

Standards Alert

A new Concrete Mix Register is now available.

This register can be found in **EPS501 - List of Approved Non-Standard Products for Networks**.

The register provides users with:

- A comprehensive, approved mix register that ensures compliant, high quality, standardised concrete across all Sydney Water projects.
- Reduced effort by delivery teams, partners and suppliers associated with evaluating and approving mix designs for each project, reducing cost and delays.
- Enhanced quality assurance through consistency, compliance, and traceability for all concrete used.

Why has this register been created?

Previously, delivery teams, partners and suppliers faced time and resource burdens seeking individual approvals for concrete mixes, even for standard designs. The technical complexity of assessing constituent materials against numerous Australian Standards (e.g., AS1379, AS3972, AS2758.1, AS1012) posed a risk of non-compliance and led to:

- Repetitive efforts and duplicated lab testing across projects.
- Prolonged delays and increased administrative overhead.
- Challenges in consistently tracking and optimising sustainability metrics, leading to potential defects and traceability issues.

The new concrete mix register is designed to centralise and standardise our concrete material approvals, thereby eliminating current inefficiencies. This is projected to save a minimum of 8 hours of assessment time per concrete mix, which includes the potential avoidance of Deviation from Standard (DfS) requests, thereby accelerating concrete order lead times and streamlining

project delivery. It's important to note that while the register offers a streamlined pathway, the use of these standardised mixes is not mandatory; alternative mixes from suppliers may still be submitted for acceptance in accordance with the Technical Specification – Civil.

What are the key features and benefits of this register?

This initiative, developed in close collaboration with key concrete suppliers to gather required test data, delivers substantial benefits across several key areas:

- Streamlined Project Delivery & Cost Efficiency

Rapid selection of pre-approved mixes significantly reduces lead times for concrete orders, accelerating project commencement. This also optimises resource allocation by reducing administrative overhead and labour costs through streamlined approvals and elimination of duplicated efforts. Furthermore, it promotes standardised, cost-effective mixes, mitigating overruns from delays and rework.

- **Enhanced Quality & Compliance**

The register ensures all concrete adheres to consistent, high-quality standards and provides robust quality assurance. Clear, compliant mix lists significantly lower non-compliance risks, enhancing overall integrity and safety. Validated mix designs enable faster traceability, problem-solving, and defect resolution through expert pre-assessment, while simplifying compliance with AS and Sydney Water requirements.

- **Environmental Stewardship & Innovation**

This initiative promotes mixes with lower embodied carbon by optimising the use of Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs). It also enables tracking and reporting of concrete-related carbon emissions, supporting data-driven reduction efforts towards net-zero targets.

- **Strategic Market Advantage**

Standardised data facilitates consistent supplier benchmarking, enhancing commercial decisions and buying power. This fosters improved supplier relationships through clear and consistent requirements. Ultimately, standardisation positions concrete as a more commoditized product, potentially leading to lower future prices.

When can I start using the new register?

You can start using the register right away. This document provides a comprehensive, approved mix register which is applicable to all work.

The register is provided in the Sydney Water Specification EPS 501- List of Approved Non- Standard Products for Networks (D0001614).

This register does not replace any existing Sydney Water standards, and designers must continue to comply with all relevant standards.

Where can I find the new register?

[iConnect](#)

[SWDelivery Portal](#)

[Sydney Water Website](#)

How can I provide feedback?

If you have any feedback on this register, please contact the author by email at: standards@sydneywater.com.au.

Please feel free to pass this alert onto others that may benefit.