 200	120				
<i>Sand 0-2mm</i>	982	982	982	982	982
<i>Superplasticizer</i> <i>Glenium ACE 300</i>	33	33	33	33	33
<i>Crystalline admixtures</i>	3	3	3	3	3
<i>Alumina nanofibers*</i>	-	-	0.25	-	-
<i>Cellulose nanocrystals*</i>	-	-	-	0.15	-
<i>Cellulose nanofibrils*</i>	-	-	-	-	0.15

\*% by cement mass

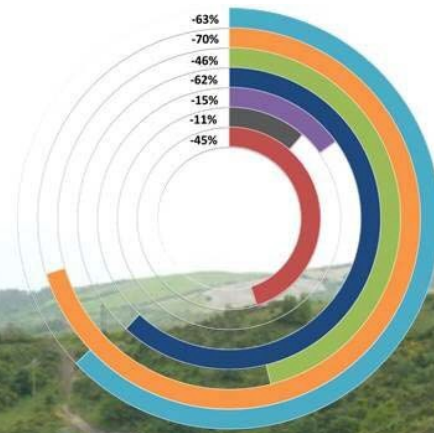
# ReSHEALience project: towards a novel holistic design concept

Ultra High Durable Concrete (UHDC): *“strain-hardening (fibre reinforced) cementitious material with functionalizing micro- and nano-scale constituents (alumina nanofibers, cellulose nanofibers/crystals, crystalline admixtures, especially added to obtain a high durability in the cracked state under extremely aggressive exposure conditions”.*





# ReSHEALience project: concluding remarks in a durability and LCA based «structural design» nutshell



Caruso et al., 2020  
3° RILEM LCA symposium



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano

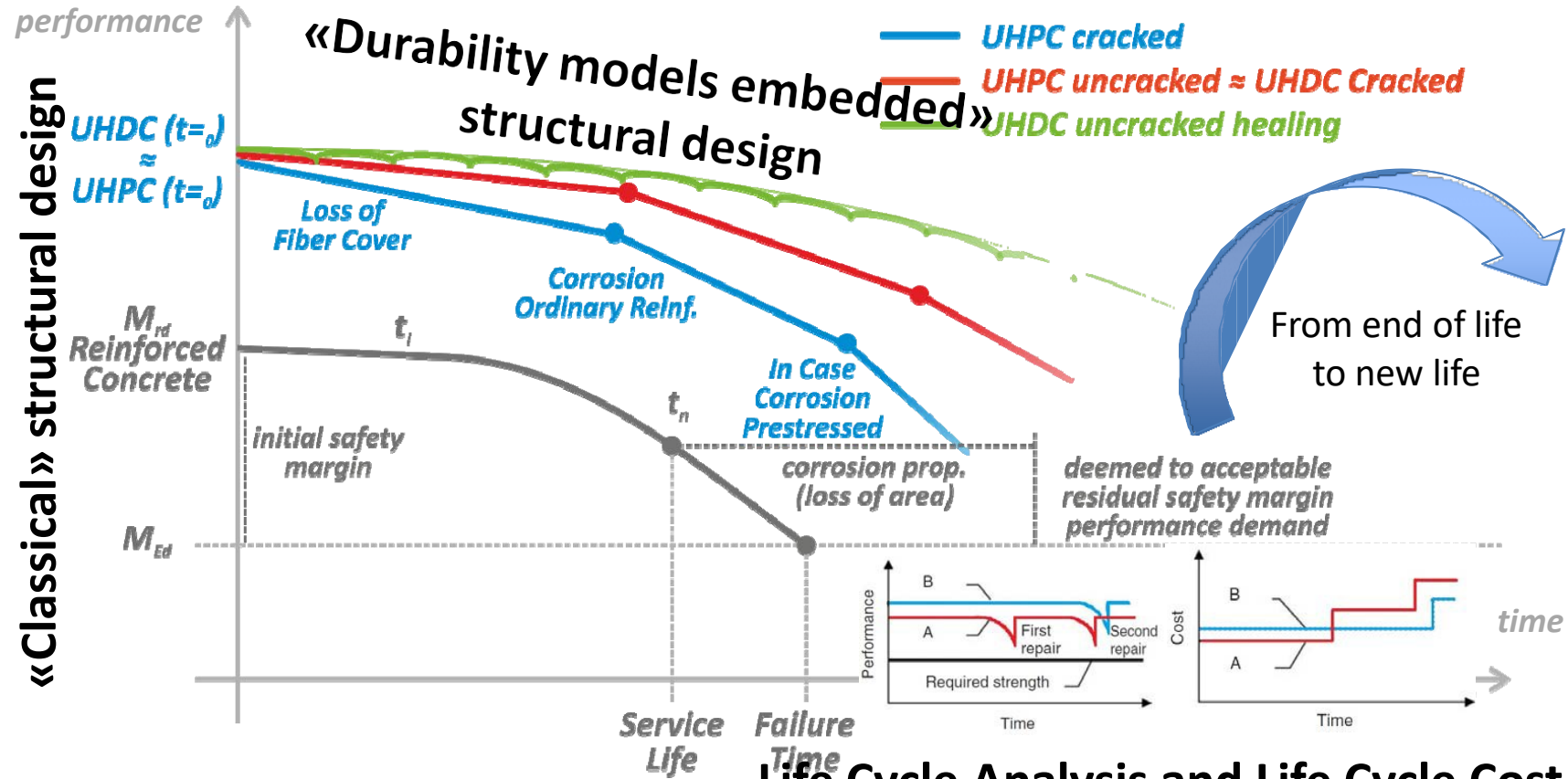


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# The ReSHEALience project concept

## Process innovation: Durability based Design

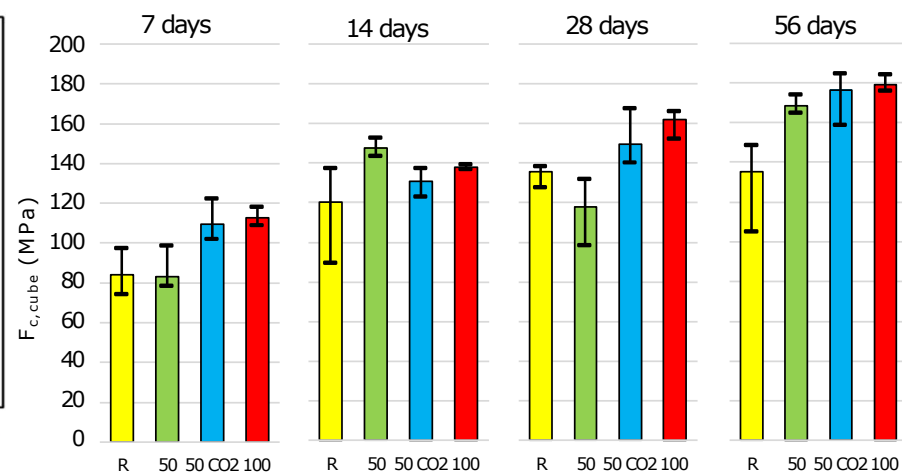
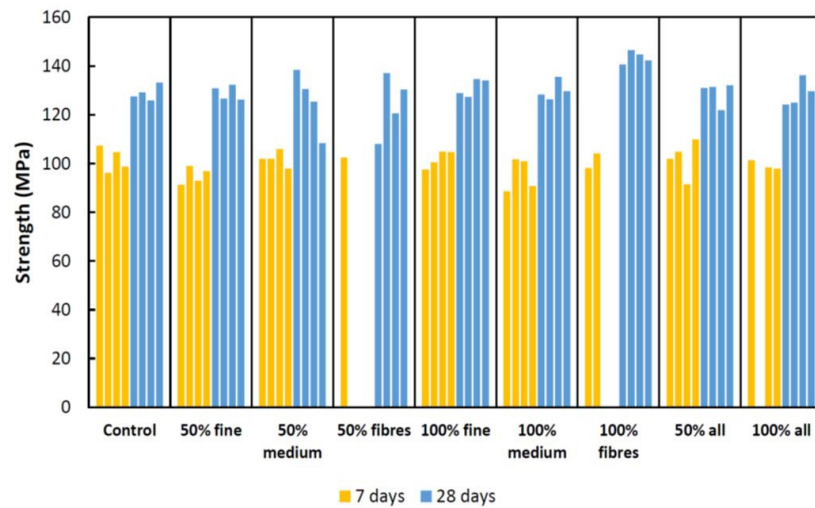




