

Preface

It is with great pleasure that we present the compilation of the papers selected from the 7th International Conference “Non-Traditional Cement and Concrete” (NTCC 2023), a distinguished gathering that took place at the Continental Hotel in Brno, Czech Republic, from June 25 to June 28, 2023. Under the overarching themes of Geopolymers, Alkali-Activated Materials, Clinker-free Concrete, Concrete with Mineral and Chemical Admixtures, High-Performance Concrete, Durability of Non-Traditional Concrete, Sustainable Development, Damage and Fracture of Non-Traditional Concrete, Quality Control of Non-Traditional Concrete, and Construction from Non-Traditional Concrete, this conference served as a significant continuation of the ongoing dialogue within the field of civil engineering research.

The conference was organised by the Brno University of Technology – Faculties of Civil Engineering and Chemistry, VSB–TUO: Technical University of Ostrava – Faculty of Civil Engineering, and Institute of Physics of Materials, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, v. v. i., and it was supported by Czech Concrete Society and by European Structural Integrity Society.

In the wake of a challenging period marked by the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, NTCC 2023 emerged as a beacon, reinstating the importance of face-to-face discussions and the exchange of ideas. The conference was organized in a presentation format, facilitating an environment conducive to the exploration and dissemination of the latest knowledge in the realm of non-traditional cement and concrete.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the esteemed participants who enriched the conference with their valuable contributions. Hailing from 28 countries across Africa, Asia, Australia, and Europe, these participants showcased their research and engaged in meaningful discussions on a diverse array of topics related to civil engineering materials. The vibrant exchange of ideas and experiences underscored the global significance of NTCC 2023.

Post-conference, we are delighted to present the full manuscripts of topics that were specifically discussed during NTCC 2023. These manuscripts have been meticulously prepared for publication in this edition, capturing the depth and breadth of research presented at the conference.

Our sincere thanks go out to all participants for their unwavering dedication to enriching the conference program. We also express our appreciation for the hard work of the committee in orchestrating a seamless and engaging event. It is our firm belief that NTCC 2023 provided a forum for captivating discussions, leaving a lasting impact on every participant.

On behalf of the editors, namely Vlastimil Bílek, Zbyněk Keršner, Stanislav Seitl, and Jiří Brožovský, we extend our warmest regards to everyone involved in making NTCC 2023 a resounding success. Your collective efforts have contributed to the advancement of knowledge in the field, and we eagerly anticipate future opportunities for collaboration and exchange within the vibrant community of non-traditional cement and concrete research.

Vlastimil Bílek