



Designation: C94/C94M – 24a

# Standard Specification for Ready-Mixed Concrete<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C94/C94M; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope\*

1.1 This specification covers ready-mixed concrete as defined in 3.2.2 (Note 1). Requirements for quality of ready-mixed concrete shall be either as stated in this specification or as ordered by the purchaser. When the purchaser's requirements, as stated in the order, differ from those in this specification, the purchaser's requirements shall govern. This specification does not cover the placement, consolidation, curing, or protection of the concrete after delivery to the purchaser.

NOTE 1—Concrete produced by volumetric batching and continuous mixing is covered in Specification C685/C685M. Fiber-reinforced concrete is covered in Specification C1116/C1116M.

1.2 As used throughout this specification the producer manufactures ready-mixed concrete and the purchaser buys ready-mixed concrete.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units, shown in brackets, or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.4 The text of this specification references notes and footnotes that provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of the specification.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C09 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C09.40 on Ready-Mixed Concrete.

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(Warning—Fresh hydraulic cementitious mixtures are caustic and may cause chemical burns to skin and tissue upon prolonged use.<sup>2</sup>)

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>3</sup>

- C31/C31M Practice for Making and Curing Concrete Test Specimens in the Field
- C33/C33M Specification for Concrete Aggregates
- C39/C39M Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens
- C125 Terminology Relating to Concrete and Concrete Aggregates
- C138/C138M Test Method for Density (Unit Weight), Yield, and Air Content (Gravimetric) of Concrete
- C143/C143M Test Method for Slump of Hydraulic-Cement Concrete
- C150/C150M Specification for Portland Cement
- C172/C172M Practice for Sampling Freshly Mixed Concrete
- C173/C173M Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Volumetric Method
- C231/C231M Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Pressure Method
- C260/C260M Specification for Air-Entraining Admixtures for Concrete
- C330/C330M Specification for Lightweight Aggregates for Structural Concrete

<sup>2</sup> See Section on Safety Precautions, Manual of Aggregate and Concrete Testing, *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.02.

<sup>3</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

\*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

C494/C494M Specification for Chemical Admixtures for Concrete  
 C567/C567M Test Method for Determining Density of Structural Lightweight Concrete  
 C595/C595M Specification for Blended Hydraulic Cements  
 C618 Specification for Coal Ash and Raw or Calcined Natural Pozzolan for Use in Concrete  
 C637 Specification for Aggregates for Radiation-Shielding Concrete  
 C685/C685M Specification for Concrete Made by Volumetric Batching and Continuous Mixing  
 C979/C979M Specification for Pigments for Integrally Colored Concrete  
 C989/C989M Specification for Slag Cement for Use in Concrete and Mortars  
 C1064/C1064M Test Method for Temperature of Freshly Mixed Hydraulic-Cement Concrete  
 C1077 Practice for Agencies Testing Concrete and Concrete Aggregates for Use in Construction and Criteria for Testing Agency Evaluation  
 C1116/C1116M Specification for Fiber-Reinforced Concrete  
 C1157/C1157M Performance Specification for Hydraulic Cement  
 C1240 Specification for Silica Fume Used in Cementitious Mixtures  
 C1582/C1582M Specification for Admixtures to Inhibit Chloride-Induced Corrosion of Reinforcing Steel in Concrete  
 C1602/C1602M Specification for Mixing Water Used in the Production of Hydraulic Cement Concrete  
 C1611/C1611M Test Method for Slump Flow of Self-Consolidating Concrete  
 C1697 Specification for Blended Supplementary Cementitious Materials  
 C1797 Specification for Ground Calcium Carbonate and Aggregate Mineral Fillers for use in Hydraulic Cement Concrete  
 C1798/C1798M Specification for Returned Fresh Concrete for Use in a New Batch of Ready-Mixed Concrete  
 C1866/C1866M Specification for Ground-Glass Pozzolan for Use in Concrete

## 2.2 ACI Documents:<sup>4</sup>

ACI 211.1 Standard Practice for Selecting Proportions for Normal, Heavyweight, and Mass Concrete  
 ACI 211.2 Standard Practice for Selecting Proportions for Structural Lightweight Concrete  
 ACI 301 Standard Specifications for Structural Concrete  
 ACI 305.1 Specification for Hot Weather Concreting  
 ACI 305R Guide to Hot Weather Concreting  
 ACI 306R Guide to Cold Weather Concreting  
 ACI 318 Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete and Commentary

## 2.3 Other Documents:<sup>5</sup>

NIST 105-1 National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—The terms used in this specification are defined in Terminology C125.