# The ReSHEALience project concept Process innovation: re/up cycling



Unpublished results



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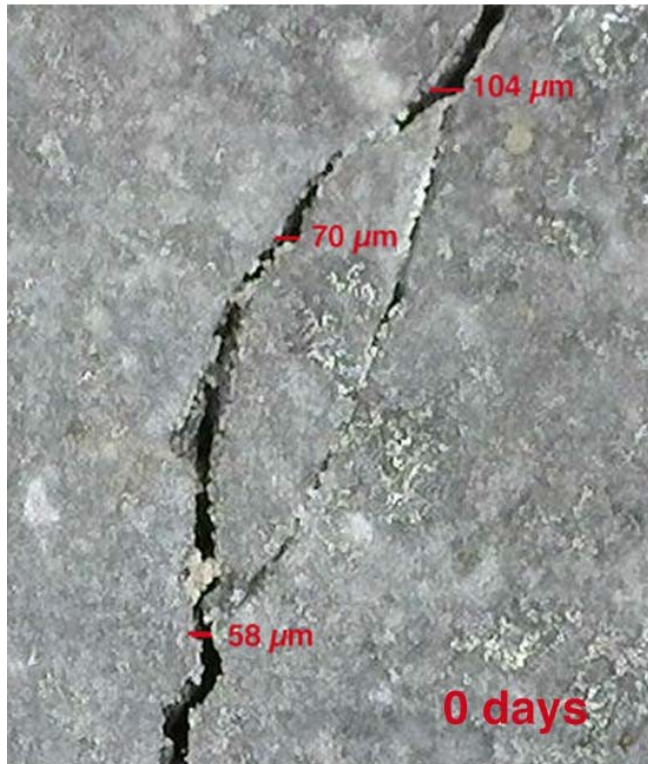
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# The ReSHEALience project concept Process innovation: re/up cycling

Niranjan K. Prabhu PhD thesis, unpublished image



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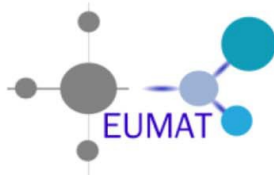
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# Current «societal» challenges for civil engineering

**Reflection Paper addresses the role of materials in the post-covid society**

*Published on 24.09.2020 by EMMC - European Commission - A4M\_Alliance for Materials - EUMAT*



*Which scenario?*



## “The role of Materials in the post-COVID society”

*A reflection on how Materials will enable solutions for a healthy, safe, and resilient society to achieve a sustainable, stable, and stronger economy, able to respond to citizen’s demands.*

**... to create a less dependent, more resilient European economy by guaranteeing raw material supplies, by ensuring higher materials durability, higher energy efficiency, higher degrees of materials re-cycling and re-use and by material-saving through optimized products by design with enhanced repair**

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**Durability-based design of  
advanced cement-based materials  
in aggressive environments:  
a holistic approach**

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RILEM

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# ... educating a new generation of professionals ...

**Estefania Cuenca**, Assistant professor, PoliMi

Francesco Lo Monte, Assistant professor, PoliMi

**Antonio Cibelli**, PhD student, PoliMi

**Salam Maytham**, PhD student, PoliMi

**Maria Chiara Caruso**, LCA expert, STRESS

**Cristina Maestre**, Communication expert, RDC

**Evangelia Enteze**, Post-doc researcher, API Europe

Michail Iakovlev, Post-doc researcher, API Europe

**Valentina Violante**, Project engineer, Penetron IT

**Marta Roig Flores**, Post-doctoral student, UPV

**Eduard Mezquida**, PhD student, UPV

**Roman Bataller**, researcher, UPV

**Philipp Kuntz**, PhD student, TUD

**Michaela Reichardt**, PhD student, TUD

**Maria Criado**, Post-doctoral student, CSIC

**Mercedes Gimenez**, PhD student, CSIC

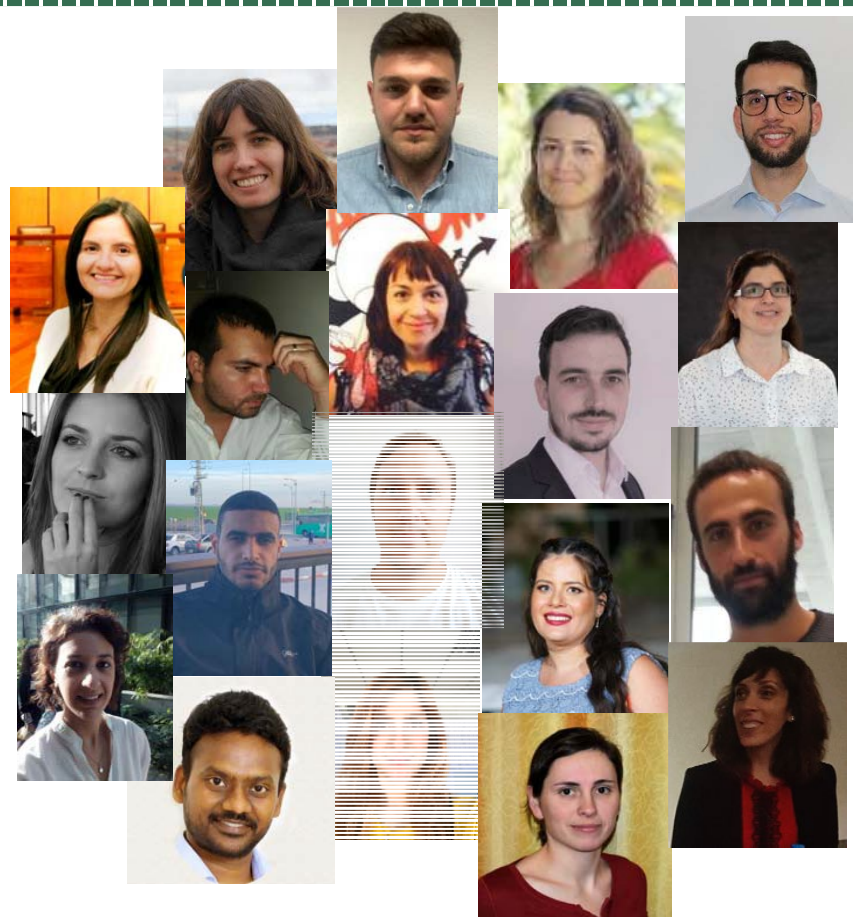
Radhu Sripada, Post-doctoral student, BGU

**Amer Alatawna**, PhD student, BGU

**Lior Nahum**, PhD student, BGU

**Tal Yadlin**, PhD student, BGU

**Milena Nasner Albany**, Post-doctoral researcher, UoM



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# ... educating a new generation of professionals ...



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# Contact Info

**For further information on the projects please contact:**



**prof. Liberato Ferrara**

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,  
Politecnico di Milano

Tel.: +39 02 2399 4387

[liberato.ferrara@polimi.it](mailto:liberato.ferrara@polimi.it)

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# on behalf of the ReSHEALience consortium



Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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# and of the ReSHEALients@DICA Polimi



*If you always do what you always did, you'll always get what you always got!*

Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



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*Thank you for  
your  
attention!*

Liberato Ferrara, DICA, Politecnico di Milano



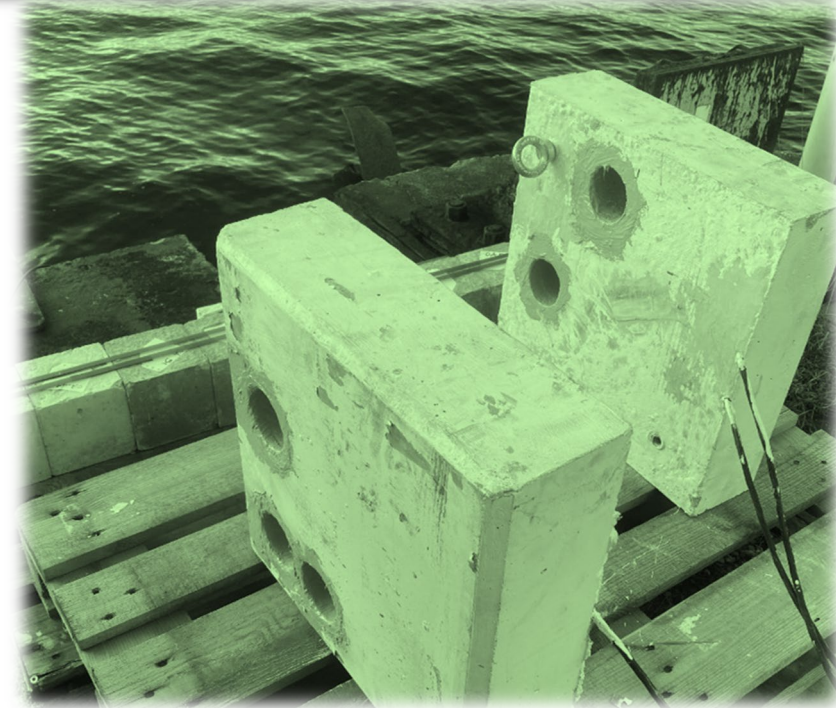
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## Q&A session





# Health and safety of the technologies

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**DR. CECILE PHILIPPOT**

Project Leader at the NanoSafety  
Platform of CEA Grenoble

**Dr. Cecile Philippot, CEA**



Is the EnDurCrete concrete safe to use,  
environmentally friendly and recyclable?

