



the Sign of Quality

ADMIXTURE INFORMATION SHEET AIS 2

BS 8443 - Special Purpose Admixtures

BS 8443: Specification for establishing the suitability of special purpose concrete admixtures.

This standard was produced under the guidance of BSI technical committee B517/3 to enable admixtures that are not currently covered by EN 934 to show established suitability for use in concrete as required by EN 206.

Compliance with the requirements of BS 8443 should be accepted as proof that the admixture is fit for purpose and suitable for use in all concretes produced to BS EN 206 and/or BS 8500.

BS 8443 covers seven categories of special purpose concrete admixtures that are in widespread use in the United Kingdom. The Standard covers semi-dry concrete admixtures for precast concrete and the following admixtures for plain, reinforced, foamed and prestressed concrete that are used in a precast plant or are used in site mixed or ready mixed concrete.

- underwater concrete admixtures
- shrinkage reducing admixtures
- corrosion inhibiting admixtures
- pumping aids
- segregation reducing admixtures
- foaming admixtures

The requirements follow the format established by BS EN 934-2:

- General requirements that characterise the admixture by physical and chemical measurements.
- Specific requirements that characterise the performance of the admixture in a reference concrete mix.

The specific requirements cover performance in a cementitious mix where suitable laboratory tests are available; however for some of the admixtures there is no internationally agreed laboratory test available to measure their effectiveness in relation to the primary function. This is usually because the performance is specific to the materials and equipment used on site and can only be demonstrated by full scale trials. In these cases the effectiveness is required to be agreed between the manufacturer and purchaser based on trials and/or performance information provided by the manufacturer for the admixture.

The information provided by the manufacturer should be in the form of a test report containing the information required by BS 8443. The test laboratory should be subject to ISO 9001 accreditation. Where specific requirements cannot be tested on a reference mix, the manufacturer should provide documented evidence based on one or more of the following:

- Site trials and use
- Historical data on satisfactory performance
- Published papers
- Laboratory trials based on published and peer reviewed test methods.

Information on Admixtures:

The CAA website contains further information on admixtures including technical and environmental sheets that are available for free download. **Visit www.admixtures.org.uk.**

For general information on admixtures contact: The CAA Secretary