



# Low Carbon Footprint Concrete Solutions and Implementation

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SDC TECHNOLOGY FORUM 45

LA JOLLA, CA

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2019

# EPD (Environmental Product Declaration)

**CENTRAL CONCRETE**  
ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION  
Mix 99A112V3 • Bode Plant



This Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) reports the impacts for 1 m<sup>3</sup> of ready mixed concrete mix, meeting the following specifications:


- ASTM C94: Ready-Mixed Concrete
- UNSPSC Code 30111505: Ready Mix Concrete
- CSI Section 03 30 00: Cast-in-Place Concrete

**COMPANY**  
Central Concrete  
755 Stockton Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95126

**PLANT**  
Bode Plant  
450 Amador St  
San Francisco, CA 94124

**EPD PROGRAM OPERATOR**  
EarthSure  
P O Box 2449  
Vashon, WA 98070

**DATE OF ISSUE**  
01/01/0001 (valid for 5 years until 12/31/9999)



**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

**Declared Product:**  
Mix 99A112V3 • Bode Plant  
900 LBS 1/2" EF45 7-9SL  
Compressive strength: 8000 psi at 28 days

**Declared Unit:** 1 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete

Global Warming Potential (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq)	435
Ozone Depletion Potential (kg CFC-11-eq)	1.2E-5
Acidification Potential (kg SO <sub>2</sub> -eq)	2.37
Eutrophication Potential (kg N-eq)	0.56
Photochemical Smog Creation Potential (kg O <sub>3</sub> -eq)	56.8
Total Primary Energy Consumption (MJ)	3,474
Nonrenewable (MJ)	3,356
Renewable (MJ)	118
Total Concrete Water Consumption (m <sup>3</sup> )	3.12
Balishing Water (m <sup>3</sup> )	0.11
Washing Water (m <sup>3</sup> )	8,863
Nonrenewable Material Resource Consumption (kg)	2,359
Renewable Material Resource Consumption (kg)	2.94
Hazardous Waste Production (kg)	0.02
Nonhazardous Waste Production (kg)	4.24

**Product Components:** crushed aggregate (ASTM C33), Portland cement (ASTM C150), slag cement (ASTM C989), fly ash (ASTM C618), admixture (ASTM C194), batch water (ASTM C1602)

The Carbon Leadership Forum PCR: Product Category Rules (PCR) for ISO 14025 Type III Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for Concrete, Version 1.1 dated 12/4/2013, serves as the PCR for this EPD. <http://www.carbonleadershipforum.org>

PCR review was conducted by: Nicholas Santoro • thinkstep (formerly PE International).

Independent verification of the declaration, according to ISO 14025:2006:  internal  external

Third party verifier: Rita Schenck (rita@iere.org) • Institute for Environmental Research and Education

LCA and EPD developer: Laurel McEwen (laurel.mcewen@climateearth.com) • Climate Earth

CENTRAL CONCRETE  
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San Jose, CA 95126  
906-404-1000