# Health, safety, environment, and recycling

## Global approach covering the whole life cycle



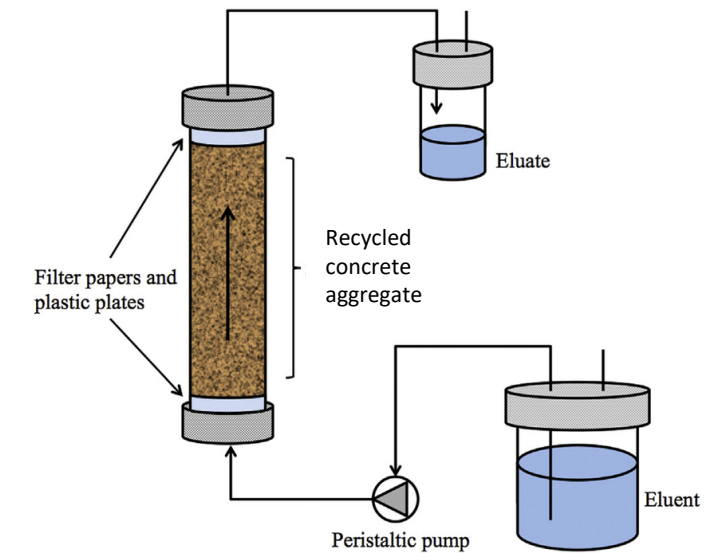
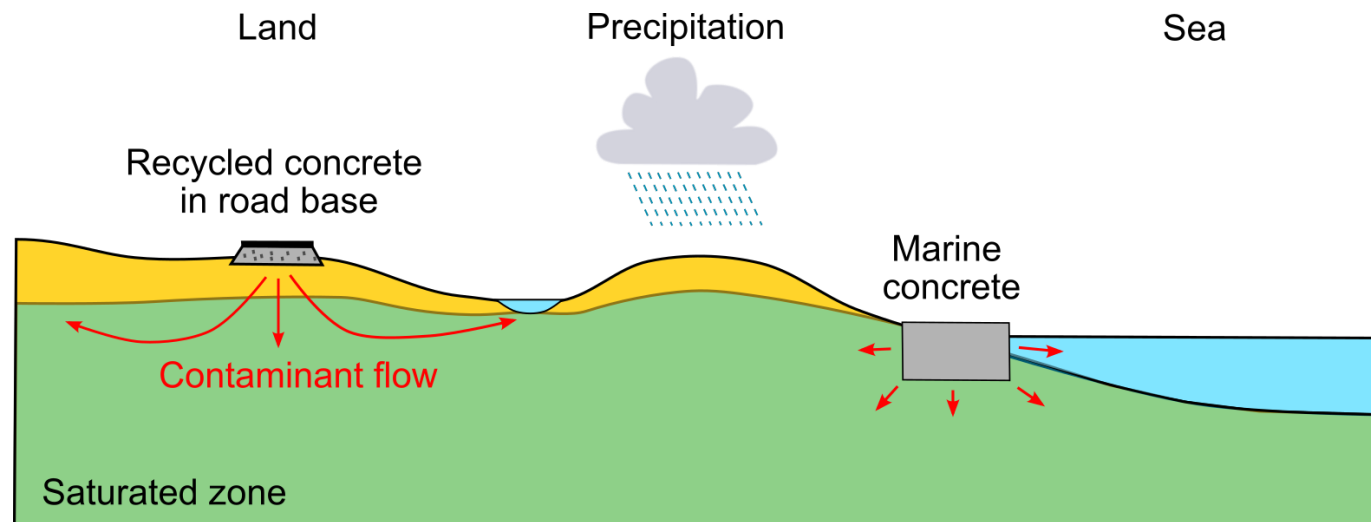
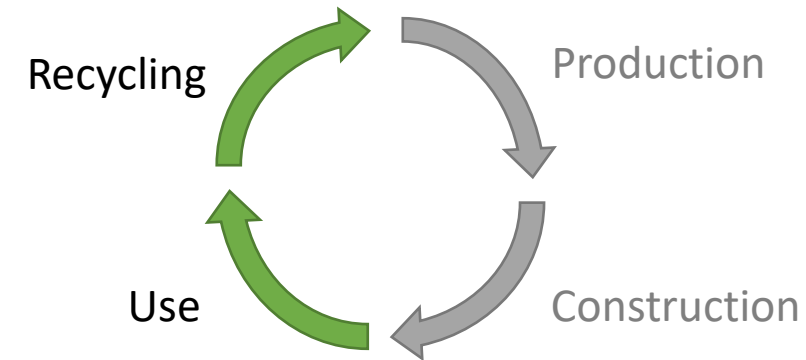


## ■ Safe approach of the production step



# Environmental compatibility

- The use and recycling of EnDurcrete products must not lead to release of contaminants to our environment
- Total content and leaching of potential contaminants is regulated by environmental law
- EnDurCrete products were tested and found to **comply to the regulations in first and second life** use scenarios

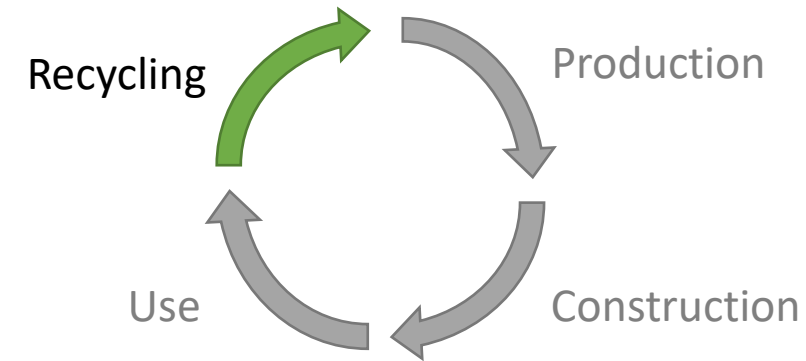


Leaching test set-up (EN 16637-3)



# Recyclability

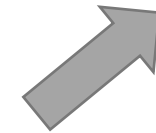
- In many EU countries, demolition concrete is fully recycled
- The recycling of EnDurCrete concretes was investigated to verify their compatibility with current recycling pathways



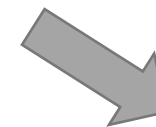
End-of-life concrete



Recycling



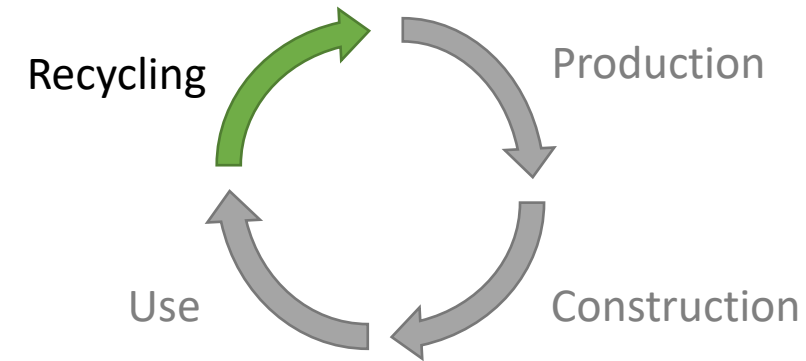
RCA use in  
road base



RCA in new  
concrete

# Recyclability

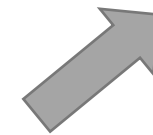
- In many EU countries, demolition concrete is fully recycled
- The recycling of EnDurCrete concretes was investigated to verify their compatibility with current recycling pathways
- It was concluded that:
  - EnDurCrete concrete can be recycled by conventional recycling facilities



