

CONCRETE SENSORS: AN ACCURATE METHOD TO DETERMINE IN-PLACE CONCRETE STRENGTH AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY



IN-PLACE CONCRETE STRENGTH

Concrete Sensors is a more accurate way of determining in-place concrete strength vs. cylinders.*



Step 1: Compare concrete sensors and the cylinder break data

The local testing lab tested cylinders from the delivered mix. Hilti Sensor was put into a cylinder.

The results: Hilti Sensor data accurately measures the temperature and strength of the concrete it's placed in -- matching the field cylinder breaks.

Step 2: Compare cylinder and the In-Place concrete temperatures



Field-cured or lab cured cylinders will not generate heat similar to larger volumes of concrete. The in-field concrete has much more mass, so it's going to generate and retain heat for longer than the cylinders.

The results: The cylinder temperatures are not reflecting what is actually happening with the in-place concrete.







Concrete gains strength at various rates depending on the mix design and curing temperatures. We test your mix design and calculate strength over a wide temperature range using the ASTM C1074 approved equivalent age maturity method.

The results: As concrete gets hot, strength develops faster. Colder concrete gains strength more slowly. How much faster and how much slower is what thorough testing can provide.



Step 4: The In-Place concrete gains strength much faster

As expected, the in-place concrete gains strength much faster than the cylinders.

The results: Cylinder strengths are not reflecting what is actually happening with the in-place concrete. Getting accurate strength data is critical in making decisions on the concrete process.

Conclusion: Accurate strength data can provide real results

• Shave hours, days off pours

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- Strip formwork sooner
- Efficiently manage labor
- Optimize mix design
- Tension, cut cables sooner



IN-PLACE RELATIVE HUMIDITY

With the only 3-in-1 sensor in the industry, you get the most accurate relative humidity readings, alongside temperature measurements and strength calculations

RH Installation best practices

- RH is a local measurement to a sensor.
- We recommend multiple sensors per slab.
 (Note: Your salesperson will help you determine the number needed based on the size of the slab).

The concrete drying process

- The rate at which concrete dries is affected by many conditions, such as temperature, humidity, air flow, slab thickness, mix design, and one-versus-two sided evaporation
- The RH of freshly poured concrete is at or near 100%
- · For concrete that remains exposed to rain or moisture, the RH can remain near 100% for years
- In enclosed, climate-controlled conditions, there will typically be a noticeable drop in RH in 5-6 months
- The Hilti sensor data may not reflect overall slab RH if localized wetting/spills occur.

Data Collection

It's easy to collect the data for RH:

- · Simply go up to the sensors with your mobile app (up to 100ft), the sensors will connect automatically
- · The data will be displayed in an easy to read graph
- Data is collected every 6 hours, and will continue up to the battery life of the sensors (up to 2 years)

Customer Case Story

A top 10 General Contractor leveraged our RH measurements for this scenario:

The project: Warehouse/lab.

The issue: Flooring contractor insisted flooring RH was 99%. Our customer challenged that statement using our RH data -- as the RH was actually in spec.

The test: A third party was called out to do a test which agreed with the Hilti Sensors' data.

The results: Our customer saved \$100 K in mitigation costs

Actual RH Data from a Slab Curing in a Conditioned Space



Results will vary on mix design and ambient conditions.



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