

MICRO-SILICA

DESCRIPTION

CETEX MICRO-SILICA is a super pozzolan - a finely powdered material which can be added to cementitious matter to increase durability and to provide a positive set. It complies with **ASTM C1240.**

ADVANTAGES

- ✓ Higher compressive strength by 10-20 %
- ✓ Lower permeability resistance to penetration of water, chloride & other chemicals
- ✓ Lower free lime formation delays ettringite and thaumasite formation
- ✓ Controls bleeding in fresh concrete
- ✓ Lower Heat of Hydration, which prevents formation of cracks.

PROPERTIES

Appearance
Colour
Odour
Mean particle size
SiO2 – Silica
Humidity

Loss on ignition at 800°C

Very fine powder

Grey Odourless 25 microns

85 % minimum

2 % maximum

4 % maximum

HOW IT WORKS

1. Pozzolonic effect: When water is added to cement, hydration occurs as shown below:

OPC +
$$H_2O \rightarrow CSH$$
 (Calcium silicate hydrate) + $Ca(OH)_2$ (Free lime)

The free lime does not contribute to strength. When combined with carbon dioxide, it forms a soluble salt, which leaches through the concrete causing efflorescence, a familiar architectural problem. Concrete is also more vulnerable to chemical attack and detoriation. When it is added, the following reaction takes place:

$$Ca(OH)_2 + SiO_2 \rightarrow H_2O + CSH$$

The reaction reduces the amount of calcium hydroxide in the concrete.

2. <u>Micro filler effect</u>: It is an extremely fine material, with an average diameter much finer than cement. It gets well distributed in the paste, thus blocking the bleed-water channels.

PACKING

Available in 25 kg Plastic bag or Jumbo Bag.