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GWP



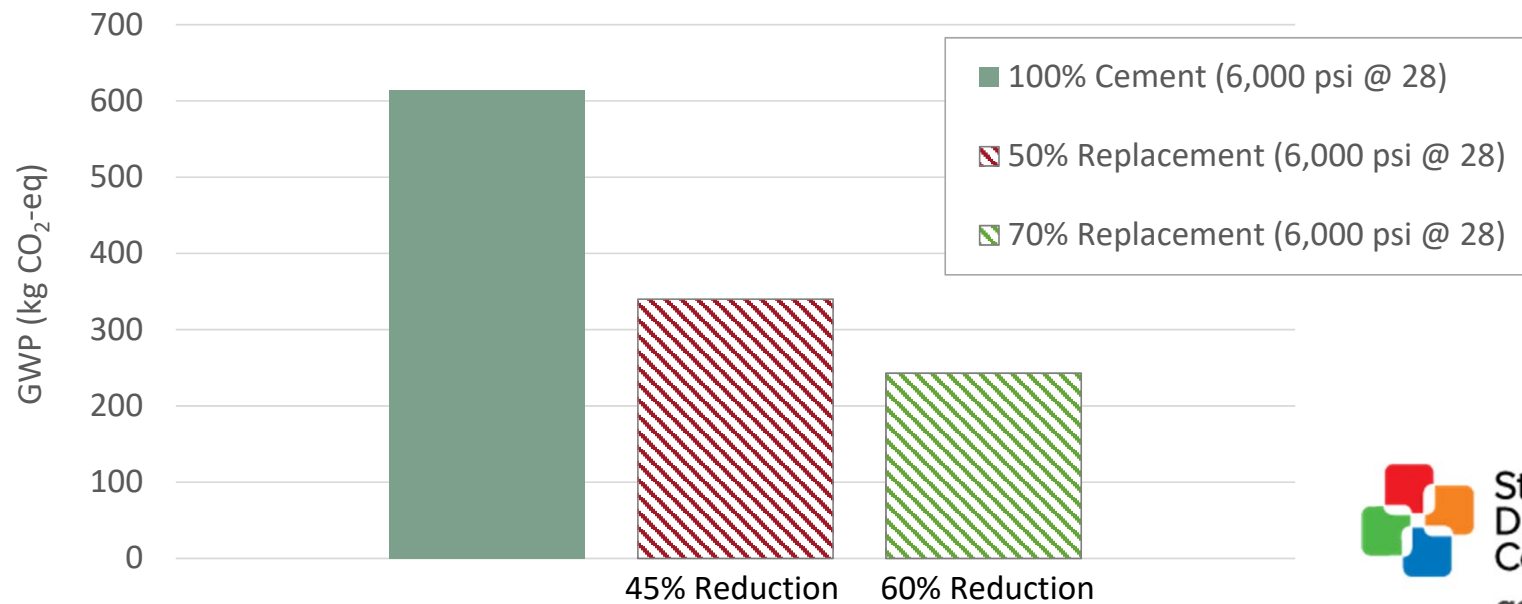
# Embodied Carbon Reduction Methods

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- Cement replacement
- Recycled aggregate
- Cement reduction
- Carbon sequestration
- Geopolymer or alternate cements
- Extending service life

# Cement Replacement

Most significant impact for GWP reduction



# Cement Replacement

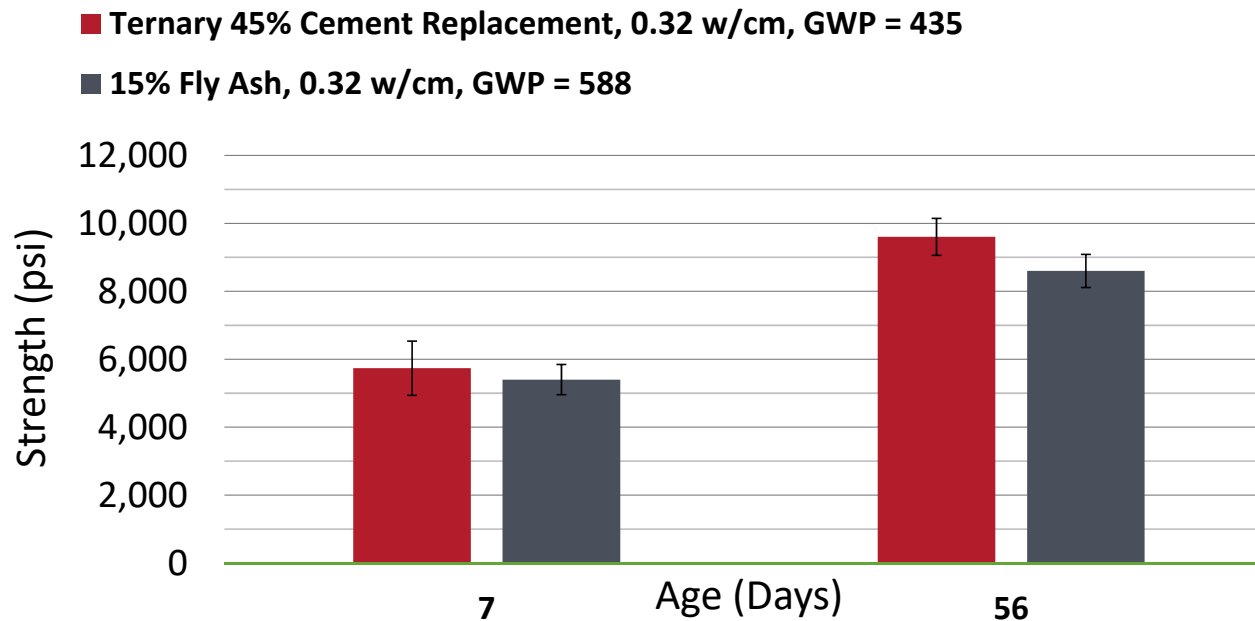
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- Most significant impact for GWP reduction
- Strong history of use
  - Slag, fly ash, metakaolin, silica fume, natural pozzolan, limestone
- Newer options
  - Glass pozzolan
  - Proprietary mineral blends
- Performance advantages

