

Concrete Mix Evaluator CME

Requires Microsoft Excel or Office 365
with Solver Add-in installed

Gary Knight
gkConcrete@ConcreteEvaluator.com
ConcreteEvaluator@gmail.com
(678)230-1956 cell
Atlanta, Georgia

Table of Contents

Concrete Mix Evaluator	1
Concrete Mix Evaluator (CME).....	3
Overview	3
Design Methodology.....	4
Menu Bar	5
Mix Profile:.....	5
Mix Design.....	6
• Mix Design > Post Mix to Data Base.....	6
Mix Design > Retrieve Mix from Database.....	6
Mix Design > Duplicate records	7
Mix Design > Enter Admixtures.....	7
Materials > Admixtures	9
Mix Design > Clear Mix Design.....	9
Mix Design > Set up Mix Constants.....	9
Water Cost (\$).....	9
Metric Conversion	10
Materials	10
Materials >Aggregate Material Data	10
Materials >Aggregate Sieve Data	11
Materials > Fiber / Color	11
Auto Blending	11
Auto Blending > Volume of First Aggregate	11
Auto Blending > Workability - Harshness Chart.....	12
Auto Blending > Gradation.....	13
Auto Blending > Aggregate Blending Limits.....	13
Auto Blending > Density & Sand to Aggregate Ratio.....	14
Auto Blending > Water / Cementitious	15
Auto Blending > Blend Aggregates by % Volume.....	16
Materials > Aggregate Sieve Data-->Sieve Set up	17
Lab Batch	18
Submittal Letters	20
How the CME got started	20

Concrete Mix Evaluator (CME)

Overview

CME is an application written in Microsoft Excel Office 365.

Concrete mix design is no longer just a recipe of proportions of cement, sand, stone, and water. Today, the concrete supplier is held responsible for the performance of the in-place concrete. Curling, cracking, dusting, color variation, moisture transmission, and strength are all concerns for the quality of the in-place concrete. Much of what happens is beyond the responsibility or control of the concrete producer. Concrete of good quality can become undesirable in the hands of an inexperienced finisher. Still, poor concrete of inappropriate proportions will doom the final product regardless of the experience of the concrete finisher.



Changes in the American Concrete Institute, specifically ACI 302.1R, now discuss ranges of cementitious material contents, mortar fractions, coarseness/workability indexes, and the total gradation of aggregates as methods of evaluating concrete for potential in-place performance. The Concrete Mix Evaluator (CME) is a tool to help the concrete mix professional move from raw material selection to the final job submittal letter.

CME is an easy-to-use application that utilizes Microsoft Excel and VBA programming. This combination makes it possible to store up to 1500 concrete mixtures with material cost and provide Auto Blending features such as:

- Blend up to five (5) aggregates to fit within upper and lower gradation limits!
- Blend aggregates to a specified Workability / Coarseness Index
- Yield a concrete mix to specified aggregate volume percentages.
- Specify up to four cementitious percentages along with a W/C ratio and solve using water demand or cementitious content.
- Blend using the volume of a primary aggregate.
- Sand to yield functions.

CME contains three graphs:

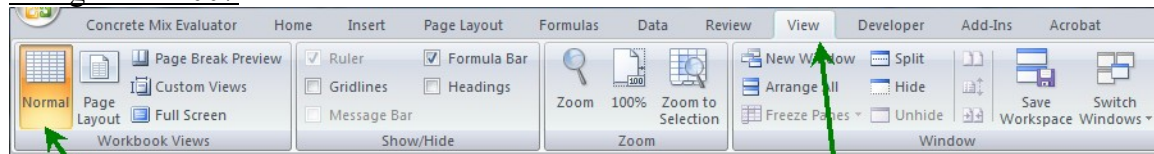
1. Total gradation of the concrete mix as percent retained and passing
2. ACI 302 Coarseness Factor Chart
3. Power of 45 curve

CME also calculates the concrete density and the following concrete ratios:

Water/Cementitious - Mortar and Paste fraction - Air Volume within the cement paste - Sand / Aggregate ratio by volume - w-Adjust factor - Volume of water to Volume of Cementitious - Omega-Index (OIF), and Modified Omega-Index (MOIF).

CME also calculates proportions for laboratory trial batches and exports results to a stand-alone Microsoft Excel Workbook Concrete Mix Evaluator (CME)

Using Excel 2007



CME is designed to be used under the "Normal" view mode in Excel 2007. Click on the [View Tab](#) in Excel 2007 to change the view from page layout to normal view.

