

Concrete Innovation Council Assessment Criteria

The objective of the Concrete Innovation Council (CIC) is to identify technologies and innovation which provide needed solutions for the concrete industry and help implement their use when appropriate.

1. INNOVATION: Is the technology, process, or material innovative?

- An **innovation** is a new match between a need and a solution. Note that the novelty of the innovation may be in the need, in the solution, or in a new connection of an existing need and an existing solution.
- Technology that can address a market need is better positioned for success than a technology searching for a “need.”
- Initial Voice of the Customer Assessment - who are the customers and why would they want or need such innovation (new or existing solutions for new or existing customers)?

2. IMPACT: What is the overall impact on the Concrete Industry?

- Does the technology affect a segment of the concrete industry, the whole concrete industry, or entities beyond the concrete industry such as, owners, manufacturers, alternate material suppliers?
- Are codes, standards or other design resources impacted by this new technology?
- Is the technology clearly defined and is the scope of a reasonable magnitude so that the concrete industry can assemble and focus resources to realistically implement it?
- Are there clear advantages of the new technology over existing technology?
- Has the innovator/technology owner provided enough information on the new technology to support adoption by concrete industry (*i.e., technical papers, publications, field demonstrations, etc.*)?
- Does the technology help with constructability or improved productivity?
- Does the technology improve public safety through material and structural strengths?

3. URGENCY: What is the urgency for implementation?

- Is there a risk, liability, or lost opportunity if the innovation is not implemented?
- Is there a calendar deadline for submission to a code compliance cycle?

4. SUPPORT: Is there supplemental support?

- Is there an entity or person that is championing the technology?
- Have stakeholders been identified? Are they supportive or involved?

5. SUSTAINABILITY: Does the technology contribute to sustainability?

- Does the technology mitigate an existing environmental problem or promote sustainable building/installation?
- Has the technology provider identified any positive impacts to the environment?
- Are there negative impacts to the environment?
- Does the technology address life cycle cost savings?

ADDITIONAL FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Information:

- Is a survey needed to collect additional information?
- Is a business case needed?
- Should a workshop be scheduled to bring the stakeholders together?

Collaboration /Stakeholders:

- Is the development, resolution, or acceptance of the technology dependent on cooperation with another institute, association, specifier group, standards developing organization or industry?
- Who are the significant stakeholders? How can the ACI Foundation or ACI collaborate with such groups?
- Which groups or entity will benefit the most from this technology?

Research Needs:

- Is research needed to accurately assess the scope of implementing the technology?
- Do specifications and test methods exist that apply to the new technology/innovation, or are modifications or test method development required?
- Does code compliance need to be proven?