

The RMC industry has been on a phenomenal growth



In future, special grade concrete with focus on environment sustainability will be crucial, says **CHIRAG THAKKAR**, Director & Managing Director, Hindustan Infrastructure Solution

India has envisioned a huge infrastructure development for which enormous amounts of concrete / RMC will be required. How are you gearing up for this challenge?

Hindustan RMC has achieved a phenomenal growth of 45% despite Covid times. We are rapidly expanding across newer geographies to cater to the huge infrastructure development. We have added end to end solution offerings like diaphragm wall and also come up with innovative concrete like lightweight concrete, rust proof concrete, waterproof concrete, temperature controlled concrete, crack-less concrete, color concrete, fiber concrete, plum concrete etc. We have received amazing responses from developers who have realized the added value of concrete and consuming this over traditional solutions. This will cater to the growing need of challenging solutions required by concrete.

What are the steps the Concrete community is taking to reduce greenhouse gas emission? How is your organization contributing to this noble cause?

All our plants ascribe to Pollution Control Board Norms strictly. We also use an air filter at the bottom of the plant to minimize air

pollution. All wastage concrete generated is reused in creating artistic gifting products like pen stands, coasters, idols, wall clocks, flower vases, cover blocks and more. Thus, we are doing our best to minimize any and all kinds of pollution. Our R&D team is always working on innovative concrete. So, we are using glass fiber and plastic waste in our in-house developed recipes of concrete mixture and thus contributing to environmental conservation.

How has the concrete/ RMC industry developed over the years? What are the R&D and innovations taking place at your end in concrete / RMC technology?

The RMC industry has been on a phenomenal growth over the last decade since we have entered. Infrastructure always has a large budget allocation and is one of the key drivers to the economy. Concrete has been a cornerstone of major government initiatives with 100 Smart cities, Make in India and Metros / Bullet Trains, Expressways and more. There have been lots of new innovations like the use of special concrete which has different properties and features from the regular Concrete that uses an in-house built recipe that consumes materials

like plastic waste, glass fiber, etc, and thus brings an environment conservation angle into it. These are the Concrete built with multi-purpose characteristics like long term durability, water absorbing, crack resistance, water proofing, temperature controlled, colored, rust proof, light weight and much more. These concrete are adaptive as per the project type and design.

of designing a specific recipe that reduces use of cement in recipe and substituting with alternate materials like plastic waste and contributing to reduction of environmental pollution. The market response has been really amazing as these provide a lot of benefits over traditional concrete. Customers have volunteered to pay the additional premium pricing showing their

conductive environment for growth is critical. We are constantly in touch with various universities and esteemed institutions and collaborating over research projects for their students. So, a lot of students do their final year internships with us working on developing these innovative versions of concrete.

What are the challenges - technical, sustainability, regulatory and commercial - facing the Concrete industry?

The challenges faced by the concrete industry related to technical aspects include developing new types of concrete that also is pocket friendly for the buyers. Since the end users are not so environmentally conscious or focused on the quality of raw materials used in the project, builders are also not heavily pro-green concrete. The regulatory issues pertain to recognizing environment friendliness initiatives and rewarding it. From the commercial angle, it would be to smoothen cash flows across the supply chain with timely payments and project executions.

Technology is always evolving for the better, so is concrete technology. In future what type of concrete / RMC we can expect?

In future, special grade concrete with focus on environment sustainability will be crucial. The need of fiber reinforced concrete or usage of plastic waste would peak in light of creation of more and more green buildings in the country.

What are your growth plans for your organization? Is there a product launch or new plant in the offing?

Yes, we have been consistently growing at more than 46% CAGR despite the last 2 years of pandemic and we are going to maintain the growth track. We have 4 more plants in offing over the existing 6 ones this year. EPCWorld



Which are the new products in your Concrete / RMC range that you have introduced in the market in the last two years? How environmentally friendly are these concrete / RMC? How is the market response to these products?

The new products we have introduced are Crack-less concrete, plum concrete, fiber concrete, green concrete and more. These are highly environmentally friendly due to the use

of solidarity to environment friendliness. In the trying times of Covid, more than 10,000 CMT of Special Concrete was sold in the very first year.

What are the skill development programmes you have introduced for the enhancement of professionals engaged in the concrete industry?

We have an in-house team of R&D people and technicians who have got decades of experience. Providing a