Design Methodology

The CME program allows the concrete design professional to approach the proportioning of concrete from many approaches. After you use the program and get comfortable with its operation, you will develop your own flow of operation.

My suggested workflow is as follows:

1. Enter all current material information.
2. Fill out the "Mix Profile"
3. Input your cement Fly Ash, or Slag Cement weights.
4. Input admixture
5. Input your design air content.
6. Input your design water.
7. Now complete the mix design by proportioning the aggregate volume. This is where the capabilities of the CME come into play. You have many options for completing this part of the process.

Method I... Use the "Yield Agg" buttons.

Yield Agg1-->	ACI 1"	
Yield Agg2 -->	ACI Sand	
Yield Agg3 -->	ACI 3/8"	

Method II... Use one of the several Auto Blend functions.

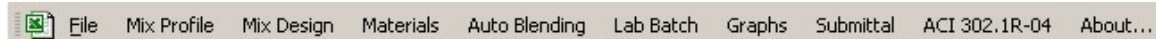
Methodology Summary:

Complete the mix design by proportioning the aggregates after the other constituents.

Wal-Smart Inc.	
Floor 002	
Wal-Smart	
FlatWork	Weight
Cementitious Materials	Lbs
Portland Cement Type I	513
F Ash	128
Total Cementitious	642
ACI 1"	
ACI Sand	
ACI 3/8"	
Design Air Content	1.6
Water: 36.0 Gal	300
Totals: + admix water Vol & Wt	942

Auto Blending	Lab Batch	Graphs	Submittal
Volume of First Aggregate			
Work - Harsh			
Gradation			
Sand/Aggregate			
Water/Cementitious			
Aggregate % Volume			
Aggregate Blend Limits			

Menu Bar



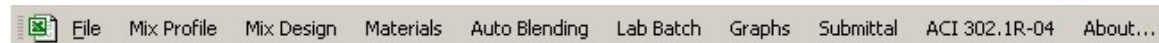
The custom menu bar is the first place to start familiarizing yourself with Concrete Mix Evaluator (CME).

Mixture Profile:

Mix Profile is where you define the characteristics of the concrete mixture you are about to proportion. It is where you enter information about the project and job location. CME can store concrete mixtures in a database. Mix Profile is where you distinguish between saved mixture designs. Each concrete mix gets saved in an external Excel file (CME.DAT) that works in conjunction with the CME program. The fields **Project Name, Mix Code ID, and Mix Category** make up the total concrete ID. If you want to save two or more concrete mix designs, you must change something within one of these three Mix Profile fields. If you do not, and

try to **Post** the mix to the database, a message will appear to indicate that a duplicate mix is already present in the CME database. The information on the Mix Profile form follows the particular mix design throughout the rest of the program and may appear in the design sheet and submittal letters. An expiration of the Omega-Index and Modified Omega-Index will be covered elsewhere in the manual.

Mix Design



Return to Design Page
Post Mix to Data Base
Retrieve Mix from Data Base
Manage Data Base
Enter Admixtures
Gradation Analysis
Gradation Analysis II
Metric Conversion
Clear Design
Mix Constants
Batch Print

The menu bar is how you navigate around the CME program. If you are in some other part of the program and wish to return to the main Design Sheet, click on *Return to Mix Design*. If you are already on the Design Sheet, the menu item is grayed out, as shown to the left. Under the Mix Design, the menu item is where you save, retrieve, and manage the database, containing concrete mix designs.

- **Mix Design > Post Mix to Data Base**

The CME.xls is the program that you use to design your concrete mixtures; it contains a list of materials for

proportioning. Think of it as the interface between you and your concrete mixes. When you elect to save a concrete mixture with a unique mix profile, you click on **Post Mix to Database**. This record of the concrete mixture gets saved to the file **CME.DATA2**. You, as the user, do not see this file, but it will be in the same folder as your CME.xls. Normally, the CME program is installed under PROGRAMS; see the section on installing CME; you also have the option of installing it under the "Documents" folder.

Remember a unique mix profile contains the following items:

Project Name – Mix Code ID – Mix Category, and not the items in the mix design

BACKUP your Data:

To create a backup of all the concrete mixtures you have saved, make a copy of the CME.DATA file and save it in a secure location. That means not on the same computer that you are using or on a CD.