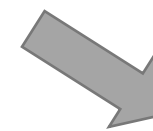
End-of-life concrete



Recycling



RCA use in  
road base

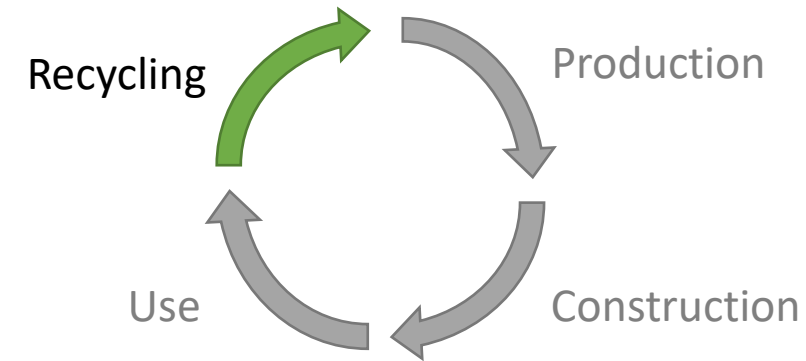


RCA in new  
concrete



# Recyclability

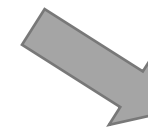
- In many EU countries, demolition concrete is fully recycled
- The recycling of EnDurCrete concretes was investigated to verify their compatibility with current recycling pathways
- It was concluded that:
  - EnDurCrete concrete can be recycled by conventional recycling facilities
  - The technical characteristics of the EnDurCrete RCA were found to be equivalent to reference RCA (water absorption, resistance against fragmentation, wear)



End-of-life concrete



Recycling



RCA use in  
road base



RCA in new  
concrete





# Prevalidation of technologies in the laboratory (durability)

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**PROF. DR. KLAARTJE DE WEERDT**

Professor at Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology (NTNU)

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**PROF. DR. ALISA MACHNER**

Tenure Track Professor for Mineral  
Construction Materials at the  
Technical University of Munich

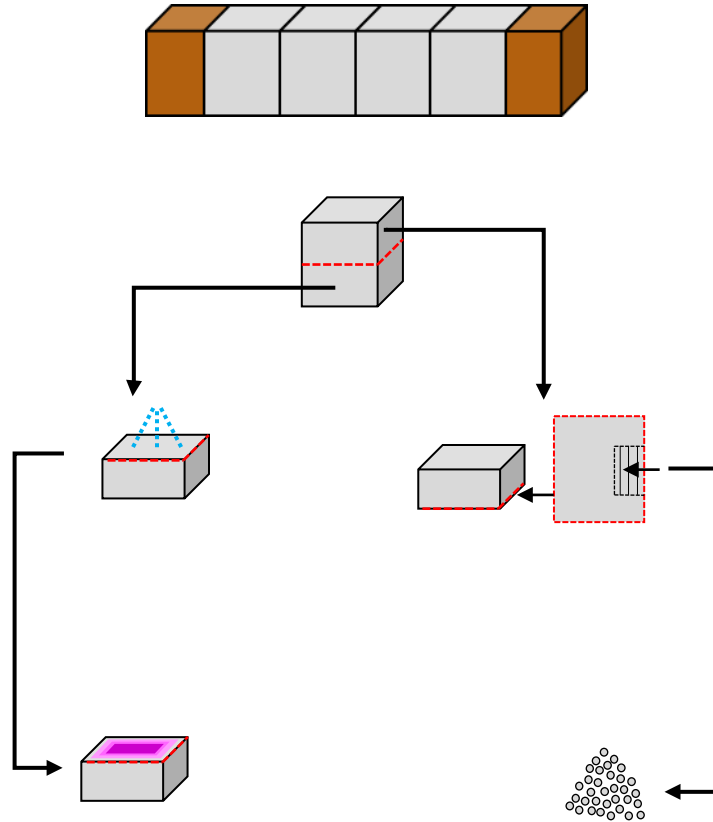


We designed an experimental setup to test the carbonation model for concrete prepared with the novel cements.

Which parameter should we for sure take into account?

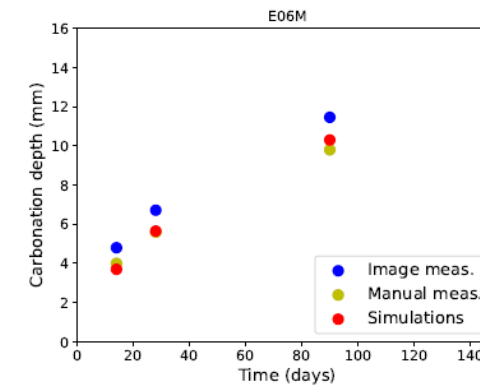
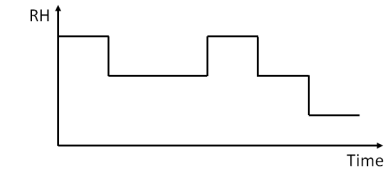
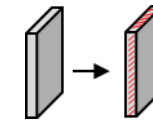
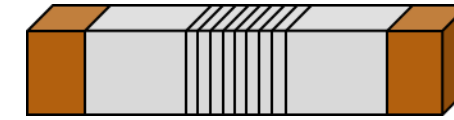
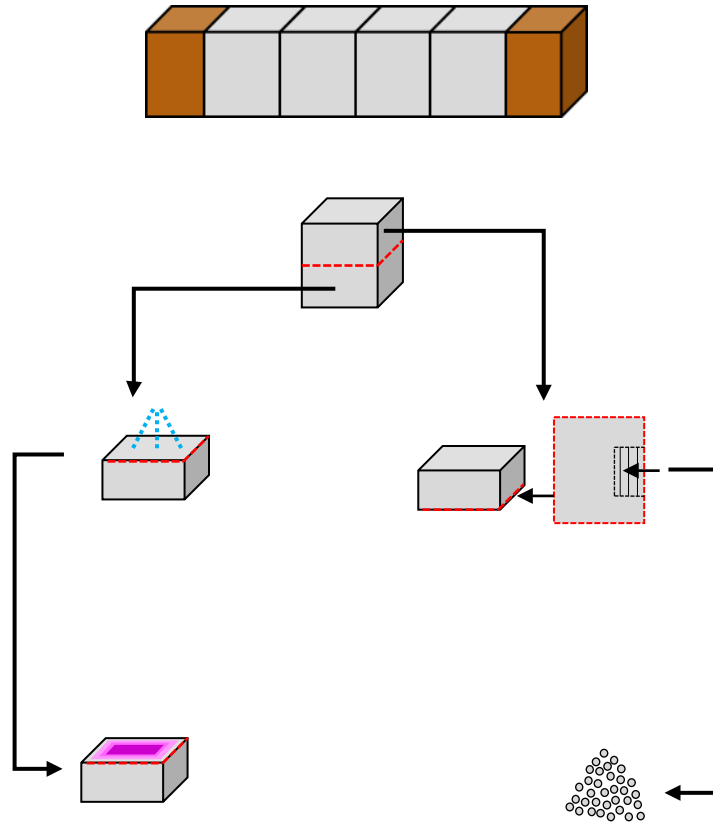
- a) relative humidity
- b) drying rate
- c) cement composition
- d) CO<sub>2</sub> concentration
- e) w/c ratio