### 3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *concrete, central-mixed, n*—ready-mixed concrete mixed completely in a stationary mixer.

3.2.2 *concrete, ready-mixed, n*—concrete manufactured and delivered to a purchaser in a fresh state.

3.2.3 *concrete, shrink-mixed, n*—ready-mixed concrete partially mixed in a stationary mixer with mixing completed in a truck mixer.

3.2.4 *concrete, truck-mixed, n*—ready-mixed concrete completely mixed in a truck mixer.

3.2.5 *water, target batch, n*—quantity of water to be added to the batch through the water measuring system after compensating for the quantity of ice, if used, surface moisture on the aggregates and water in the admixtures, when applicable, and by subtracting a quantity of water that is anticipated to be added at the job site or in transit to adjust slump or slump flow of the concrete batch.

## 4. Basis of Purchase

4.1 The basis of purchase shall be a cubic yard or cubic meter of fresh concrete as discharged from the transportation unit.

4.2 The volume of fresh concrete in a given batch shall be determined from the total mass of the batch divided by the density of the concrete. The total mass of the batch shall be determined as the net mass of the concrete in the batch as delivered, including the total mixing water as defined in 9.4. The density shall be determined in accordance with Test Method C138/C138M. The yield shall be determined as the average of at least three measurements, one from each of three different transportation units sampled in accordance with Practice C172/C172M.

NOTE 2—It should be understood that the volume of hardened concrete may be, or appear to be, less than expected due to waste and spillage, over-excavation, spreading forms, some loss of entrained air, or settlement of wet mixtures, none of which is the responsibility of the producer.

## 5. Materials

5.1 In the absence of designated applicable material specifications, the following material specifications shall be used:

### 5.2 *Cementitious Materials:*

5.2.1 *Hydraulic Cement*—Hydraulic cement shall conform to Specification C150/C150M, Specification C595/C595M, or Specification C1157/C1157M.

<sup>4</sup> Available from American Concrete Institute (ACI), P.O. Box 9094, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9094, <http://www.concrete.org>.

<sup>5</sup> NIST Handbook 105-1 (revised 1990), "Specifications and Tolerances for Reference Standards and Field Standard Weights and Measures-1. Specifications and Tolerances for Field Standard Weights (NIST Class F)," National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, <http://www.nist.gov/pml/wmd/upload/105-1.pdf>.

5.2.2 *Supplementary Cementitious Materials*—Coal ash or natural pozzolans shall conform to Specification **C618**. Slag cement shall conform to Specification **C989/C989M**. Silica fume shall conform to Specification **C1240**. Ground-glass pozzolan shall conform to Specification **C1866/C1866M**. Blended supplementary cementitious materials shall conform to Specification **C1697**.

NOTE 3—Specification **C1697** does not apply to the combination of individually batched supplementary cementitious materials during the production of ready-mixed concrete.

5.3 *Aggregates*—Normal weight aggregates shall conform to Specification **C33/C33M**. Lightweight aggregates shall conform to Specification **C330/C330M** and heavyweight aggregates shall conform to Specification **C637**.

5.4 *Ground Calcium Carbonate and Aggregate Mineral Filler*—Ground calcium carbonate and aggregate mineral filler shall conform to Specification **C1797**.

5.5 *Water*—Water shall conform to Specification **C1602/C1602M**.

5.6 *Admixtures*—Chemical admixtures shall conform to Specification **C494/C494M**. Air-entraining admixtures shall conform to Specification **C260/C260M**. Admixtures to inhibit chloride induced corrosion of reinforcing steel in concrete shall conform to Specification **C1582/C1582M**. Pigments for integrally colored concrete shall conform to Specification **C979/C979M**.

