MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING TRUST

DATE	April 29, 2021	**CONTACT**	Dominik Slappnig
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SIKA AG	Zugerstrasse 50		Investor Relations
	6341 Baar, Switzerland	**PHONE**	+41 58 436 68 21
	www.sika.com	**E-MAIL**	slappnig.dominik@ch.sika.com

SIKA DEVELOPS LOW CO_2 EMISSION ADMIXTURE PRODUCT RANGE

Sika reinforces its leading position as an enabler of sustainable construction. In cooperation with leading key players, Sika is working on the development of concrete admixtures implementing the LC^3 technology that lowers CO_2 emissions, developed by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne. This new technology aims to facilitate the production of performant and sustainable cement with less clinker.

Concrete is the most commonly used construction material in the world. The key ingredient of concrete is cement, whose production accounts for 6–8% of global CO_2 emissions. As a technology leader in its industry, Sika focusses its R&D activities on the development of more sustainable, user friendly and at the same time better-performing product solutions. With its concrete admixtures, Sika enables to incorporate calcined clay in concrete, and to reduce the carbon footprint.

LC^3 – A PARADIGM SHIFT IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

With the LC^3 project, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, together with key players in the construction materials industry, targets to reduce the CO_2 footprint of cement by switching to a novel supplementary cementitious material, that has the ability to replace up to 50% of clinker in cement. The new technology will play a significant and growing role in the concrete industry and represents a great opportunity for Sika to enable the construction sector to adopt this technology rapidly and effectively. Sika will provide solutions for concrete production and mortar products.

SIKA SOLUTIONS PROMOTE LC^3 TECHNOLOGY

Sika is prepared for a full scale product testing with interested customers. The future Sika product portfolio will include cement additives and concrete admixtures enabling customers to adapt their materials and mix designs to the new characteristics of LC^3. Water consumption, workability, hardening and durability of concrete will be maintained as compared to conventional products.

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Frank Höfflin, Chief Technology Officer: "With these new LC^3 admixtures we are walking the talk of our sustainability strategy. Our aim is to act as an enabler of sustainability in the construction industry and develop more environmentally friendly and better-performing products. We are committed to maximizing the long-term benefits for our customers and other stakeholders, reducing resource consumption and the construction industry's environmental impact. LC^3 based binders have a huge potential, and with our dedicated team we are bundling our R&D and technical expertise to help support and promote the widespread use of this exciting LC^3 technology."

SIKA CORPORATE PROFILE

Sika is a specialty chemicals company with a leading position in the development and production of systems and products for bonding, sealing, damping, reinforcing, and protection in the building sector and automotive industry. Sika has subsidiaries in 100 countries around the world and manufactures in over 300 factories. Its 25,000 employees generated annual sales of CHF 7.88 billion in 2020.

ABOUT LC^3

LC^3 stands for Limestone Calcined Clay Cement. Clinker contributes to high CO_2 emissions during cement production. Therefore, part of the clinker is now substituted by a blend of calcined clay, limestone and gypsum. LC^3 thus reduces clinker consumption, and hence CO_2 emmissions, compared to regular cements. The calcination of the new added clay requires lower burning temperatures than in clinker production, and the fact that the limestone is not calcined also greatly reduces CO_2 emissions during production.

SIKA AG
Zugerstrasse 50 · 6341 Baar · Switzerland
Tel.: +41 58 436 68 00 · Fax: +41 58 436 68 50 · www.sika.com