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Article #1 : Steel Fibre Reinforcing Highlights

Komatsu Major Warehouse, Re-manufacturing Depot Started

Komatsu have embarked on the construction of the largest vehicle facility in the Southern Hemisphere for their heavy equipment and mining range. This brings together three Brisbane sites, some of which were flooded in Jan 2011 - the new site at Wacol was high and dry during the floods.

Pradella Construction are the builders and the site is covered by three sheds. The site is over 60,000 square metres and 30,000 square metres of it will be Fibercon Heavy Duty Steel Fibre Reinforced concrete. Cardno are the engineers led by Mark Hickey who has a long history of designing industrial projects in Queensland. Fibercon was the chosen design expertise having in-house engineering and critical experience in the heavy duty application.



For this project, Fibercon are supplying Hanson Concrete with 1200kg Bulker bags, and the material is automatically dosed using a specialised dosing machine.



Shepherd Contracting are the concrete placers and are using the Somero Laser Screed to place and finish the slabs. Because Fibercon was specified it means that the contractor can place the slab straight from the truck, eliminating a concrete pump. This is a massive saving on such a large project.





One of the benefits of using the Somero Screed and a fast placement system is that extremely good floor tolerances can be obtained. The first slab was less than 1mm in three metres deviation

The slabs range from 200mm thick with 30kg/m³ of Fibercon S38 to 450mm thick with 50kg/m³ of Fibercon S38. The slabs are being placed in strips with Square Dowels Cradles and saw cuts over, construction joints are all square dowels with Square Dowel Covers.

Other News

The Middlemount Mine Project, consisting of a new Workshop, Tyre Change, Wash Slab and store Complex, was recently completed, all using Fibercon S38.

Fibercon Seminar Series

“Presentation of the Application of Steel Fibre in Heavy Duty Applications”

Mark Combe, Concrete Institute Australia – Main Roads Building April 2011

With over 100 Engineers, Suppliers, Contractors and Builders present, Mark gave a frank outline on what happens and how to design slabs to handle heavy duty applications in the mining areas of Australia and Overseas

“Correct Use of Joint Systems in Concrete”

– Concrete Institute in Conjunction with Engineers Australia and James Cook University – JCU, Townsville May 2011
110 Engineers, Suppliers, Contractors and Builders were present, which was an extremely well attended event for north Queensland. Mark Combe presented on behalf of Bruce Ireland who was unable to attend. Dowels have a significant influence on the long term performance of concrete slabs. This presentation also outlined designs and flaws in CIA Industrial Slabs TR34 Dowels Design. The other attractions were Professor Steve Foster and Professor Ian Gilbert presenting on the recent changes in AS3600 Concrete Structures Code, and Dr Lisa O’Moore presenting on Shrinkage and Cracking in concrete.

If you would like a free copy of either presentation please email Admin@fibercon.com.au

Article #2: Fibercon Macro Plastic and Micro Plastic Fibres

Islands

Fibercon MPP has been the successful supplier to a number of recent applications in the Pacific Islands:

- At Moa Island in the Torres Strait, the fibres are being extensively used in footpaths and roadways;
- Vanuatu has been a continuous user of the Fibercon Macro Poly for over a year with very successful results again in footpaths, buggy ways and roadways.

Councils

The clean-up from the aftermath of Cyclone and Floods continues for Councils. The ability to place concrete quickly and effectively without the need to order, deliver, cut and place steel mesh means massive savings in time, labour and effort. Fibercon Macro Poly has been used recently in Shotcrete, Culvert repair, Batter repair and the ongoing work in light roadways and footpaths.