NOTE 4—In any given instance, the required dosage of air-entraining, accelerating, retarding, water-reducing, and high-range water-reducing admixtures may vary. Therefore, a range of dosages should be allowed, which will permit obtaining the desired effect.

NOTE 5—Interchanging kinds, characteristics, types, classes, or grades of the materials permitted in ready-mixed concrete may produce concrete of different properties.

5.7 *Returned Fresh Concrete*—Returned fresh concrete, when permitted by the purchaser, shall conform to Specification **C1798/C1798M**.

NOTE 6—Specification **C1798/C1798M** provides requirements for using, measuring, and reporting returned fresh concrete. These requirements are in addition to those stated herein. The purchaser may further clarify which concrete within an order, such as specific mixtures or applications, may incorporate returned fresh concrete.

## 6. Ordering Information

6.1 In the absence of designated applicable general specifications, the purchaser’s order shall include the following:

6.1.1 Designated size, or sizes, of coarse aggregate,

6.1.2 Slump, or slumps, desired at the point of discharge from the transportation unit (see Section 7 for acceptable tolerances),

6.1.3 Slump flow, or flows, desired at the point of discharge from the transportation unit (see Section 7 for acceptable tolerances),

6.1.4 Total air content at the point of discharge from the transportation unit for concrete that will be exposed to cycles of freezing and thawing or anticipated exposure of the concrete (see Section 8 for sampling for air content tests and tolerances).

NOTE 7—Table 1 provides total air contents for concrete that vary by exposure condition and aggregate size. Total air contents less than those shown in Table 1 may be specified or used for concrete that is not subject to freezing and thawing. This may be done to improve workability and cohesiveness, reduce the rate of bleeding, reduce the water content for a given consistency, or achieve required lightweight concrete density. Specified total air contents higher than those shown in Table 1 may reduce strength without any further improvement of durability.

Exposure conditions for freezing and thawing environments in Table 1 correspond to the following:

*Moderate Exposure*—Concrete exposed to freeze-thaw cycles but not in contact with the ground or with limited exposure to water, limiting the ability to cause saturation of a portion of the concrete prior to freezing. The concrete shall not receive deicing salts or other aggressive chemicals. Examples include: exterior beams, columns, walls, girders, footings below the frost line, or elevated slabs where application of deicing salt is not anticipated. The air content requirements for this exposure are consistent with those for Exposure Class F1 of ACI 318.

*Severe Exposure*—Concrete exposed to freeze-thaw cycles while in contact with the ground or with frequent exposure to water, potentially causing saturation of a portion of the concrete prior to freezing. The concrete may receive deicing chemicals or other aggressive chemicals. Examples include: pavements, bridge decks, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, canal linings, or exterior water tanks or sumps. The air content requirements for this exposure are consistent with those for Exposure Classes F2 and F3 of ACI 318.

6.1.5 Which of Options A, B, or C shall be used as a basis for determining the proportions of the concrete to produce the required quality,

6.1.6 When lightweight concrete is specified, the equilibrium density,

NOTE 8—The density of fresh concrete is the only measurable density of lightweight concrete at the time of delivery. The density of fresh concrete is always higher than the equilibrium or oven-dry density. Therefore, for acceptance of lightweight concrete based on density at the point of discharge from the transportation unit, a relationship between the equilibrium density and density of fresh concrete needs to be established. Definitions of, and methods for determining or calculating equilibrium and oven-dry density, are covered by Test Method **C567/C567M**.

6.1.7 When high-density or heavyweight concrete is specified, the density of fresh concrete, and

NOTE 9—High-density or heavyweight concrete typically contains aggregate with a relative density of 3.3 or greater conforming to Specification **C637**. This concrete is used for radiation shielding or other applications where higher density is required by design. For acceptance of density at point of discharge from the transportation unit, a relationship between the fresh density and the density of hardened concrete required by design should be established.

