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NEWS ITEMS

Calendar of Events

ACI Convention, Hyatt Regency Denver, and Denver Marriott, Denver, Colorado, USA. Information: American Concrete Institute, P.O. Box 19150, Detroit, MI 48219-0150 USA. Tel: (313) 532-2600; Fax: (313) 535-655.

March 14-19, 1996

1996 Spring Meeting of the **Materials Research Society**, San Francisco, CA, USA. Information: MRS, 9800 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, PA USA. Tel: (412) 367-3004; Fax: (412) 367 4373.

April 8-12, 1996

96th Annual Meeting of the **American Ceramic Society**, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. Information: David Lange, University of Illinois, Dept. of Civil Engineering, 2207 NCEL, MC-250, Urbana, IL USA. Fax: (217) 333-9464.

April 14-17, 1996

18th International Conference on **Cement Microscopy**, Omni Hotel, Houston, TX, USA. Information: Mr. Louis A. Jany, Allentown Cement Co., Inc., P.O. Box 199, Blandon, PA 19510-0199 USA or Mr. Arturo Nisperos, Construction Technology Laboratories, Inc., 5420 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077-1030 USA.

April 21-25, 1996

4th International Symposium on **Utilization of High Strength/High Performance Concrete**, Palais des congrés, Paris, France. Information: Mrs. Françoise Bourgain, BHP 96, École nationale des points et chaussées, 28 rue des Saints-Peres, 75343 Paris cedex 07, France.

May 29-30, 1996

International Conference on **High Performance Concrete and Performance and Quality of Concrete Structures**, Florianópolis, Brazil. Information: Dr. V.M. Malhotra, Conference Organizing Committee, CANMET, 405 Rochester St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0G6. Fax: (613) 992-9389.

June 5-7, 1996

International Congress on Concrete in the Service of Mankind, Dundee, Scotland. Information: Prof. R.K. Dhir, Concrete Technology Unit, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 4HN, U.K. Tel: +44-382-344347; Fax: +44-382-344816.

June 24-28, 1996

Gordon Research Conference on The Chemistry and Physics of Cement-Based Materials, Plymouth State College, Plymouth, NH, USA. Information: Francis Young, University of Illinois, 105 S. Goodwin Ave, Urbana, IL USA. Fax: (217) 244-6917. e-mail: young@uxl.cso.uiuc.edu.

July 28-August 2, 1996

3rd CANMET/ACI International Conference on Concrete in a Marine Environment, The Algonquin Hotel, St.. Andrews-by-the-Sea, New Brunswick, Canada. Information: Dr. V. M. Malhotra, CANMET, 405 Rochester St., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0G1. Fax: (613) 922-9389.

August 4-9, 1996

10th International Conference on Alkali-Aggregate Reaction in Concrete, The Regent Hotel, Melbourne, Australia. Information: Dr. S. Shayan, 10th International AAR Conference, C/-CSIRO Division of Building Construction and Engineering, PO Box 56, Highett, Victoria, Australia 3190.

August 19-23, 1996

World Innovations for the 21st Century, the ACI/SCA International Conference on Sprayed Concrete and Shotcrete, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. Information: Sprayed Concrete Association, Association House, 235 Ash Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU12 4DD, U.K. Tel: +44 (0) 1252 21302; Fax: +44 (0) 1252 333901.

September 10-11, 1996

MRS 1996: Structure-Property Relations in Cement Paste, Boston, MA USA. Information: Prof. F.P. Glasser, Chemistry Department, Aberdeen University, Old Aberdeen, AB9 2UE, Scotland, U.K. Fax: +44-122-427-2921.02

December 2-6, 1996

4th CANMET/ACI International Conference on Durability of Concrete, Sydney Hilton Hotel, Sydney, Australia. Information: V.M. Malhotra, CANMET, 405 Rochester St., Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1A 0G1. Fax: (613) 992-9389.

August 17-22, 1997

Call for Papers

The 21st Conference on **Our World in Concrete & Structures** will be held August 26-28, 1996 at the Hotel New Otani, Singapore. Papers on the theme "Coming of Age - Challenges for Concrete" are invited from academics (professors and researchers), professional engineers and consultants, architects and builders in private and public sectors, contractors, developers, industrialists, suppliers, manufacturers, materials technologies and all those involved, interested or connected with the use of concrete, and the development of concrete technology, design and construction. For 1996, in view of the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Prestressed and Precast Concrete Society, the conference further invites submissions on prestressing and precasting design, fabrication, erection, methods, systems and related innovative technologies. Abstracts (max. 500 words) must be received no later than March 31, 1996. Authors will be notified of acceptance May 1, 1996, and the full text in format must reach the secretariat by June 30, 1996.

All submitted papers will automatically be reviewed and considered for the Concrete Awards Scheme and the PPCS Anniversary Award. Note that it is part of the requirements of submission of abstract that the author or one of his co-authors will attend the conference and present the paper. It is also understood that the Organizers hold the copyright of the papers published in its Proceedings which carries an ISBN reference. Send submissions to Conference Director: John S.Y. Tan, 150 Orchard Road, #07-14 Orchard Plaza, Singapore 238841. Tel: (065) 733-2922; Fax: (065) 2353530.

NEW BOOKS

Structure Concrete: Finite-Element Analysis for Limit-State Design, M.D. Kotsovos and M.N. Pavlovic. Thomas Telford Services Ltd., 1 Heron Quay, London E14 4JD, U.K. ISBN: 0-7277-2027-9. 550 pages. £70.00 (UK and Europe); £78.00 (elsewhere by air).

This book deals with the investigation of reinforced concrete structures to loading up to collapse by means of a finite element analysis.

The first two chapters deal with topics that are very relevant to current research: definition of biaxial state of stress, bond-slip behavior between concrete and steel reinforcing bar, and crack propagation in concrete. For the last one in particular, the authors propose that the propagation of a crack is a brittle mechanism which becomes pseudo-ductile only at the structural level when multiaxial effects are originated by volumetric deformation. Based on this premise, the authors postulate that tensile softening of concrete does not occur and present experimental cases with their simulation in the following chapters. From the practical standpoint, it is certainly convenient to limit the input of concrete characteristics to that of the uniaxial compressive strength.

The proposed finite element program appears to work well and provides results that are consistent with experimental values and cracking patterns. Over 50 percent of the book is devoted to the presentation of example applications.

This book should be useful to graduate students interested in characterization and modeling of reinforced concrete structures. For them the first two chapters will be a source of reflection. Practitioners will find Chapters 3 and 4 rich of relevant practical examples.