



**European Cryogenic Days**  
**28./29. March 2023**

It doesn't work without cooling (any more)!

Cement cooling - the new method for efficient concrete cooling

# In a nutshell: The Messer profile



## The company

**Messer is the world's largest family-run industrial gases specialist.**

## The products

**Messer produces and supplies oxygen, nitrogen, argon, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, helium, shielding gases for welding, specialty gases, medical gases, food gases and many different gas mixtures.**

## The customers

**Almost all industrial sectors, healthcare, research and science benefit from the products and application technologies.**

# Is cooling of fresh concrete necessary in summer?

Clear answer: **If the weather plays along - NO!**

*For the production and processing of materials with constant quality, the control of the temperature is indispensable!*

Examples are:	Chemical industry	=>	pharmaceuticals, paints and varnishes,...
	Ceramic and glass industry	=>	porcelain production, technical ceramics, glass...
	Steel and metal industry	=>	steel production, steel hardening, alloy production,...
	Plastics industry	=>	production and processing of thermoplastics, thermosets...

In the production and processing of concrete, it should also be possible to control the temperature! temperature should be controlled!

# Calculation of fresh concrete temperature

**Heat capacity of concrete: ( $Q=m*c*T$ )**

$$C_{bo} = m_z * c_z + m_g * c_g + m_w * c_w \quad [\text{kJ/K}]$$

z : Cement content [kg/m<sup>3</sup>]  
 g : Aggregate content [kg/m<sup>3</sup>]  
 w : Water content [kg/m<sup>3</sup>]  
 c<sub>z</sub> = 1,0 kJ/kgK: Heat capacity of Cement  
 c<sub>g</sub> = 1,0 kJ/kgK: Heat capacity of Aggregates  
 c<sub>w</sub> = 4,2 kJ/kgK: Heat capacity of Water  
 T<sub>z</sub> : Temperature of Cement [K]  
 T<sub>g</sub> : Temperature of Aggregates [K]  
 T<sub>w</sub> : Temperature of Water [K]

**Temperature of the fresh concrete :**

$$T_{bo} = \frac{m_z * c_z * T_z + m_g * c_g * T_g + m_w * c_w * T_w}{C_{bo}}$$

**Temperature change of the fresh concrete :**

$$\Delta T_{bo} = \frac{\Delta Q}{C_{bo}}$$

$$\Delta Q = m_{ice} * (336 \text{kJ/kg} + c_w * T_w)$$

# What causes heat in concrete?

## Heat input through raw materials :

- Water on average 12-15°C in summer
- Aggregats in normal case ambient temperature
- other Aggregates in normal case ambient temperature
- Cement higher then ambient temperature, up to 90°C

## Heat input by chem. Reaction : (Activation energy and course of reaction)

Heat of hydration of  
different cements  
with complete hydration,  
determined with the  
Heat of solution method

Typ of Cement		Heat of hydration J/g
Portlandcement	CEM I	375 ... 525
Portlandpuzzolancement	CEM II/A-P	315 ... 420
Portland oil shale cement	CEM II/A-T	360 ... 480
Blast furnace slag cement	CEM III/A	355 ... 440
Clay based cement		545 ... 585

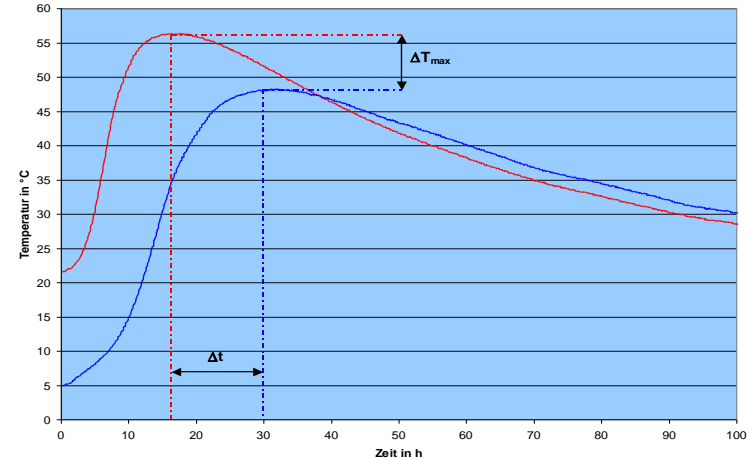
# Why is concrete cooling necessary?

