

LafargeHolcim to collaborate with IIT Hyderabad for smart building solutions

- The academic collaboration led by LafargeHolcim Innovation Centre will be supported by group companies ACC and Ambuja Cements in India
- Study will explore smart sensing technology for continuous on-site strength evaluation of a concrete structure~

Mumbai and Hyderabad, 04 May 2021: LafargeHolcim, a global leader in building solutions has partnered up with the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) to collaborate on the development of innovative and smart building solutions.

This new academic collaboration with one of the reputed institutes in India will be implemented through a research project funded by LafargeHolcim Innovation Centre (LHIC), focusing on 'Standardisation of Smart sensing technology for Continuous Assessment of Internal State and Compressive Strength of Concrete'.

This study will explore smart sensing technology for continuous on-site strength evaluation of a concrete structure that can eventually reduce the time cycle for construction of buildings and infrastructure and also ensure highly accurate real-time strength development.

"Smart construction practices is one of the key business pillars for the LafargeHolcim group. We consistently strive to expand our expertise in smart building solutions through extensive R&D. This transformation can be qualitatively accelerated by involving the ecosystem of talent around the world. Our academic collaboration with IIT Hyderabad brings us closer to our goal of creating a smarter and sustainable future, and we are enthused to synergise with some of the best minds in the country." said **Mr. Neeraj Akhoury, CEO LafargeHolcim India, and Managing Director & CEO, Ambuja Cements Limited.**

Ambuja Cements Ltd and ACC Ltd are the two principle operating companies of LafargeHolcim in India.

"We are excited to collaborate with one of the leading cement companies globally. We are certain that this research study will give immense exposure to the talent at IIT Hyderabad. Working alongside industry leaders to achieve their goal of creating a technology-backed sustainable future will be an exciting journey for us." said **Prof. K.V.L. Subramaniam, IIT Hyderabad**

The growing population and increase in urbanisation need building infrastructure and housing to be ramped up at an unprecedented pace. Smart Building Solutions can play a vital role in building fast and qualitatively. Realizing its vital importance, LHIC continuously engages with a distinguished academic network to achieve innovation excellence through 'Sustainable' & 'Smart' building solutions and has successfully collaborated with over 40 leading universities.

LafargeHolcim has also partnered with the highly reputed Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) to develop green and sustainable building solutions. This academic collaboration is born out of the Company's vision to re-invent how the world is built to make it greener, smarter, and sustainable for all. The collaborative research study with IITM is financially aided by Lafarge-Holcim Innovation Centre (LHIC), focusing on 'Binder Optimization for Alternate Reinforcements.' This research will delve into the optimized use of low CO2 binders with a combination of alternative reinforcement as a potential substitute for conventional steel rebar, thereby significantly reducing the CO2 footprints of construction.

About IIT Hyderabad

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) is one of the six new Indian Institutes of Technology established by the Government of India in 2008. In a short span of **12** years, the institute built on an imposing **578**-acre campus and has been ranked among the top **10** institutes for four consecutive years in the NIRF released by the Ministry of Education, GoI. IITH was also ranked under Top **#20** in the recent edition ARIIA on indicators related to 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development' among students and faculties. IIT Hyderabad has **237** full-time faculty, **3,397** students of whom **20** per cent are women, nearly **200** state-of-the-art laboratories and five research and entrepreneurship centres. The Institute has a strong research focus with more than Rs. **500** crore of sanctioned research funding while PhD scholars account for about **30%** of total student strength. IITH students and faculty are at the forefront of innovation with more than **5500** research publications and **164** patent disclosures, **300** sponsored/ consultancy projects and **50** industry & academic collaborations.

To know more, please visit: <https://www.iith.ac.in/>

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Please direct all media queries to:

Mrs. Mitalee Agrawal | Public Relations Officer, IIT Hyderabad

Cell: **8331036099** / Email: pro@iith.ac.in

You can view all press release/ note from IIT Hyderabad at: <https://pcr.iith.ac.in/pressrelease.html>

About LafargeHolcim

As the world's global leader in building solutions, LafargeHolcim is reinventing how the world builds to make it greener and smarter for all. On its way to becoming a net zero company, LafargeHolcim offers global solutions such as ECOPact, enabling carbon-neutral construction. With its circular business model, the company is a global leader in recycling waste as a source of energy and raw materials through products like Susteno, its leading circular cement. Innovation and digitalization are at the core of the company's strategy, with more than half of its R&D projects dedicated to greener solutions. LafargeHolcim's 70,000 employees are committed to improving quality of life across more than 70 markets through its four business segments: Cement, Ready-Mix Concrete, Aggregates and Solutions & Products.

About Ambuja Cement:

Ambuja Cements Ltd., a part of the global conglomerate LafargeHolcim, is among the leading cement companies in India. Ambuja Cement has provided hassle-free, home-building solutions with its uniquely sustainable development projects and environment-friendly practices since it started operations. Currently, Ambuja Cement has a cement capacity of 29.65 million tonnes with five integrated cement manufacturing plants and eight cement grinding units across the country. The company has many firsts to its credit – a captive port with four terminals that has facilitated timely, cost-effective, cleaner shipments of bulk cement to its customers. To further add value to customers, the company has launched innovative products like Ambuja Plus Roof Special, Ambuja Plus Cool Walls, Ambuja Compozem, and Ambuja Kawach. The new products not only fulfill important customer needs but also help in significantly reducing carbon footprints.

For more details, visit <http://www.ambujacement.com>

For queries, write to corporate.communications@ambujacement.com

About ACC:

ACC Limited, a member of the LafargeHolcim Group, is one of India's leading producers of cement and ready mixed concrete. It has ~6500 employees, 17 cement manufacturing sites, 89 concrete plants and a nationwide network of over 50,000 retail outlets to serve its customers. With a world-class R&D centre in Mumbai, the quality of ACC's products and services, as well as its commitment to technological development, make it a preferred brand in building materials. Established in 1936, ACC is counted among the country's 'Most Sustainable Companies' and it is recognized for its best practices in environment management and corporate citizenship

For more details, visit www.acclimited.com

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