**TABLE 1 Total Air Content for Air-Entrained Concrete Exposed to Cycles of Freezing and Thawing**

Exposure Condition (See Note 7)	Total Air Content, %						
	Nominal Maximum Sizes of Aggregate, mm [in.]						
	9.5 [%]	12.5 [½]	19.0 [¾]	25.0 [1]	37.5 [1½]	50.0 [2]	75.0 [3]
Moderate	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.0	3.5
Severe	7.5	7.0	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.5

6.1.8 If desired, any of the optional requirements of Table 2 in Specification **C1602/C1602M**.

6.1.9 Purchaser shall state any drum revolution limit as to when the concrete discharge must begin. If no drum revolution limit is stated by purchaser, the producer shall determine and communicate the limit to the purchaser prior to delivery.

6.1.10 Purchaser shall state a time limit from the start of mixing defined in **12.3** or **12.5** to when the concrete discharge must be completed. If no time limit is stated by purchaser, the producer shall establish and communicate the limit to the purchaser prior to delivery. The time limit to complete discharge shall be stated on the delivery ticket in accordance with **14.1.14**.

**NOTE 10**—This specification previously included a 1 ½ h time limit to end of discharge since its original publication in 1935. There are many options available to the producer to provide the required quality of concrete with end of discharge limits beyond 1 ½ h or less than 1 ½ h. The purchaser should consult with the producer for available options to establish a time limit to end of discharge prior to or at the time concrete is ordered. Selection of a time limit to end of discharge should consider ambient conditions, types of cementitious materials and admixtures used, placement procedures, and projected transportation time between the batch plant and the point of delivery.

6.2 If a project specification applies, the order shall include applicable requirements for the concrete to be produced in compliance with the specification.

6.3 If the type, kind, or class of cementitious materials in **5.2.1** and **5.2.2** are not designated by the purchaser, it is permitted to use cementitious materials in concrete mixtures that will satisfy the concrete properties and other requirements of the purchaser as ordered.

#### 6.4 *Option A:*

6.4.1 When the purchaser requires the producer to assume full responsibility for the selection of the proportions for the concrete mixture (**Note 11**), the purchaser shall also specify the following:

6.4.1.1 Requirements for compressive strength as determined on samples taken from the transportation unit at the point of discharge in accordance with Section **17** and specimens made, cured, and tested in accordance with Section **18**. The purchaser shall specify the requirements in terms of the compressive strength of standard specimens cured under standard laboratory conditions for moist curing (see Section **18**). Unless otherwise specified the age at test shall be 28 days.

**NOTE 11**—The purchaser, in selecting requirements for which he assumes responsibility should give consideration to requirements for workability, placeability, durability, surface texture, and density, in addition to those for structural design. The purchaser is referred to Standard Practice ACI 211.1 and Standard Practice ACI 211.2 for the selection of proportions that will result in concrete suitable for various types of structures and conditions of exposure. The water-cement ratio of most structural lightweight concretes cannot be determined with sufficient accuracy for use as a specification basis.

6.4.2 At the request of the purchaser, the producer shall, prior to the actual delivery of the concrete, furnish a statement to the purchaser, giving the dry masses of cement and saturated surface-dry-masses of fine and coarse aggregate and quantities, type, and name of admixtures (if any) and of water per cubic yard or cubic meter of concrete that will be used in the

production of each class of concrete ordered by the purchaser. The producer shall also furnish evidence satisfactory to the purchaser that the materials to be used and proportions selected will produce concrete of the quality specified.

#### 6.5 *Option B:*

6.5.1 When the purchaser assumes responsibility for the proportioning of the concrete mixture, he shall also specify the following:

6.5.1.1 Cement content in kilograms per cubic meter [pounds per cubic yard] of concrete,

6.5.1.2 Maximum allowable water content in liters per cubic meter [gallons per cubic yard] of concrete, including surface moisture on the aggregates, but excluding water of absorption (**Note 11**), and

6.5.1.3 If admixtures are required, the type, name, and dosage to be used. The cement content shall not be reduced when admixtures are used under this option without the written approval of the purchaser.