# Cement Replacement

25% reduction of GWP  
12% higher strength

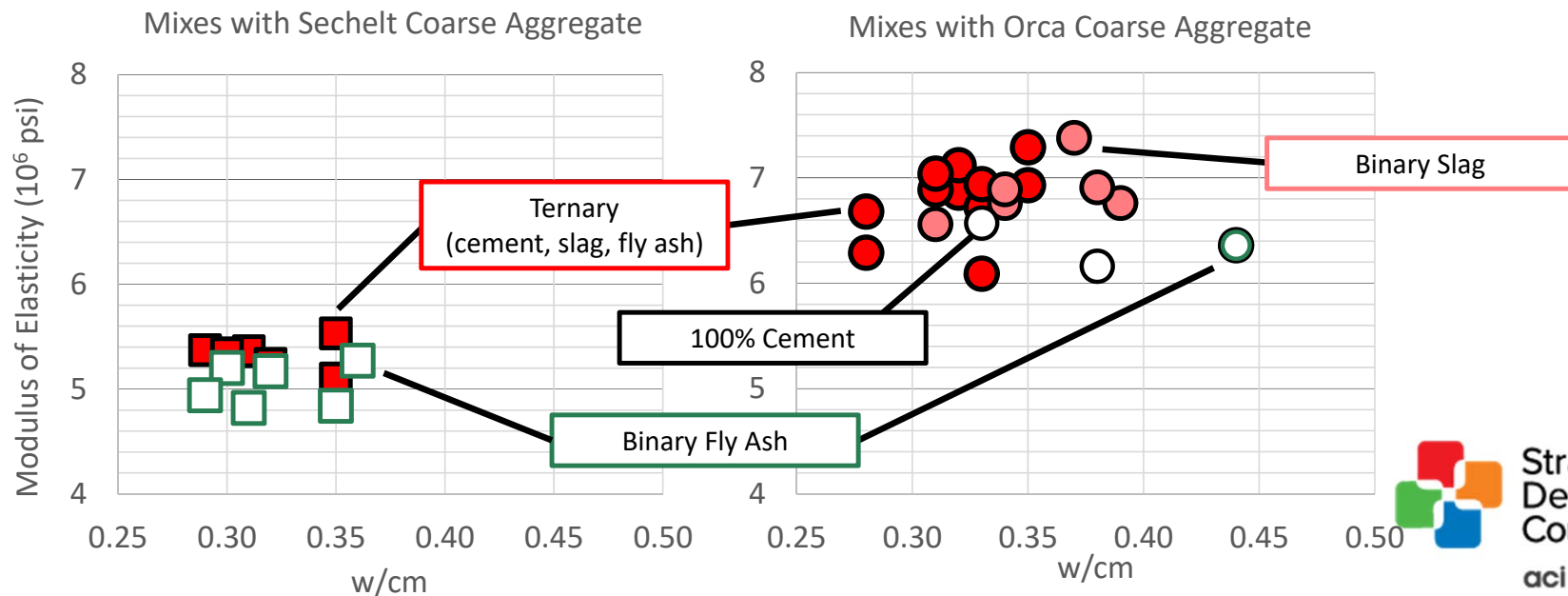
## Performance advantages: compressive strength



