

Special Issue

Concrete Chemistry and Sustainability

Message from the Guest Editors

Concrete is the most widely used building material in the world. It is a major component of infrastructures and buildings. In recent years, the construction industry has grown considerably. Today, global concrete production has reached 27 billion tonnes and cement production has reached 4.1 billion tonnes. During the clinker manufacturing process (clinker is the main component of cement), the use of huge kilns is required. These kilns consume large amounts of energy and emit great quantities of CO₂. It is estimated that for every tonne of clinker used in cement production, up to one tonne of CO₂ is emitted to the atmosphere. Several studies cite the cement industry as being responsible for 5–7% of all global CO₂ emissions. Some of the strategies proposed to reduce pollutant emissions and the consumption of natural resources derived from the production of cement and concrete are to incorporate alternative materials in partial substitution or addition to cement and/or aggregate. These alternative materials could include agroforestry waste, bottom ash, blast furnace slag, glass dust, construction and demolition waste, etc.

Guest Editors

Dr. Blas Cantero

Department of Construction, School of Engineering, Universidad de Extremadura, Institute for Sustainable Regional Development (INTERRA), 1003 Cáceres, Spain

Dr. Jose A. Sainz-Aja

LADICIM (Laboratory of Materials Science and Engineering), Universidad de Cantabria, Santander, Spain

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
materials@mdpi.com

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Materials (ISSN 1996-1944) was launched in 2008. The journal covers twenty-five comprehensive topics: biomaterials, energy materials, advanced composites, advanced materials characterization, porous materials, manufacturing processes and systems, advanced nanomaterials and nanotechnology, smart materials, thin films and interfaces, catalytic materials, carbon materials, materials chemistry, materials physics, optics and photonics, corrosion, construction and building materials, materials simulation and design, electronic materials, advanced and functional ceramics and glasses, metals and alloys, soft matter, polymeric materials, quantum materials, mechanics of materials, green materials, general. *Materials* provides a unique opportunity to contribute high quality articles and to take advantage of its large readership.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maryam Tabrizian

1. Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill University, Montreal, QC H3A 2B6, Canada
2. Faculty of Dentistry and Oral Health Sciences, McGill University, 3640 Rue University, Montreal, QC H3A 0C7, Canada

Prof. Dr. Yuguang Ma

State Key Laboratory of Luminescent Materials and Devices, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou 510640, China

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