



For Immediate Release

Ready Mixed Concrete (RMC) Research & Education Foundation

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MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub Research Sets New Life-Cycle Assessment Model Standard; Concrete Industry Reaction

Silver Spring, MD – December 13, 2010: The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) released on December 9, 2010 preliminary research findings that will help set a new standard in life-cycle assessment (LCA) modeling. The studies, which are part of an ongoing research initiative at the MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub (CSH), will quantify the cradle-to-grave environmental costs of paving and building materials, and will ultimately result in the most comprehensive LCA model produced to-date.

James Repman, 2010 Chairman of the RMC Research & Education Foundation, reacted to the release of the MIT reports. “As Chairman of one of the two co-founding organizations of the MIT CSH, I am excited about the impact these research findings will have on our industry and nation. MIT CSH’s work clearly demonstrates that the use phase is an essential part of the life-cycle, and in fact is the most critical component of any LCA. We are pleased to be supporting this ground-breaking research and look forward to applying findings from both the life-cycle and concrete science research being done at the MIT CSH to further enhance the sustainable nature of concrete.” The MIT CSH was co-founded by the Portland Cement Association and RMC Research & Education Foundation.

MIT is set to release a follow-up study in 2011 that will examine the economic costs to provide the most comprehensive analysis of the total costs of building and paving materials.

The interim reports, one on the LCA of pavements and the other on the LCA of buildings, are available from the Foundation’s website at www.rmc-foundation.org. Additional information about the work taking place at the MIT CSH may be found at <http://web.mit.edu/cshub>. The Vision of the RMC Research & Education Foundation is to support research and educational programs that will increase professionalism and quality in the concrete industry.

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