

	
© Article authors. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs licens. (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/).	ISSN online 2545-2819 ISSN print 0800-6377
DOI: 10.2478/ncr-2025-0030	

Preface

The year 2025 has been a very successful year for Nordic Concrete Research. Due to an increased interest in NCR, we have been able to publish 20 papers; two from Denmark, nine from Finland, two from Norway, and seven from Sweden. NCR is working very close to the series of Nordic Concrete Research Symposia and in August 2025, the Norwegian Concrete Association organized the 25th NCR Symposium in Sandefjord with 140 participants and 91 oral presentations. PhD students presented most of the contributions at the symposium and in the coming issues of NCR we will be able to take part in developed and enlarged scientific papers based on their short presentations in Sandefjord.

Sustainability is a key word in modern concrete research and sustainability is predominant both in NCR and in the extended abstracts published in Sandefjord. Sustainability has several faces; durability, repair, recycling, replacement of Portland cement with alternative binders, and protecting our society from harmful and dangerous substances. In this issue of NCR, all these subjects are treated. One paper is about chloride ingress and another one about carbonation that both may lead to reinforcement corrosion. One paper is about the service life of concrete repairs. Two papers deal with Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCM) and one with aluminium rich cement. Recycled concrete aggregates (RCA) are dealt with in two papers. Finally, one paper discusses concrete for nuclear waste repositories.

The nine papers have also another common denominator: They are all focusing on concrete as a material. In this issue, the Editor is missing papers dealing with concrete structures. However, this is just another sign of the international trend. During the entire 20th century, concrete research was dominated by research on concrete structures; bending moments, shear, punching shear, deformations, cracking, and other phenomena. This has changed during the 21st century and both the cement and concrete industry and academia are focusing on measures to reduce concrete's environmental footprint. Also in Sandefjord, the number of materials papers was larger than the number of structural ones. Material research is also less expensive since no large laboratories and expensive loading equipment are needed. However, in order to reduce concrete's climate footprint both materials and structural research are essential. Consequently, the Editor of NCR welcomes good papers in both categories. And don't forget papers focusing on the concrete production. They have also an important role to contribute to an improved future.

Stockholm in December 2025

Johan Silfwerbrand
Editor of NCR