# Carbonation





# Carbonation



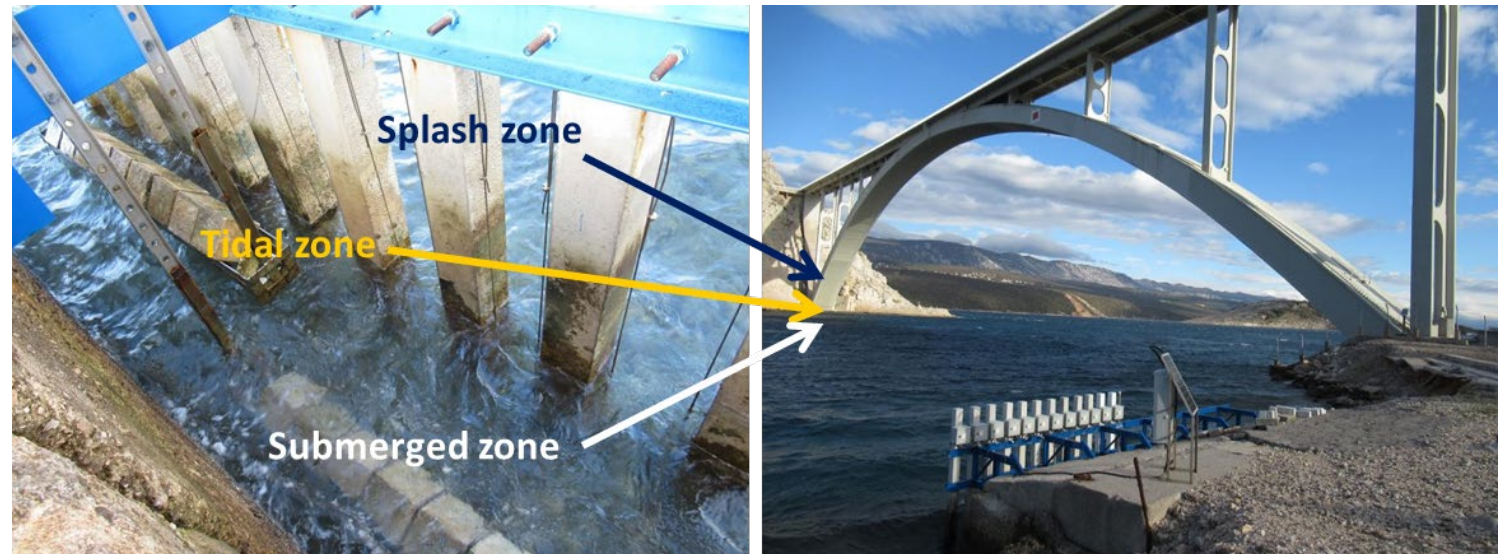
[Gu et al., ongoing work]

# Question on chloride ingress

Concrete samples were tested using  $\mu$ XRF after 1 year of marine exposure.

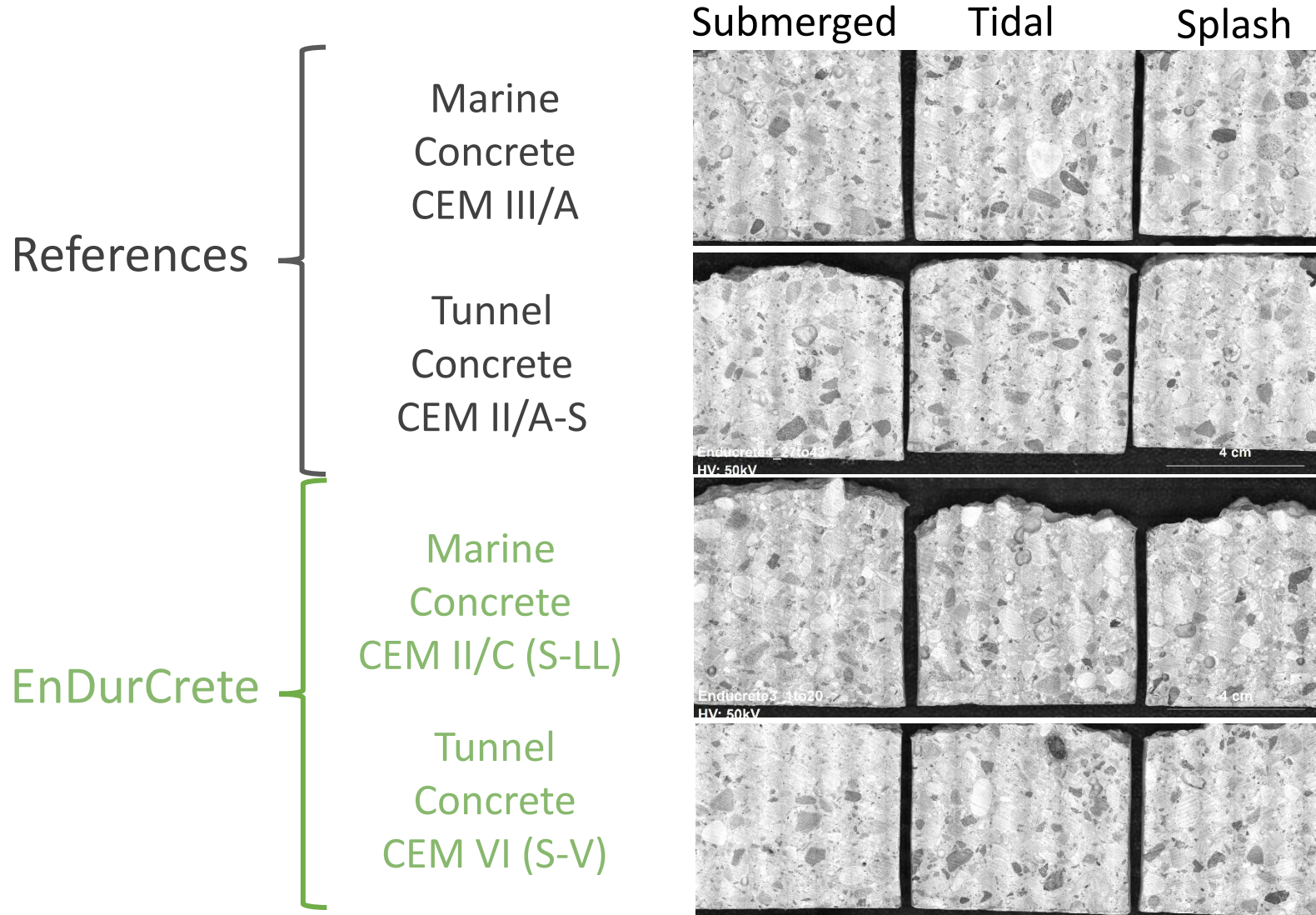
Which exposure zone is most susceptible to chloride ingress?