# Cement Replacement

Data trends suggest higher elastic modulus with slag

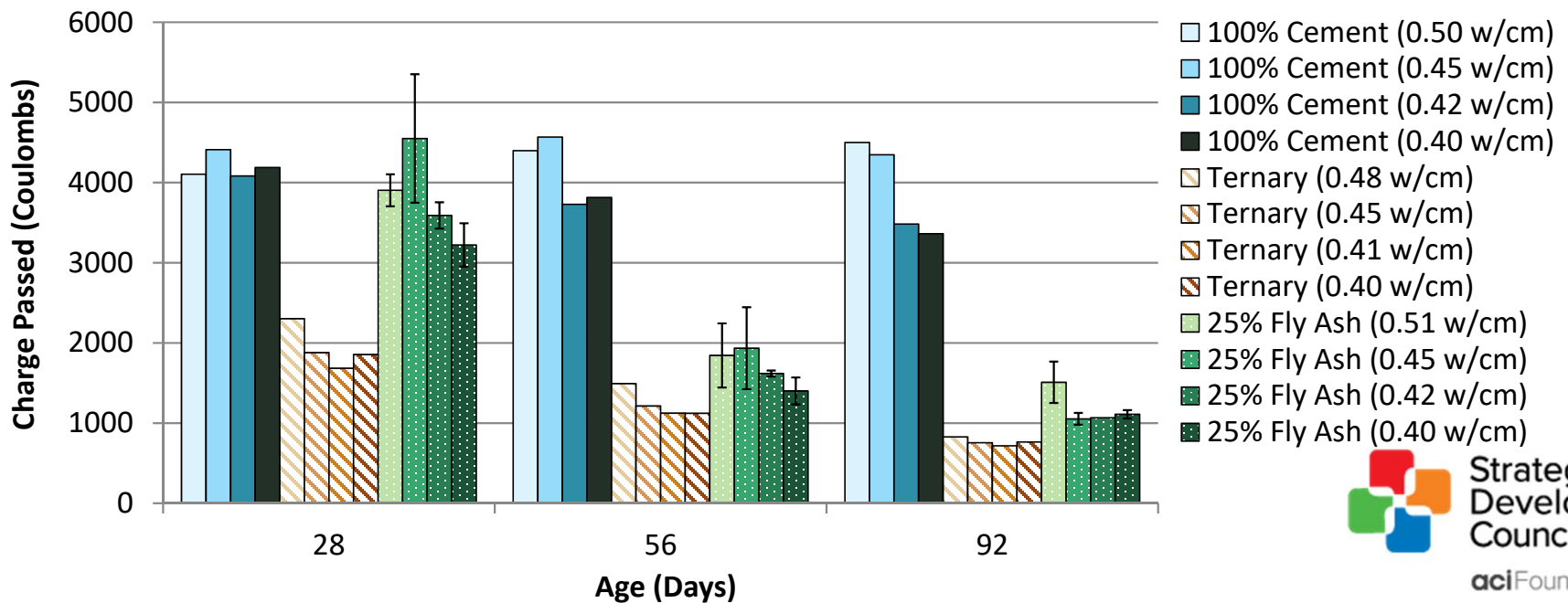
## Performance advantages: elastic modulus



# Cement Replacement

Data show more significant reduction in permeability with SCMs than w/cm

## Performance advantages: permeability





# Recycled Aggregate



- ❑ Significant opportunity for reducing discarded waste and depletion of natural materials
  - ❑ Industry average: 5% of concrete returned for disposal
- ❑ Quality control and predictability are critical
  - ❑ Targeted applications
  - ❑ Blend with natural aggregate
  - ❑ ACI 555 – Concrete with Recycled Materials

# Cement Reduction

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GWP reduction (%)  $\approx$  cement reduction (%)

- Strength boosting admixtures
- High performance aggregate
- Injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into fresh concrete during batching

# Carbon Sequestration

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- ❑ Injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into fresh mix during batching
- ❑ Curing with CO<sub>2</sub>
- ❑ Calcium carbonate coating on aggregates