Mix Design > Retrieve Mix from Database

When you click on Retrieve Mix from Database, the Manage Database Listing dialog box will appear. This dialog box lists all the concrete mixtures listed in the CME.DATA file. The standard CME program will accommodate 1000 entries. Each of the column headers can sort the mix entries. You can sort by Date, Category, Project, Mix ID, Client, and Job location. These six items originate from what was entered into the Mix Profile form. The success of your database depends on how you preplan your mixture profile data. If the mix designer wishes to create a mixture category for "FLAT WORK" and then some number of concrete mixtures with different Mix IDs, all the "FLAT WORK" mixes would be grouped together. Consequently, if the concrete mix designer is creating

concrete proportions for a particular PROJECT, the PROJECT Category would list all the mixes (Flatwork, Wall, Footer, etc.) for that project.

The screenshot shows a window titled "Manage Database Listings" with a table containing the following data:

Date	Category	Project	Mix ID	Client	Location
10/13/2004	Drilled-Shaft	SCC AU	SCC -4	A DOT	Alabama
10/9/2004	Pump-Footing	Wal-Smart	4000-Wall	Wal-Smart Inc.	Nearby St.
9/27/2004	FlatWork	Wal-Smart	Floor 001	Wal-Smart Inc.	Nearby St.
9/27/2004	FlatWork	Wal-Smart	Floor 002	Wal-Smart Inc.	Nearby St.

Below the table, it says "Using 4 of 6 allowed records". At the bottom are buttons: "Open Selected Mix", "Delete Selected Mix", "Done", and "Cancel".

The success of the concrete database is in the planning of the MIX PROFILE. Remember, the combination of the Category, Project, and Mix ID differentiates the overall Mix Identification and not the mixture constituents. Make your Category, Project, and Mix ID as short as possible, keeping space to a minimum.

Mix Design > Duplicate records.

The screenshot shows a window titled "Manage Database Listings" with a message: "The current mixture duplicates an existing database entry. Delete the existing duplicate record or change the Category, Project, or Mix ID of the current mixture." Below the message is a table with one highlighted row:

Date	Category	Project	Mix ID	Client	Location
9/27/2004	FlatWork	Wal-Smart	Floor 001	Wal-Smart Inc.	East Street
10/13/2004	Drilled-Shaft	SCC AU	SCC -4	A DOT	Alabama
10/9/2004	Pump-Footing	Wal-Smart	4000-Wall	Wal-Smart Inc.	Nearby St.
9/27/2004	FlatWork	Wal-Smart	Floor 001	Wal-Smart Inc.	Nearby St.
9/27/2004	FlatWork	Wal-Smart	Floor 002	Wal-Smart Inc.	Nearby St.

Below the table is a large text box with the following text: "When you try to add a duplicate concrete mix to the data base, which Category, Project, and Mix ID are the same as an existing mix on file, you get a dialog box with the duplicate fields highlighted and the option replacing or erasing the mix of file in the data base. Or you can exit out of the dialog box and change one of the fields in the Mix Profile." At the bottom are buttons: "Save Current Mix", "Replace Selected Mix With Current Mix", "Delete Selected Mix", and "Cancel". It also says "Using 4 of 1500 allowed records".

Mix Design > Enter Admixtures

The list of available admixtures is located under *Materials* on the main menu. You may select an admixture and assign dosage rates through the main menu selection or by using the control button "Enter Admix," located in the upper right corner of the Coarseness Chart on the design sheet. Selecting one brings up the **Enter Admixture** dialog box.

Enter Admixture for concrete mix design								
Wal-Smart Inc. Floor 001 Wal-Smart								
Primary Cement only 500 lbs								
Total Cementitious 600 lbs								
		oz / cwt	oz/ Yard	Check for oz/ cwt	Check for calculate dosage on Total Cementitious	Oz/yard	Cost / cubic Yard	Admixture Volume (Future)
AEA	▼	0	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	3.00	\$0.09	
HRWR	▼	3	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	18.00	\$1.69	
Mid Range W/R	▼	3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	15.00	\$0.94	
	▼			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	0.00	\$0.00	
	▼			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	0.00	\$0.00	
	▼			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	0.00	\$0.00	
	▼			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total Cementitious	0.00	\$0.00	
						Total Cost	\$2.72	

When entering the admixtures, use the drop-down arrows and arrange them from top to bottom. You have a choice of dosing the quantity of liquid admixture by the ounce per cubic yard of concrete (oz/yd), or by ounces per 100 weight of cementitious material (oz/cwt). Also, when dosing admixture by the 100 weight of cement, you may decide to dose on total cementitious or only on the **Primary Cement**, which is the first (top) cement listed on the design sheet.