6.5.2 At the request of the purchaser, the producer shall, prior to the actual delivery of the concrete, furnish a statement to the purchaser giving the sources, densities, and sieve analyses of the aggregates and the dry masses of cement and saturated-surface-dry masses of fine and coarse aggregate and quantities, type and name of admixture (if any) and of water per cubic yard or cubic meter of concrete that will be used in the production of each class of concrete ordered by the purchaser.

#### 6.6 *Option C:*

6.6.1 When the purchaser requires the producer to assume responsibility for the selection of the proportions for the concrete mixture with the minimum allowable cement content specified (**Note 12**), the purchaser shall also specify the following:

6.6.1.1 Requirements for compressive strength as determined on samples taken from the transportation unit at the point of discharge in accordance with Section **17** and specimens made, cured, and tested in accordance with Section **18**. The purchaser shall specify the requirements for strength in terms of tests of standard specimens cured under standard laboratory conditions for moist curing (see Section **18**). Unless otherwise specified the age at test shall be 28 days.

6.6.1.2 Minimum cement content in kilograms per cubic meter [pounds per cubic yard] of concrete.

6.6.1.3 If admixtures are required, the type, name, and dosage to be used. The cement content shall not be reduced when admixtures are used.

**NOTE 12**—Option C can be distinctive and useful only if the designated minimum cement content is at about the same level that would ordinarily be required for the strength, aggregate size, and slump or slump flow specified. At the same time, it must be an amount that will be sufficient to ensure durability under expected service conditions, as well as satisfactory surface texture and density, in the event specified strength is attained with it. For additional information refer to Standard Practice ACI 211.1 and Standard Practice 211.2 referred to in **Note 11**.

6.6.2 At the request of the purchaser, the producer shall, prior to the actual delivery of the concrete, furnish a statement to the purchaser, giving the dry masses of cement and saturated surface-dry masses of fine and coarse aggregate and quantities,

type, and name of admixture (if any) and of water per cubic yard or cubic meter of concrete that will be used in the production of each class of concrete ordered by the purchaser. The producer shall also furnish evidence satisfactory to the purchaser that the materials to be used and proportions selected will produce concrete of the quality specified. Whatever strengths are attained the quantity of cement used shall not be less than the minimum specified.

6.7 The proportions arrived at by Options A, B, or C for each class of concrete shall be available at the batch plant and be assigned a designation to facilitate identification of each concrete mixture delivered to the project. This is the designation required in 14.1.7 and supplies information on concrete proportions when they are not given separately on each delivery ticket as outlined in 14.2.

6.8 The purchaser shall ensure that the producer is provided copies of all reports of tests performed on concrete samples taken to determine compliance with specification requirements. Reports shall be provided on a timely basis.

6.9 The producer shall obtain the purchaser's permission to incorporate returned fresh concrete.

## 7. Slump or Slump Flow

7.1 Unless other tolerances are indicated by the purchaser, the following shall apply.

7.1.1 When slump is stated as a "maximum" or "not to exceed" requirement:

Tolerances for "Maximum" or "Not to Exceed" Slumps

For Slump of:	Tolerance
75 mm [3 in.] or less	+0 and -40 mm [1½ in.]
More than 75 mm [3 in.]	+0 and -65 mm [2½ in.]

7.1.1.1 The maximum or not to exceed slump provision shall be used only if a job site water addition is permitted by the specification in accordance with 12.7.

7.1.2 When slump is stated as a target or nominal slump:

Tolerances for Target or Nominal Slumps

For Slump of:	Tolerance
50 mm [2 in.] and less	±15 mm [½ in.]
More than 50 mm to 100 mm [2 in. through 4 in.]	±25 mm [1 in.]
More than 100 mm [4 in.]	±40 mm [1½ in.]

7.1.3 When the purchaser states a slump flow requirement for self-consolidating concrete:

Tolerances for Slump Flow

For Slump Flow	Tolerance
Less than or equal to 550 mm [22 in.]	±40 mm [1½ in.]
More than 550 mm [22 in.]	±65 mm [2½ in.]

7.1.4 The tolerances for slump or slump flow apply to the values stated in the order when adjustments in accordance with 12.7 and 12.8 are permitted.