# Geopolymers

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- ❑ Currently used in Europe, Australia, etc.
- ❑ ACI committee 242, Alternative Cements
  - ❑ ITG-10R: Practitioner's Guide for Alternative Cements

# Extending Service Life

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- ❑ Not necessarily a reduction of embodied carbon, but improves value of concrete as structural material and efficiency of embodied carbon
  - ❑ Self-healing concrete
  - ❑ Fibers
  - ❑ Admixtures

# Collaboration for Implementation

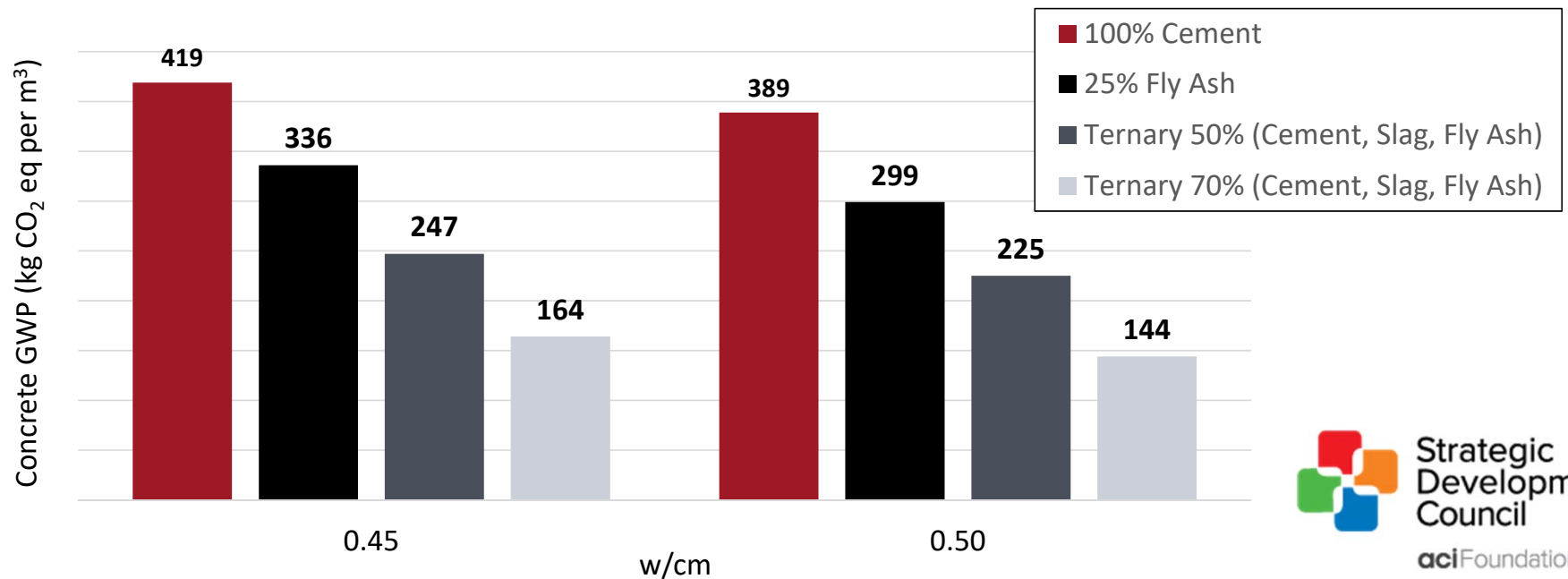
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Ready-mixed producer can be helpful contributor to the design team

- ❑ Important to have contractor input
- ❑ Insure sustainability goals are achieved without negatively impacting placement, finishing, architectural goals, and schedule

# Specifications

## Effect of cement replacement and w/cm on GWP



# Specifications

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- Specify w/cm only when required by exposure class
- Specify design strength ( $f'_c$ ) at age later than 28 days, where possible
- Maturity testing to maximize cement replacement for high-early strength mixes



Thank you!

Alana Guzzetta, PE

U.S. Concrete National Research Lab Manager

[aguzzetta@us-concrete.com](mailto:aguzzetta@us-concrete.com)

[www.acifoundation.org/SDC](http://www.acifoundation.org/SDC)