Example:

- AEA (an air entraining agent) is being dosed at 3oz per cubic yard; the *Total Cementitious* is checked but has no effect as it is overwritten by the oz/yd decision.
- HRWR (High Range Water Reducer) is dosed at 3 oz/cwt and based on total cementitious content. Total cementitious is listed at the top, like 600 lbs. so the dosage would be calculated as:
(600/100 * 3 = 18 ounces of admixture)
- Mid-Range W/R is dosed at 3 oz per cubic yard, but *the Total Cementitious Box* is NOT checked. The admixture dose is calculated on the first (PRIMARY) cement only, and is calculated thusly: (500/100 * 3 = 15 ounces of admixture)

Admixture	Oz/yard	oz / cwt
AEA	3.00	0.60
HRWR	18.00	3.00
Mid Range W/R	15.00	3.00
Admixture Cost/ Volume	\$2.72	Enter Admix

Always refer back and review the Mix Design Sheet to confirm how you are dosing your admixtures.

Materials > Admixtures

Admixture Data Sheet						
					Enter Admix	
Material	Cost / Gallon	Vendor / Source	Specifications	S.G.	Adjust for water in admixture	water content - Lbs per gallon
Water Reducer	\$5.00	AdMix Co. #1	ASTM C494	1.020	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water adj.	7.000
HRWR	\$12.00	AdMix Co. #2	ASTM C 494	1.030	<input type="checkbox"/> Water adj.	

Admixture cost is per gallon (128 ounces). If you check the "Water adj" box, CME will adjust the mix water and w/c ratio for the water content (in pounds/gallon) contained in the admixture. Ask your admixture supplier to supply the water content of the product as "pounds of water per gallon."

Design Air Content	1.8
Water: 36.0 Gal	300
No Water Adj	
Total:	3936
Plastic Density - Cu.Ft.	145.79
Water/Cementitious Ratio	0.500

Design Air Content	1.8
Water: 36.0 Gal	300
Water in Admix	
Totals: + admix water Vol & Wt	3938
Plastic Density - Cu.Ft.	145.69
Water + Admix Water / CM Ratio	0.503

Mix Design > Clear Mix Design

.This menu choice erases or clears up all entries on the Design Sheet, CME.xls. It does not change any saved mix designs in the CME.Data2 file.

Mix Design > Set up Mix Constants

CME allows you to change some of the basic constants. For example, when you use the auto blend or yield functions, you can change the target volume from the standard 27.0 cubic feet to, say, 27.2. Some companies intentionally design their concrete to over-yield.

Concrete Evaluator Mix Constants

Preset Values:

Target Volume (Cubic Ft): 27.0

Density of Water (Lbs/Cubic Ft): 62.4

Weight of a Gallon of Water (lbs): 8.33

No. of pounds in a Ton: 2000

Cost of a Gallon of Water (\$): 0.00

Continue

Exit

Use Caution when changing Mix preset values!

Re-Set Values

Water Cost (\$)

Also, if you want to include the cost of water, this is where you would make that decision.

If you feel that your mix is not calculating properly, reset the original values by clicking on the Re-Set Values button. The user should be EXTREMELY cautious when changing these numbers.

Metric Conversion

This feature of CME will convert a concrete mix design in lbs./ft³ to kg/m³. It is a one-way conversion. The CME does not take a kg/m³ mix design and convert to lbs./ft³.

Materials

First things first, all proportioning of concrete mixtures start with materials. Under this menu item, you define the materials you are using to design your concrete. This section is rather straightforward, but here are a few comments.

This **active** material data is stored as part of the CME.xls file Workbook. It's called *active* because it's what you use when putting together your concrete mix design, and when you use the material drop-downs on the Design Sheet, you are accessing


[illegible]

Materials >Aggregate Material Data

If you consider the aggregate to be SAND, you must check the BOX. Otherwise, some of the calculations, such as the Sand / Aggregate ratio, will be incorrect.

[illegible]

Materials >Aggregate Sieve Data



	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
	Coarse								Intermediate		Fines					
	Inch								Percent Passing							
Sieve Set up	3.0"	2.5"	2.0"	1.5"	1.0"	3/4"	1/2"	3/8"	No.4	No.8	No.16	No.30	No.50	No.100	No.200	FM
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	
ACI 1"	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	98.00	80.00	28.00	8.00	2.00	1.30	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.08
ACI Sand	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.10	87.40	71.10	47.00	12.80	1.20	0.00	2.81
ACI 3/8"	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	88.00	16.00	3.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.80
Coarse Agg Exp	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	95.00	90.00	60.00	30.00	7.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	6.63
Fine Agg Exp	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	98.00	92.00	75.00	40.00	25.00	10.00	1.50	2.60
Intermediate Agg Exp.	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	85.00	60.00	15.00	10.00	8.00	7.00	6.00	0.00	5.09

