



Standardization for an innovative world

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 11 January 2011

Accepted 24 March 2011

Keywords:

Innovation
Cement (D)
Concrete (E)

ABSTRACT

Standardization is beneficial for society in general and for research and innovation in particular. Standardization bodies as well as policymakers should promote the use of standards as a way of disseminating knowledge, exploiting research results and reducing time to market for the “innovation”. Several examples are presented here with regard to the standardization of research/innovation in the cement field. From cement manufacturing to nanotechnology applied to additives, cement and special concretes, it is possible to find good examples of innovation/research activities linked to standardization.

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1. Introduction

Innovation can be defined as the “process of turning ideas into manufacturable and marketable forms” according to Watts Humphreys. Therefore, innovation is based not only on the industry’s capacity but

also on its ability to do things in a more efficient and simplified way. In this line, it can be said that innovation refers to radical or gradual changes in products, processes or services.

In the context of cementitious materials, innovation can be referred to as a performance improvement in efficiency, productivity, quality, competitiveness, improved properties of cements, new additions or binders, nanotechnology applications, and so on.

Standardization work is undertaken by experts from all sectors of society: Governments, industries, consumers, researchers, testing

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