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Assessment of pore structure evolution in the limestone calcined clay cementitious system and its implications for performance

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2	system and its implications for performance
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6	
7	Abstract
8	Use of limestone and calcined clay together for clinker substitution makes an effective low
9	clinker cement blend, which shows promising mechanical properties at early ages. The
10	performance of these cementitious systems strongly depends on the pore structure, which is a
11	dominant factor governing the durability characteristics because of its direct influence on the
12	transport properties. The experimental study described in this paper on three different binder
13	systems including Ordinary Portland Cement, Portland Pozzolana Cement - with 30% Type F
14	Fly Ash (designated FA30) - and Limestone Calcined Clay Cement (LC ³) pastes shows that the
15	LC ³ system attains greater refinement of the pore structure as early as 3 days, as seen from
16	mercury intrusion porosimetry. Electrical measurements also reveal lower conductivity in the
17	system, which suggests better resistance to ionic transport in the binder phase. The results of

hydrate phase assemblage studied by X-ray diffraction also indicate that greater amount of hydrates contribute in a major way to the reduction in the (water-filled) porosity in all the systems. This change occurs at varying rates for the different systems due to the difference in hydration characteristics. The estimated permeability suggests that the LC³ binder system attains much lower permeability compared to the ordinary Portland cement and FA30. A comparison of the formation factor shows distinct differences in the microstructural development and suggests a more durable binder with LC³ cementitious system.

25 Keywords

26 Limestone; calcined clay; pore structure; conductivity; formation factor

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