Sieve data is entered by Percent Passing. If you are entering a #57 stone and you have no stone retained on the 2-inch sieve, you must enter 100, under the 2.0 inch, because all the material has passed that sieve. The common mistake is to enter zero (0), which means that none of the materials can pass that sieve. The standard sieves are already entered into the program. If you want to modify the sieve NAMES, you can do that by clicking on **Sieve set up**, green arrow. Please note that sieves in columns #6 and #7 are considered intermediate sieve sizes. Calculations involving sieve sizes, such as Paste Fraction, Mortar Fraction, Workability, Coarseness, w-adjust, and FM, are all calculated using standard sieve sizes. **Warning:** If you change your sieve size name, be aware of how the calculations mentioned above get interpreted.

Materials > Fiber / Color

Dry powder color and fiber information are entered here. If you want to account for the VOLUME of the Fiber or color, check the volume of Mass calculation box.

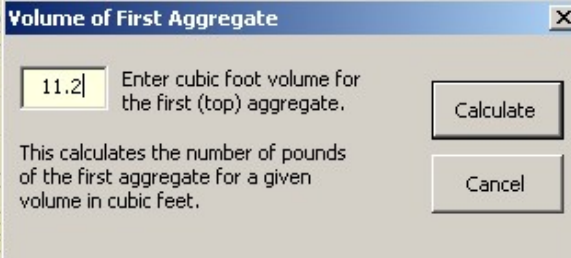
Auto Blending

Auto Blending
Volume of First Aggregate
Workability-Harshness
Gradation
Sand/Aggregate Ratio
Water/Cementitious Ratio
Aggregate % Volume
Aggregate Blending Limits

This menu item is a gateway to the real power of the Concrete Mix Evaluator (CME). The ability to blend aggregates to solve for a predetermined gradation, workability-coarseness factor, sand-to-aggregate ratio, or water cementitious ratios as a function of total water demand or cement factor opens up a new approach to designing your concrete mix proportions. CME uses the Excel Solver Functions as an optimization tool. To learn more about SOLVER, visit www.solver.com.

Auto Blending > Volume of First Aggregate

In some cases, when proportioning a concrete mixture, it is useful to set the volume of one of the aggregates to a known value, as in the case of some State DOTs that require a set volume of stone. For example, if working with only two aggregates (always list the primary stone as the top or first aggregate in the design sheet), let the required volume of stone in a mix be set to 11.2 cubic feet. Click on **Auto Blending > Volume of First**



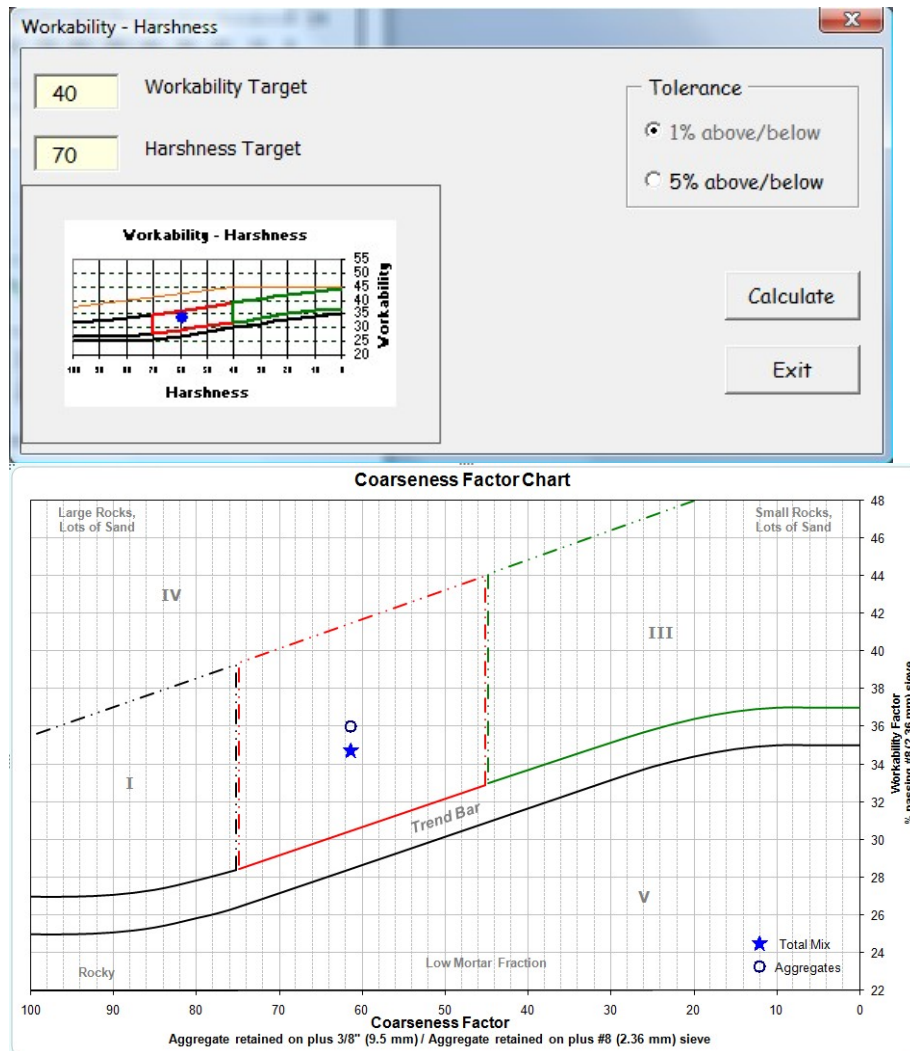
aggregate, enter 11.2 in the dialog box, and click *Calculate*. The CME program will calculate the number of pounds of stone to equal 11.2 cubic feet. The next step would be to yield the mix to 27 cubic feet. Click on the **Yield Agg2** button to obtain the sand to yield the mix.