- a) Submerged
- b) Tidal
- c) Splash



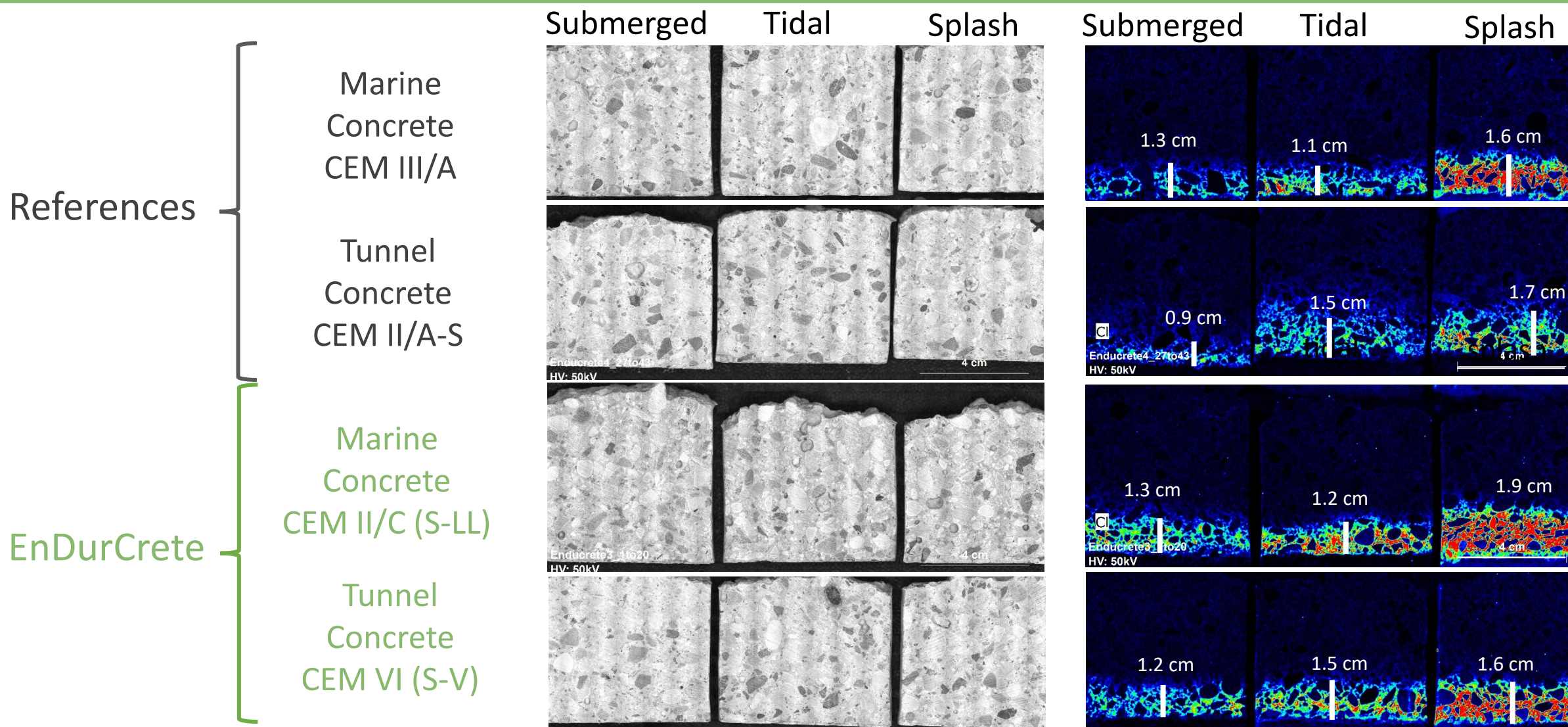


# Chloride ingress





# Chloride ingress





# Modelling of durability over 100 years

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**RUBEN VALSECCHI**

Civil engineer at RINA Consulting

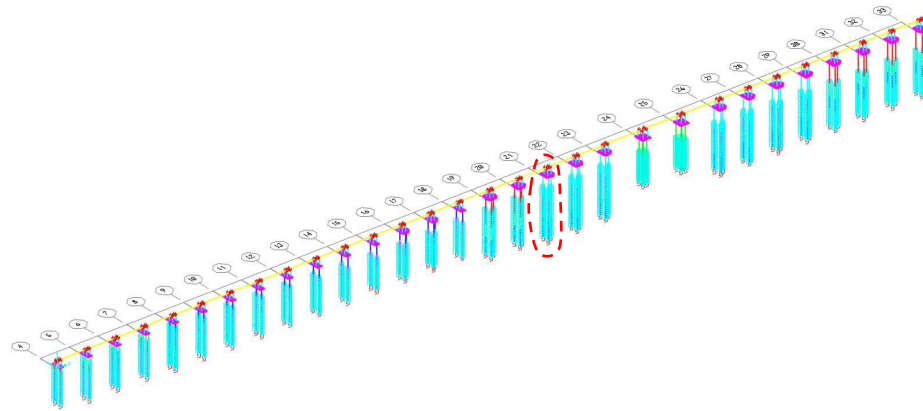
**Ruben Valsecchi, RINA Consulting S. p. a**

Which materials/combination of them lead to the highest increase in Service Life?



# Service life evaluation – Chloride (1)

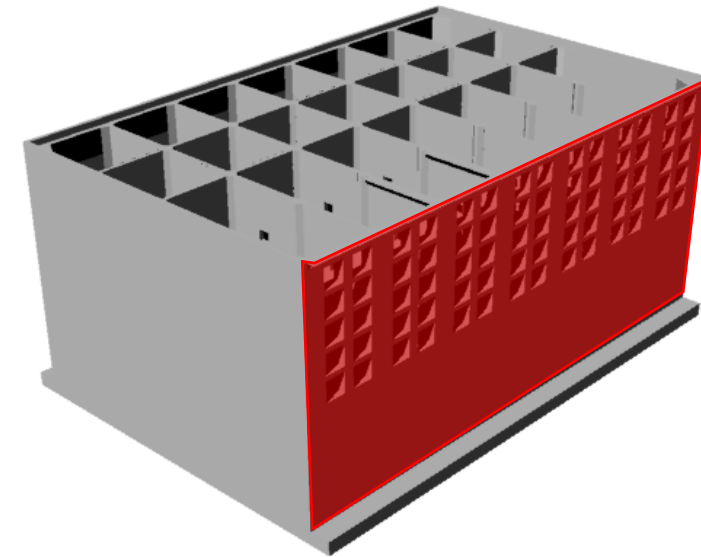
*REINFORCED CONCRETE PIER in  
Marine environment*



*The PILES are the critical element of this  
kind structure*

*The SERVICE LIFE of the **CRITICAL PILE  
ELEMENT** is going to represent the  
STRUCTURE SERVICE LIFE*

*REINFORCED CONCRETE  
DISSIPATION BOX in Marine  
environment*

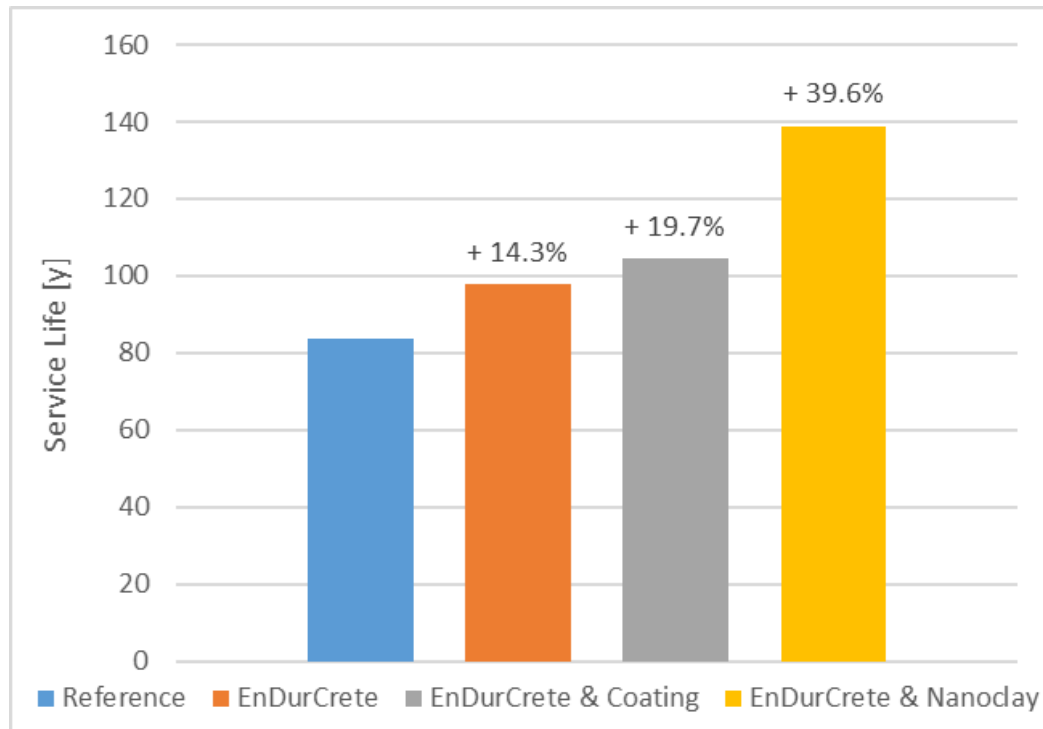


*The INNER & EXTERNAL R/C WALLs are the  
critical element of this kind structure*

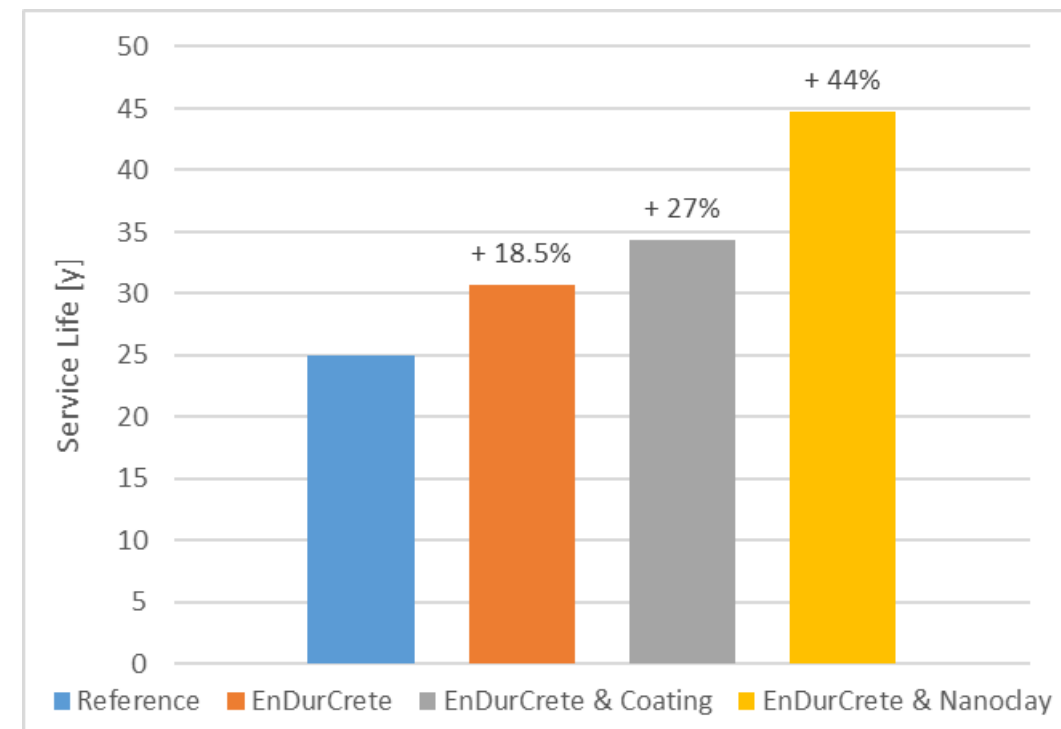
*The SERVICE LIFE of the **SEASIDE EXTERNAL  
WALL** is going to represent the STRUCTURE  
SERVICE LIFE*

