

A photograph of four construction workers in safety gear (hard hats, sunglasses, and high-visibility vests) inspecting a concrete bridge deck. One worker in the foreground is crouching and pointing at a large, dark, filled crack in the concrete. The other workers are standing behind him, observing. The background shows a grassy area and trees under a clear sky.

Material Compatible Repairs (MCRs) for Concrete Pavements and Bridge Decks

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Research Problem

- Premature failures in partial depth repairs (PDRs)
 - Incompatible thermal expansion
 - Unequal deformation under traffic loads
 - Excessive shrinkage
 - Bond failure
 - Compressive failure of repair material
 - Insufficient consolidation
 - Delayed curing



Project Objectives

- ❑ Develop material compatible repairs for concrete pavements and bridge decks
- ❑ Evaluate internal curing efficiency for long-lasting concrete repairs

*Characterize
Properties*

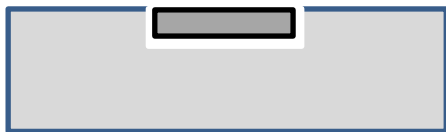
*Material
Selection
Procedure*

*Select
Material*



Project Approach

1. Identify critical parameters for compatible repair mixture
2. Develop repair material selection framework
3. Propose new mix designs
4. Experimental evaluation of repair materials



Traditional Repair

- Applied load
- Change in temperature
- Drying shrinkage

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Material Compatible Repair

- » Elastic modulus, $E_{repair} = E_{existing}$
- » Thermal coefficient, $\alpha_{repair} = \alpha_{existing}$
- » ϵ_{repair} reduced

Conclusions

- ❑ Stiffness compatibility, thermal compatibility, and controlled shrinkage are three compatibility properties for an MCR
- ❑ Coarse aggregate type is the key parameter to achieve stiffness and thermal compatibility
- ❑ Presoaked lightweight aggregate (LWA) is a promising strategy to control the shrinkage of repair materials
- ❑ From modeling, a compatible material could reduce induced stresses in repair by more than 60%.

Performance Engineered Repair Mixture

- ❑ Two main steps toward developing a PERM:
 1. Identifying the CTE of the in-situ concrete;
 2. Using appropriate materials and proportioning so:
 - ❑ CTE of the PERM and the in-situ concrete are comparable,
 - ❑ Drying shrinkage of the PERM is minimized (internal curing can be beneficial),
 - ❑ Strength and durability requirements are met.

Status and Application of Research Results

- ❑ Project Completed - March 2020
 - ❑ Final report available (<https://www.engineering.pitt.edu/Sub-Sites/Consortiums/IRISE/Content/Achievements/Products/>)

- ❑ Year 3 IRISE Project – MCR Field Evaluation
 - ❑ Use results from study to develop MCR for field project
 - ❑ Use MCR and a standard repair material
 - ❑ Long-term field evaluations of repairs made