Auto Blending > Workability - Harshness Chart

If you are unfamiliar with the use of the Workability or Harshness (Coarseness) factor method for designing concrete, refer to ACI 302.1R.

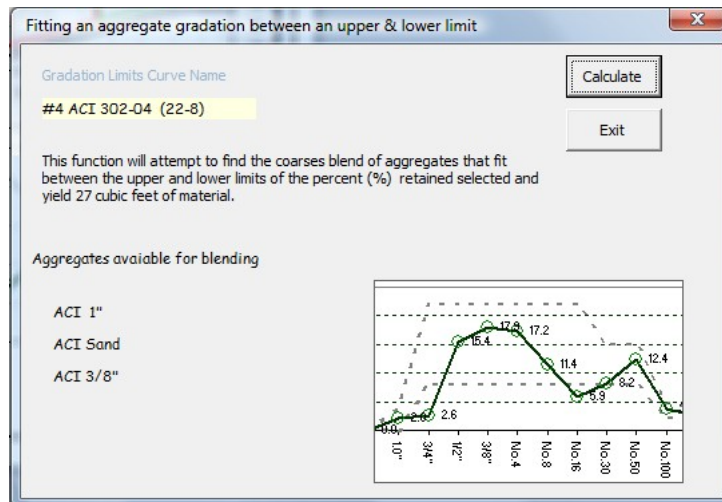
The CME program allows you to input your target values for the "Workability / Harshness," and the program will auto-blend the aggregates to within 1% or 5% of the target values. Note that the success of the auto blend is limited by your aggregate sizes. You cannot increase the harshness if you do not have any upper-size stones.

HINT: If you have an existing mix and want to increase the overall harshness (coarseness), using this feature is a good way to adjust your design.



Auto Blending > Gradation

When you use Auto-Blend, the CME will blend up to five aggregates listed in the main design sheet; this is a very powerful tool. Some concrete pump companies have suggested grading curves to improve the performance of the concrete going through the pump. As shown below, you can create your grading curve. The CME requires that you list the aggregates from top to bottom. For example, if you have three aggregates, list them as shown, with no blank rows.



Yield Agg1-->	ACI 1"
Yield Agg2 -->	ACI Sand
Yield Agg3 -->	ACI 3/8"
Yield Agg4-->	
Yield Agg5 -->	

ACI 1"
ACI Sand
No blanks !
ACI 3/8"

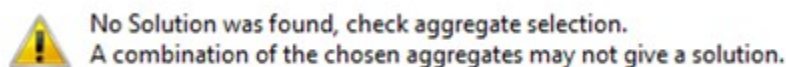
Auto Blending > Aggregate Blending Limits

You can create up to four custom blending limits; this can be for concrete flat work, pump mix, lightweight, etc.