# Service life evaluation – Chloride (2)

*REINFORCED CONCRETE PIER in  
Marine environment*



*REINFORCED CONCRETE DISSIPATION  
BOX in Marine environment*

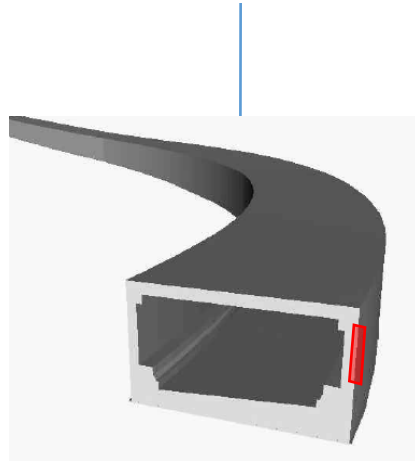


From Reference to EnDurCrete Concrete **16% increase of Service Life**  
From Reference to EnDurCrete + Coating **24% increase of Service Life**  
From Reference to EnDurCrete + Nanoclay **42% increase of Service Life**



# Service life evaluation – Carbonation (1)

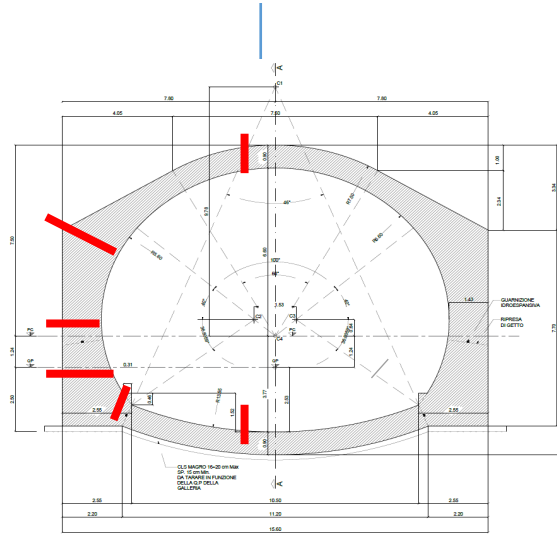
*REINFORCED CONCRETE TUNNEL in Continental environment*



*The Vertical WALLs are the critical element of this kind structure*

*The SERVICE LIFE of the **CRITICAL WALL SECTION** is going to represent the STRUCTURE SERVICE LIFE*

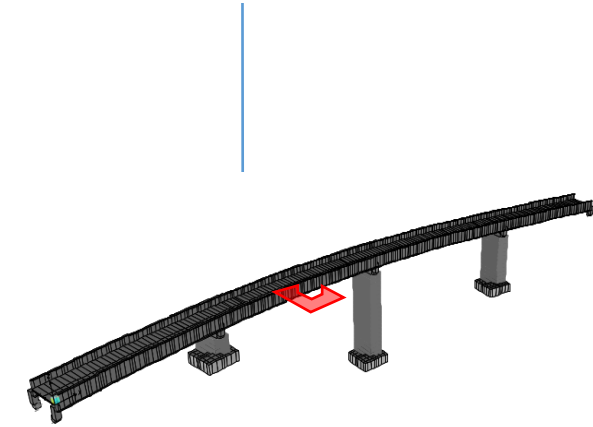
*REINFORCED CONCRETE TUNNEL PORTAL in Continental environment*



*The TUNNEL SECTIONs themselves are the critical element of this kind structure*

*The SERVICE LIFE of the **CRITICAL SECTION** is going to represent the STRUCTURE SERVICE LIFE*

*REINFORCED CONCRETE BRIDGE in Continental environment*

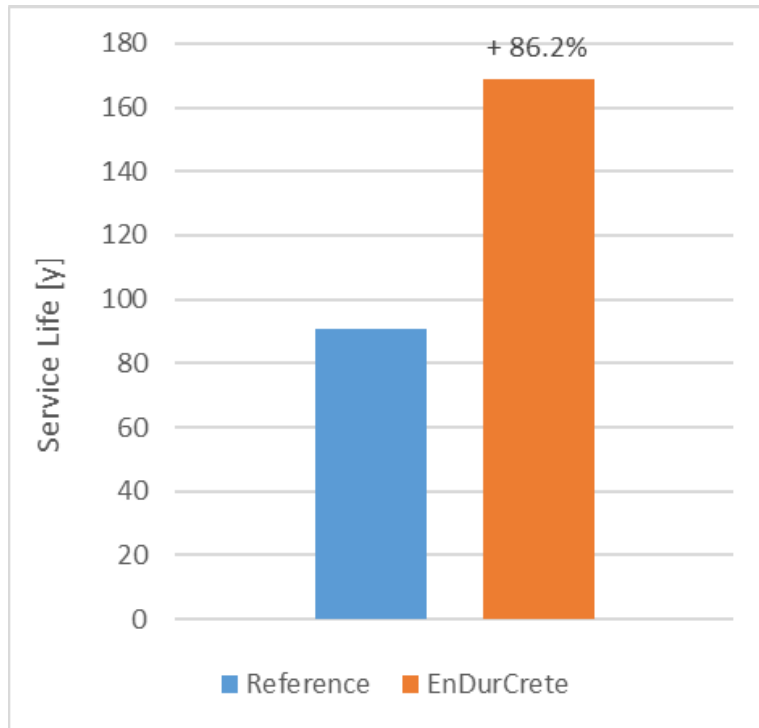


*The R/C PILES are the critical element of this kind structure*

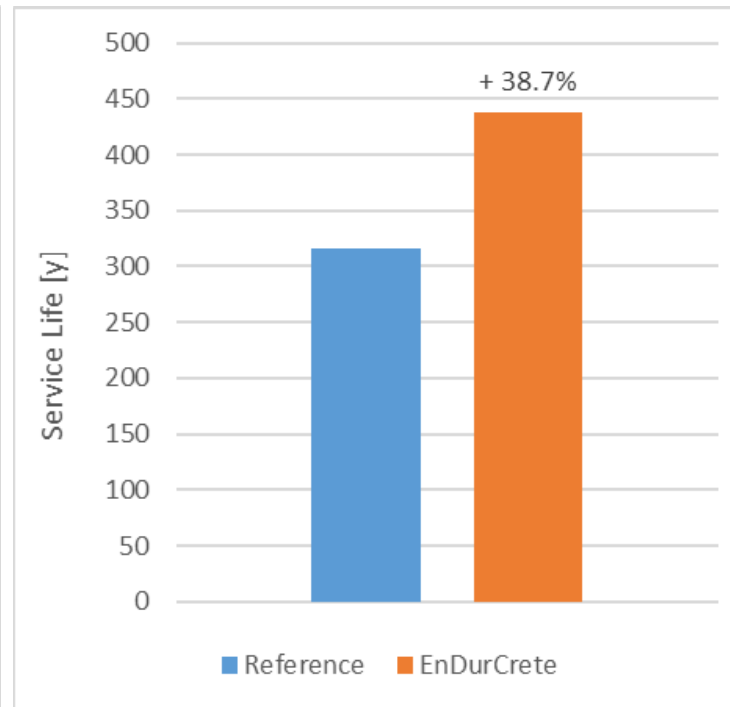
*The SERVICE LIFE of the **CRITICAL PILE ELEMENT** is going to represent the STRUCTURE SERVICE LIFE*