7.2 Concrete shall be available within the permissible range of slump or slump flow for a period of 30 min starting either on arrival at the job site or after the initial slump adjustment permitted in 12.7, whichever is later. The first and last ¼ m<sup>3</sup> [¼ yd<sup>3</sup>] discharged are exempt from this requirement. If the

user is unprepared for discharge of the concrete from the vehicle, the producer shall not be responsible for the limitation of minimum slump or slump flow after 30 min have elapsed starting either on arrival of the vehicle at the prescribed destination or at the requested delivery time, whichever is later.

## 8. Air-Entrained Concrete

8.1 Unless otherwise specified, for air-entrained concrete the total air contents in Table 1 shall apply based on the exposure condition stated in the purchase order. It is permitted to reduce the total air content values in Table 1 by one percentage point for concretes with a specified compressive strength greater than or equal to 35 MPa [5000 psi]. Total air content that differs from the values in Table 1 is permitted for concrete not exposed to cycles of freezing and thawing (Note 7).

8.2 The air content of air-entrained concrete when sampled from the transportation unit at the point of discharge shall be within a tolerance of ±1.5 of the specified value.

8.3 When a preliminary sample taken within the time limits of 12.7 and prior to discharge for placement shows an air content below the specified level by more than the allowable tolerance in accordance with 8.2, the producer may use additional air entraining admixture to achieve the desired air content level, followed by a minimum of 30 revolutions at mixing speed, so long as the revolution limit of 6.1.9 is not exceeded (see Note 13).

NOTE 13—Acceptance sampling and testing in accordance with Practice C172/C172M is not obviated by this provision. Increasing the air content may increase the slump or slump flow.

## 9. Measuring Materials

9.1 Except as otherwise specifically permitted, cementitious materials shall be measured by mass. When supplementary cementitious materials are used in the concrete mixtures, the cumulative mass is permitted to be measured with hydraulic cement, but in a batch hopper and on a scale which is separate and distinct from those used for other materials except for ground calcium carbonate and aggregate mineral filler. The mass of the hydraulic cement shall be measured before supplementary cementitious materials. When the quantity of cementitious material exceeds 30 % of the full capacity of the scale, the measured quantity of the hydraulic cement shall be within ±1 % of the required mass, and the cumulative measured quantity of hydraulic cement plus supplementary cementitious materials shall also be within ±1 % of the required cumulative mass at each intermediate weighing. For smaller concrete batches to a minimum of 1 m<sup>3</sup> [1 yd<sup>3</sup>], the measured quantity of the hydraulic cement and the measured cumulative quantity of hydraulic cement plus supplementary cementitious materials used shall be not less than the required amount nor more than 4 % in excess. When the purchaser requires alternate methods of measuring cementitious materials, measurement methods and reporting shall be stated in the order (see Note 14).

NOTE 14—Cementitious materials in bags may be used when requested or permitted by the purchaser.

9.2 Aggregate shall be measured by mass. The quantity of aggregate weighed shall be the required dry mass plus the total moisture content (absorbed and surface) of the aggregate.

9.2.1 For individual weigh batchers, the quantity of aggregate weighed shall be within  $\pm 2\%$  of the required mass; except if the required quantity of aggregate is less than 15 % of scale capacity, the quantity of aggregate weighed shall be within  $\pm 0.3\%$  of scale capacity.

9.2.2 For cumulative weigh batchers, if the required quantity of aggregate is equal to or greater than 30 % of the scale capacity, the quantity of aggregate weighed shall be within  $\pm 1\%$  of the required mass at each successive weighing. If the required quantity of aggregate is less than 30 % of the scale capacity, the quantity of aggregate weighed shall be within  $\pm 0.3\%$  of scale capacity at each successive weighing.

NOTE 15—The batching accuracy limit of 0.3 % of scale capacity establishes a reasonable minimum weighing tolerance that is independent of the quantity of material being weighed.

9.3 Except as otherwise specifically permitted, ground calcium carbonate and aggregate mineral filler shall be measured by mass and on the same scale as the cementitious materials. The masses of ground calcium carbonate and aggregate mineral filler shall be measured after the cementitious materials. Each cumulative measured quantity of cementitious materials with ground calcium carbonate, aggregate mineral filler, or both shall be within the cumulative mass tolerances in 9.1. When the purchaser requires alternate methods of measuring ground calcium carbonate and aggregate mineral filler, measurement methods and reporting shall be stated in the order.

