MEMO TO DESIGNERS 10-1 • APRIL 1999



10-1 Reinforced Concrete Strength Requirements

Design engineers shall specify as a default, a concrete strength of 25 MPa (3600 psi) in the "General Notes" of Structure Plans for all structural concrete. When the design engineer requires a concrete strength greater than 25 MPa for structural concrete in any element of the structure, then this departure from default concrete strength shall be clearly shown on the "Concrete Strength and Type Limits" diagram of the Structure Plans.

The default concrete strength of 25 MPa eliminates the need to require "trial-batch testing" for a large percentage of structural concrete used in Caltrans projects (see *Standard Specifications*, Section 90-1 and 90-9). Therefore, concrete that is designated by its compressive strength shall have a strength greater than 25 MPa.

Bridge Design Branch A

Shannon H. Post Bridge Design Branch B

Michael A. Barbour Bridge Design Branch C

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