# Service life evaluation – Carbonation (2)

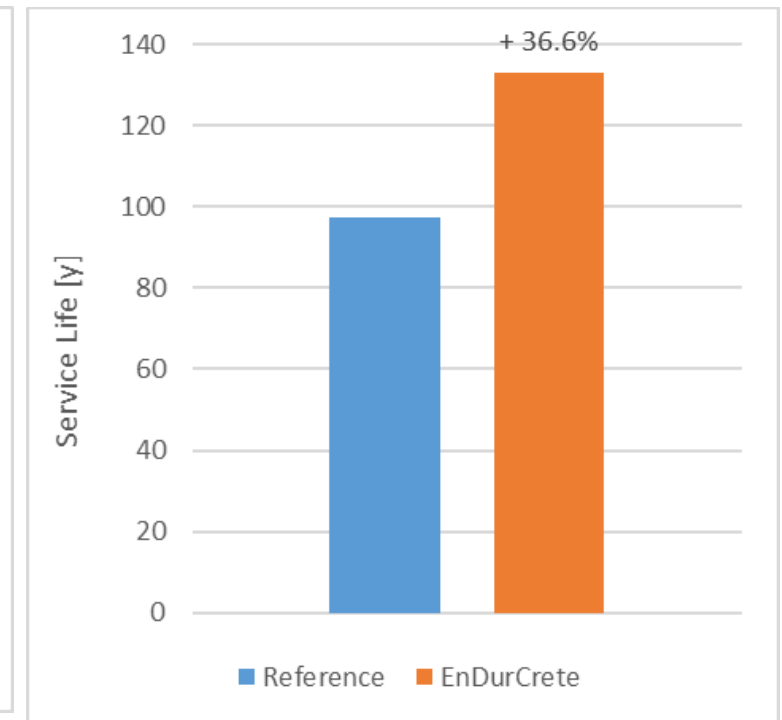
*REINFORCED CONCRETE TUNNEL in  
Continental environment*



*REINFORCED CONCRETE TUNNEL  
PORTAL in Continental environment*



*REINFORCED CONCRETE BRIDGE in  
Continental environment*

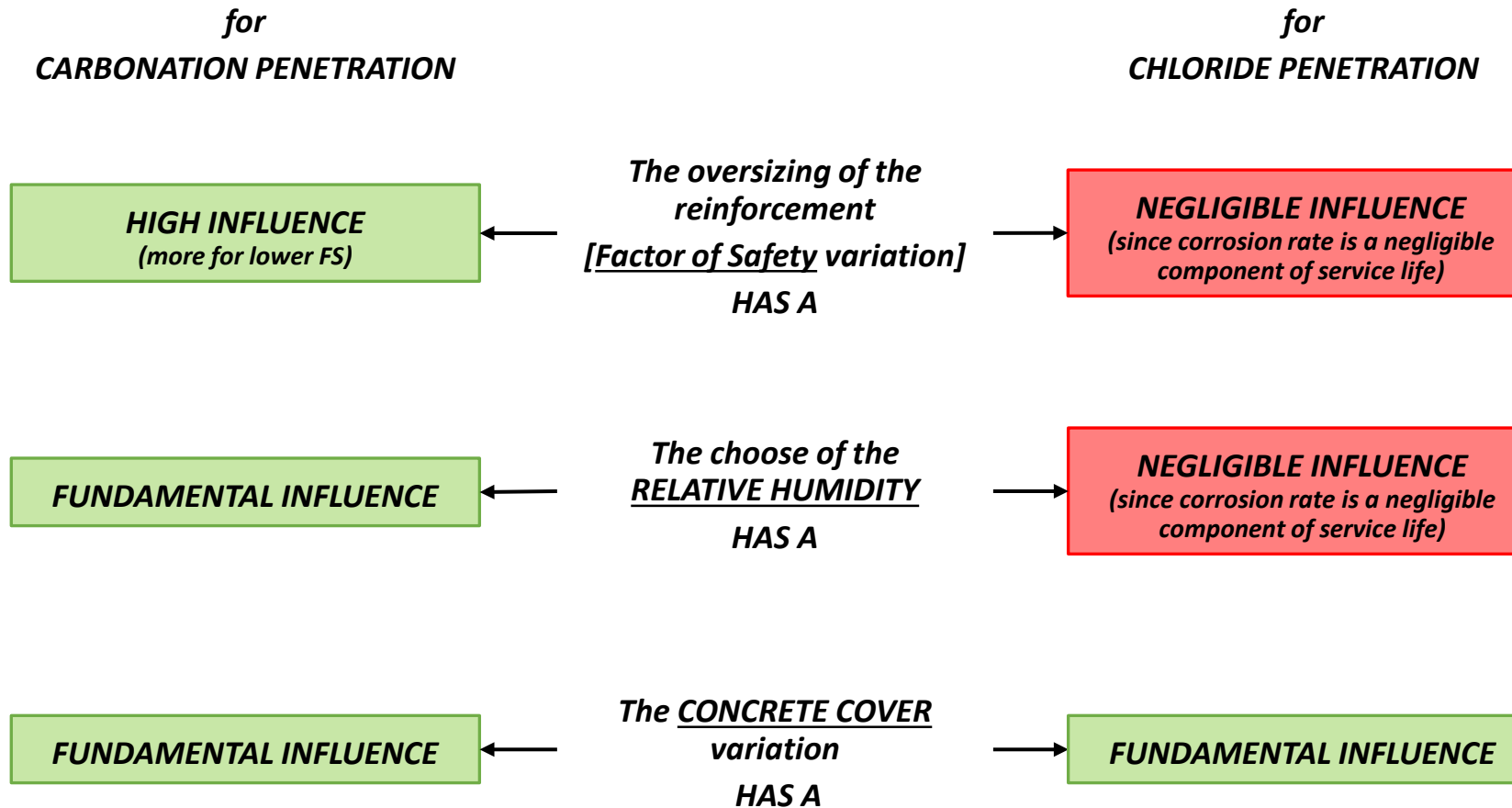


From Reference to EnDurCrete Concrete **45% increase of Service Life**



Which parameters have the highest influence on the Service Life evaluation?

## EVALUATION OF THE INFLUENCE OF THE MAIN PARAMETERS ON THE RESULTS





# Life Cycle Assessment of EnDurCrete cements

**SPEAKER**

ENDURCRETE



**JAKUB HELLER**

Environmental Engineer  
for Geonardo Ltd.

**Jakub Heller, Geonardo Ltd.**

# **How environmentally friendly are the new cements developed in EnDurCrete project?**



## Global Warming Potential (kg/CO<sub>2</sub>/ton of cement produced)

CEM I 52.5R (REFERENCE)	CEM II/C-M (S-LL) (EDC-D)	CEM II/C-M (S-V) (EDC-PL)	CEM VI (S-V) (EDC-PL)
826 kg	469 kg	472 kg	425 kg
100%	57%	57%	52%

- Lower clinker content (clinker is replaced by alternative or secondary materials – fly ash, calcium sulfates and slag) leads to reduced release of  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $\text{CaCO}_3 + \text{heat} \rightarrow \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2$ )
- Cement production is responsible for up to 8% of worldwide man-made emissions of  $\text{CO}_2$ !



**And what about other environmental  
impact categories?**

# LCIA results: Cements

Impact category		CEM I 52.5R (REF)	CEM II/C-M (S-LL) (EDC-D)	CEM II/C-M (S-V) (EDC-PL)	CEM VI (S-V) (EDC-PL)
<b>ODP</b> (Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer)	kg CFC 11eq.	0,000014	0,000010	0,000009	0,000009
	% of CEM I	100%	76%	68%	68%
<b>AP</b> (Acidification potential of land and water)	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq.	1,73	1,17	1,13	1,06
	% of CEM I	100%	67%	65%	61%
<b>EP</b> (Eutrophication potential)	kg Neq.	0,51	0,36	0,34	0,32
	% of CEM I	100%	70%	67%	63%
<b>POCP</b> (Formation potential of tropospheric ozone photochemical oxidants)	kg O <sub>3</sub> eq.	0,14	0,08	0,08	0,07
	% of CEM I	100%	59%	59%	54%
<b>ADPE</b> (Abiotic depletion potential for non-fossil resources)	kg Sbeq.	0,00023	0,00018	0,00016	0,00016
	% of CEM I	100%	76%	69%	68%
<b>ADPF</b> (Abiotic depletion potential for fossil resources)	MJ	2201,11	1489,24	1428,00	1357,08
	% of CEM I	100%	68%	65%	62%
<b>PENRT</b> (Total use of non-renewable primary energy resources)	MJ	2798,06	1945,65	1821,88	1766,73
	% of CEM I	100%	70%	65%	63%



# **What is the impact of novel admixtures and coatings?**

- Slightly higher impacts during the production phase
- Extended durability of the construction will lead improvement of the total environmental performance considering the whole life cycle
- Recyclability of EnDurCrete concretes is similar to conventional ones



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Thank you for your attention.



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