	Upper and Lower Blending Limits										Percent Retained on each sieve!							
	3.0"	2.5"	2.0"	1.5"	1.0"	3/4"	1/2"	3/8"	No.4	No.8	No.16	No.30	No.50	No.100	No.200	Pan		
JH-Holand	0	0	0	0	4	22	22	22	22	22	22	15	15	5	4	3		
# 2 SCC.1 Concrete	0	0	0	0	0	2	13	18	28	20	14	13	13	7	6	4		
Test Curve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	24	12	6	5	5	3	3	0		
	6	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	1	0		
#4 ACI 302-04 (22-8)	0	0	0	3	4	22	22	22	22	22	22	16	16	5	5	4		
	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	2	1	0		
Your curve here	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

On a day that you are getting compliments for your concrete and how it is finishing, record the total gradation and save it for a future design; it makes a great place to start.

It can be difficult to meet many required grading specifications; do not be surprised to see this message.



Auto Blending > Density & Sand to Aggregate Ratio

This auto-blending feature allows you to blend aggregates to a specific SAND / TOTAL AGGREGATE ratio. This ratio is calculated from the volume of the sand divided by the total aggregate volume. For a concrete slab on the ground, it is typical to have a Sand / Agg ratio of around 0.42. The difference between using the "Sand/Aggregate Ratio" and the "Harshness (Coarseness) factor" is that the Harshness calculation uses the total combined gradation (sieve analysis) to adjust the mix.

If you're designing low-density concrete using lightweight aggregate, you can set your upper and lower target limits for the plastic unit weight. For example, if your design density is 118 lbs./ft³ set your limits to 119 to 117; see below:

Note: If you are designing normal-weight concrete, keep the upper and lower limits set very far apart, for example, upper design weight. 300 lbs. / ft³

Lower Design Wt. 10 lbs. / ft³

Auto Blending > Water / Cementitious

The CME program does not determine how much cementitious product is required to develop a strength target. You, as the concrete mix designer, are required to understand the relationship between the water demand of concrete materials and the amount of cementitious product required to produce the desired strength performance.

If you are given a specified **Water / Cementitious** ratio (W/Cm), this auto-blending feature may be helpful. Input the specified W/Cm in the dialog box; note that a decimal is required, in this example: 0.468.

% Cementitious - W/C Ratio - Select amount of Cementitious or Water Demand

Water / Cementitious Ratio: 0.468 Example .40

Known quantity:

- ☐ Total Cementitious (lbs)
- ☒ Total Mix Water (lbs)

Enter Amount: 300

Material: Enter % by Weight as decimal (Example 25% as .25)

Portland Cement Type I: .80

F Ash: 0.20

Buttons: Calculate, Exit

"Known quantity": You can input a known quantity of cementitious products or a known quantity of water (with optional admixture) to achieve the design slump.

Next, enter the cementitious combination. In this example, 80% Type I and 20% F Ash are used. Note that the percentages are entered as decimals.

Auto Blending > Blend Aggregates by % Volume

Blend Aggregates by % Volume

Enter each percent volume of aggregate

ACI 1" Example: enter 30% as .30

ACI Sand

ACI 3/8"

Many times, you will want to complete the mix with a pre-selected percentage breakdown of the aggregate combinations. This auto-blend function allows you to select the percentage volume of each aggregate. One example of using this function is when creating concrete performance curves of varying cementitious contents while maintaining a constant aggregate blend.

In the example above, the ACI 1" aggregate is blended to 44% of the aggregate volume, sand is 42%, and the ACI 3/8" mid-size stone is 14%. See below.

Use the auto blend functions to *blend and yield* the concrete volume.

FlatWork	Weight Lbs	Abs. Vol. Cu.Ft.	% Vol.
Cementitious Materials			
Portland Cement Type I ▼	513	2.61	80.0
F Ash ▼	128	0.87	20.0
▼			
▼			
Total Cementitious	642	3.48	
ACI 1" ▼	1321	8.05	44.0%
ACI Sand ▼	1246	7.68	42.0%
ACI 3/8" ▼	425	2.56	14.0%
▼		% Aggregate	
▼		Volume	

Materials > Aggregate Sieve Data-->Sieve Set up.

