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Preface

One difference between concrete and other construction materials is that the properties of both the fresh and hardened state are important. We need to study concrete from selecting and mixing the ingredients to the liquid product until the mature material's resistance to various deterioration mechanisms during its often 100+ years long service life. In this issue, four papers are devoted to fresh concrete whereas another four ones deal with durability. Fresh concrete is here studied with respect to workability, air content and formwork pressure. Curing is an important measure in the hardening phase of concrete and this is the topic of the fourth paper.

Reinforcement corrosion is studied in one of the papers and measures to prevent it by cathodic protection in another one. The increased focus on sustainability leads to research in materials that can replace parts of the ingredients in concrete. These replacements may influence the durability and this is the reason behind the papers on freeze-thaw resistance of concrete containing slag and durability of concrete containing recycled concrete as part of the aggregate.

NCR is one important part of the Nordic Concrete Federation; the other one is the Nordic Concrete Research Symposium that usually is organized every third year. The 25th Nordic Concrete Research Symposium will take place in August 19-22, 2025, in Sandefjord in Norway. The Symposium is organized by the Norwegian Concrete Association and it welcomes extended abstracts (limited to four pages) before February, 1st, 2025, see

<https://www.tekna.no/en/events/xxvth-ncr-symposium-2025-47464/>

My recommendation to future participants and authors is the following: Submit an extended abstract to the Symposium and prepare a full NCR paper including all necessary details and a more developed analysis. Submit the full paper to NCR either in March (for NCR No. 1/2025) or September (for NCR No 2/2025). See you in Sandefjord!

Stockholm in December 2024

Johan Silfwerbrand
Editor of NCR