

New Year Greeting from Chairman

Dear Colleagues;

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone enjoyed peaceful days at the beginning of the New Year.

Now is the time for new-year resolutions. As chairman of JSCE Concrete Committee, I would like to describe my resolutions regarding the activities of the committee. First, let's look back at the contributions made by the committee to our society, our community, and our members last year.



More than 20 subcommittees are working on a regular basis to develop new knowledge about concrete and solve practical problems. I just want to introduce some new aspects of what we have done so far.

- (1) The environmental issues of concrete for code specifications have been studied and the first draft of a guideline published.
- (2) A web-based educational text on concrete is being developed under the sponsorship of Japan Science and Technology.
- (3) Collaboration with Asian countries is progressing. We have now held joint seminars on concrete engineering in Mongolia, Korea, and Vietnam.
- (4) We are working with archaeologists in a study of Roman concrete from the era of Augustus, emperor of the Roman Empire.
- (5) A special committee has been formed to examine the causes of serious cracking in PRC bridge structures. A relatively large amount of concrete shrinkage (autogeneous and drying shrinkage) will cause serious cracking problems in cross sections with congested reinforcements.

Next, I would like to briefly describe this year's plans for me and my colleagues on the concrete committee. The concrete committee is the largest and the most active committee in the JSCE. In this sense, the members of the committee have a large responsibility not only to the JSCE but also to society. Therefore, in addition to our regular activities of developing new knowledge, we should contribute to society by solving crucial practical problems in concrete engineering. In addition, we should continue promoting collaborations with Asian countries. And finally, we should introduce new ideas in concrete engineering, since circumstances in the concrete business, as well as in public enterprise, are worsening in Japan.

I wish all of us success in the coming year.

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Chairman of JSCE Concrete Committee