Comment on entering sieve data:

	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
	Coarse								Intermediate		Fines						
	Inch								Percent Passing								
Sieve Set up	3.0"	2.5"	2.0"	1.5"	1.0"	3/4"	1/2"	3/8"	No.4	No.8	No.16	No.30	No.50	No.100	No.200	FM	
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	FM	
ACI 1"	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	98.00	80.00	28.00	8.00	2.00	1.30	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.08	
ACI Sand	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.10	87.40	71.10	47.00	12.80	1.20	0.00	2.81	
ACI 3/8"	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	88.00	16.00	14.00	13.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.61	
Lightweight Agg																0.00	
5																0.00	

Sieve data is entered in percent passing. If you're entering a coarse aggregate with a maximum size of 1 1/2", the sieves above that are considered 100% passing. A complete nest of sieve data in percent passing is required. If you are missing a particular sieve size, use your judgment for that value. You cannot enter a zero nor have a blank in the series.

The FM calculation only uses the sieve sizes shown in the gray background above, but blank cells cannot be in the series.

Sieve Setup:

Custom sieves or metric sieve labels can be used. Please note that if you change the sieve designations be aware that the workability and coarseness numbers are calculated by their position in the sieve series.

Select Sieve Selection															
Inch															
	Sieve sizes								Sieve sizes		Sieve sizes				
	Coarse Aggregate								Intermediate		Fines				
Inch	3.0"	2.5"	2.0"	1.5"	1.0"	3/4"	1/2"	3/8"	No. 4	No. 8	No. 16	No. 30	No. 50	No. 100	No. 200
Metric-1	75mm	63mm	50mm	37.5mm	25.0mm	19mm	12.5mm	9.5mm	4.75mm	2.36mm	1.18mm	600µm	300µm	150µm	75µm
Custom	#15	#14	#13	#12	#11	#10	#9	#8	#7	#6	#5	#4	#3	#2	#1
ASTM E11 Nominal dimensions Standard Mesh opening															
	Coarse Aggregate								Intermediate		Fines				
Inch	75.00	63.00	50.00	37.50	25.00	19.00	12.50	9.50	4.75	2.36	1.18	0.60	0.30	0.15	0.08
Metric-1	75.00	63.00	50.00	37.50	25.00	19.00	12.50	9.50	4.75	2.36	1.18	0.60	0.30	0.15	0.08
Custom															

Definition of Workability and Harshness index

Workability index														
Volume														
3.0"	2.5"	2.0"	1.5"	1.0"	3/4"	1/2"	3/8"	No.4	No.8	No.16	No.30	No.50	No.100	No.200
										Total Fines Volume (includes pan)				
Total Aggregate Volume														
Harshness index														
Volume														
3.0"	2.5"	2.0"	1.5"	1.0"	3/4"	1/2"	3/8"	No.4	No.8	No.16	No.30	No.50	No.100	No.200
Coarse Aggregate Volume														
Coarse + Intermediate Aggregate Volume														

Input the lab batch size and the total moisture on the aggregates. The moisture corrected lab batch proportions are listed in green.

[illegible]

CME

Lab Batch Water Adjustments

When producing lab concrete, it is often necessary to adjust the slump by adding water. Guidance is given at the top of the lab batch sheet for the influence of adding or withholding water to the lab batch. For example, if the lab batch is 1.0 cubic feet, a 1-pound addition of water is equal to 3.24 gallons of water per yard. If the lab batch is 1.5 cubic feet, a 1.0-pound water addition is the same as adding 2.16 gallons of water per yard. The *rule of thumb* of one gallon of water per yard will move the slump by 1 inch, which is calculated for the lab batch size. In this example of 1.5 cubic feet, 0.463 pounds (or 210.3mL) is equivalent to 1 gallon per yard. In order to minimize the influence of lab batching measurements, always make the largest practical lab batch.

1 pound of water = **2.16 gal/yd** 
210.3 mL ~ 1 gal / cubic Yd
0.463 Lb ~ 1 gal / cubic Yd

 Lab Date... 10/10/2005
 Lab Series... **A**
 Lab Mix #... **Mix 1b**
 Lab Batch Size (Ft³)... **1.5**

CME will calculate the "Relative Yield" for the water adjustment and new water-cementitious ratio. By clicking on the "*Recalc Yield for Water Addition*" button, the aggregate weights will be adjusted for the new volume of water by adjusting the aggregate's SSD weights, keeping the original volume percentages of the aggregates.

[illegible]

Adjusted Batch Wts	SSD Design Wts	Stage I Adjusted for New Water RY= 0.999	Recalc Yield for Water Addition	Clear Adjustment for Water Addition
<i>Only aggregates and water are adjusted for Relative Yield</i>				
Aggregates:				
ACI 1"	1321	1300		
ACI Sand	1231	1211		
ACI 3/8"	425	418		
-	-	-		
-	-	-		
Adjusted Water:				
Design Water	302	320		
Water / Cementitious Ratio	0.471	0.499		