## To avoid cracks!

caused by too fast hardening and temperature stresses of the concrete

## To maintain the compressive strength

of the type of concrete used (above 55°C concrete core temperature changes the chemical processes)



Comparison of the heat of hydration of a cooled (blue) and an uncooled concrete (red)

# Which processes are in use?

## ***Lance cooling with liquide Nitrogen(LIN)***

Cooling directly before installation, low investment costs

Concrete quality is affected

## ***Aggregate cooling (gravel, grit), passive/active***

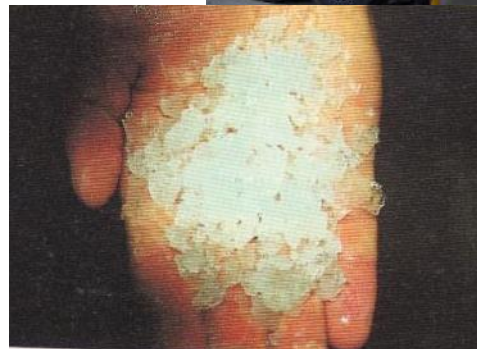
Shading and water sprinkling

Generation of cold air (4°C) or ice  
by refrigeration plant (electric)

## ***Addition of flake ice***

Good heat transfer

Limited cooling capacity due to ice  
temperature ( max. -7°C) and w/c ratio



# Development of new cooling methods for LIN

## ***Requirements:***

high heat (cold) transfer in short time  
high "cold" capacity with fast transmission possibility  
high transfer area or long transfer time

## ***Water***

heat exchanger (brine (electric); cryogenic gases)

## ***Aggregates:***

Sprinkling/flow through

## ***Sand, gravel, grit***

(cold water; cold gases (0-5°C))

## ***Cement***

cold gases

## ***Forced mixer***

Heat exchanger/direct cooling  
(brine, cryogenic gases)

## ***Fresh concrete***

Heat exchanger/direct cooling  
(brine, cryogenic gases)



# Cement cooling ZK-I

Cooling of the cement to the ambient temperature  
=> no energy losses

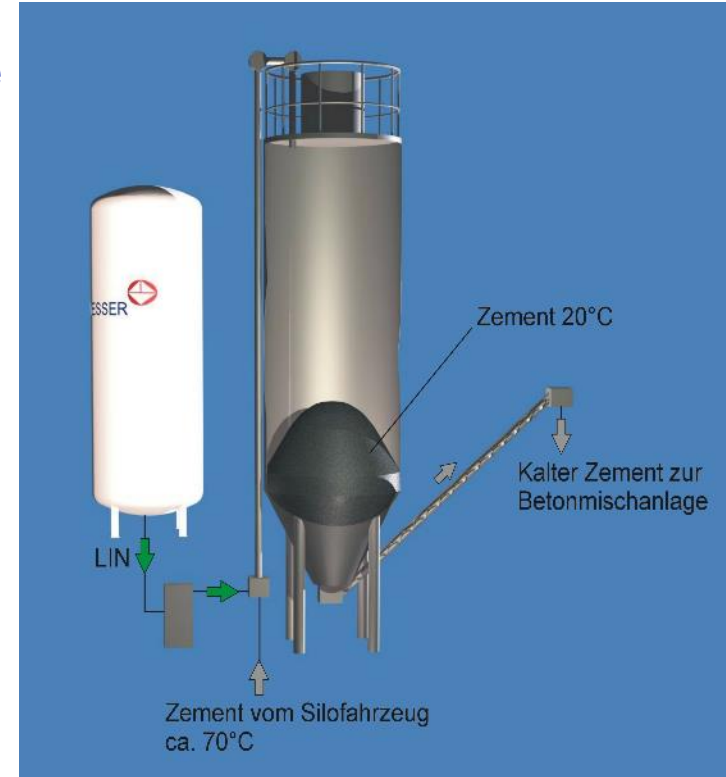
max. cooling of the cement to  
min. -20 °C possible => no condensation

Cooling before silo storage

all cement is cooled

10°C cooling in the cement results in a  
fresh concrete cooling of approx. 1°C

When the cement is cooled below  
ambient temperature => Risk of energy losses



# Cement cooling ZK-I

## Cement cooling I, the "simple" technology



**Target temperature of the cement after cooling:  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$**

# Which technology should be used?

Cement cooling MIX

Cooling down to  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$

2 silos with identical cement

1 x "warm"; 1 x "cold"

Mixing the two cements in  
the scale

Setting concrete  
temperature via mixing ratio




**Energy Losses!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**➡ Silo paint stripping**



# Which technology should be used?

*Investment and operating costs*

(low; medium; very high  




Technology  
Invest-K

flake ice;

lance;

H2O ;

cement I ; cement MIX



Operating K  
Losses



Max. Cooling rate[ K ]

8-10

3-6

2-3

1-10

1-22

# Calculation „cooling "energy

## *Basics for technology selection:*

- Amount of concrete to be cooled (absolute) over what period of time
- Maximum required cooling rate
- Amount of concrete to be cooled per hour

## *Technology selection:*

*Lance cooling* is suitable for cooling the concrete by a few °Celsius with small and medium concrete quantities and a corresponding time window.

*Water and aggregate cooling* is suitable for small and medium concrete quantities for low hourly outputs and small time windows

*Cement cooling I, MIX and II are* suitable for small, medium and large concrete quantities, high outside temperatures and large hourly outputs.

The only process that allows the fresh concrete temperature to be set in a wide range.



# Cement cooling – the new method for efficient concrete cooling



**Thank you  
very much  
for your  
attention**