NOTE 16—Ground calcium carbonate and aggregate mineral filler are not considered part of the cementitious materials.

9.4 Mixing water shall consist of batch water (water weighed or metered at the plant), ice, free moisture on the aggregates, wash water retained in the mixer before batching, water added at the job site in accordance with 12.7 or by an automated truck mixer system in accordance with 12.8, and water introduced from admixtures if the quantity added increases the water-cementitious materials ratio by more than 0.01 (Note 17). The batch water shall be measured by mass or volume to an accuracy of  $\pm 1.5\%$  of the target batch water. Ice shall be measured by mass. In the case of truck mixers, any wash water retained in the drum for use in the next batch of concrete shall be measured; if this proves impractical or impossible the wash water shall be discharged before loading the next batch of concrete. Quantity of mixing water shall be accurate to within  $\pm 3\%$  of the amount established by the designed mixture proportions.

NOTE 17—Mixing water is the total amount of water in a batch less the water absorbed by the aggregates. Mixing water is used to calculate the water-cementitious materials ratio (w/cm).

9.5 Chemical admixtures in powdered form shall be measured by mass. Liquid chemical admixtures shall be batched by mass or volume. Admixtures measured by either mass or volume shall be batched with an accuracy of  $\pm 3\%$  of the total amount required or plus or minus the amount or dosage required for 50 kg [100 lb] of hydraulic cement, whichever is greater.

NOTE 18—Admixture dispensers of the mechanical type capable of adjustment for variation of dosage, and of simple calibration, are recommended.

## 10. Batching Plant

10.1 Bins with adequate separate compartments shall be provided in the batching plant for fine and for each required size of coarse aggregate. Each bin compartment shall be designed and operated so as to discharge efficiently and freely, with minimum segregation, into the weighing hopper. Means of control shall be provided so that, as the quantity desired in the weighing hopper is approached, the material shall be shut off with precision. Weighing hoppers shall be constructed so as to eliminate accumulations of tare materials and to discharge fully.

10.2 Indicating devices shall be in full view and near enough to be read accurately by the operator while charging the hopper. The operator shall have convenient access to all controls.

10.3 Scales shall be considered accurate if their accuracy is verified through the normally used capacity in accordance with Table 2 and load indicated relative to applied test load is within  $\pm 0.15\%$  of the total capacity of the scale or 0.4 % of the net applied load, whichever is greater. The minimum quantity and sequence of applied test loads used to verify material scales shall conform to Table 2 and its notes.

10.4 All exposed fulcrums, clevises, and similar working parts of scales shall be kept clean. Beam scales shall be equipped with a balance indicator sensitive enough to show movement when a weight equal to 0.1 % of the nominal capacity of the scale is placed in the batch hopper. Pointer travel shall be a minimum of 5 % of the net-rated capacity of the largest weigh beam for underweight and 4 % for overweight.

10.5 The device for the measurement of the added water shall be capable of delivering to the batch the quantity required within the accuracy required in 9.4. The device shall be so arranged that the measurements will not be affected by variable pressures in the water supply line. Measuring tanks shall be equipped with outside taps and valves to provide for checking their calibration unless other means are provided for readily and accurately determining the amount of water in the tank.

NOTE 19—The scale accuracy limitations of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association Plant Certification meet the requirements of this specification.

## 11. Mixers and Agitators

11.1 Mixers include stationary mixers or truck mixers. Agitators include truck mixers or truck agitators.

11.1.1 Stationary mixers shall be equipped with a metal plate or plates on which are plainly marked the mixing speed of the drum or paddles, and the maximum capacity in terms of the volume of mixed concrete. If used for the complete mixing of concrete, stationary mixers shall be equipped with an acceptable timing device that will not permit the batch to be discharged until the specified mixing time has elapsed.

11.1.2 Each truck mixer or agitator shall have attached thereto in a prominent place a metal plate or plates on which