

# AGGREGATES IN CONSTRUCTION

Incorporating feedback from industry, the **Institute of Concrete Technology (ICT)** has recently revised the learning objectives for its Aggregates in Construction qualification, a specialised component of the four-stage Concrete Technology & Construction scheme offered by the institute. **Edwin Trout** reports.

(Photo: HeidelbergCement)



**L**ike the other stages in the CT&C suite, Aggregates in Construction was first offered under the auspices of the City & Guilds of London Institute (CGLI). The ICT developed a set of industry-endorsed learning objectives and, once a year, set the question papers and marked the examination scripts. Course delivery was, and continues to be, fulfilled by third-party course providers – usually in-house by the major materials producers.

## DEVELOPED

Aggregates in Construction was developed in this context in the late 1990s and the learning objectives were first published in 2000. With a focus on aggregates – their properties, production, testing – and applications in construction beyond concrete alone, they included then, as now, the following topics:

- Health and safety
- Geology and geological properties


- Field implementation of aggregate deposits
- Aggregate extraction
- Aggregate processing
- Testing for aggregates
- Aggregates for concrete
- Aggregates for mortar
- Unbound aggregates
- Bituminous bonding materials
- Specialist products.

Examinations have been held almost every year since the qualification's launch, initially administered by CGLI. In 2009, City & Guilds relinquished its role in CT&C and The Concrete Society has since taken its place, undertaking the administration of exams on behalf of the ICT's Examinations Committee.

The results over the years have generally reflected well on the candidates and the course providers concerned. While few have attained Distinction, which suggests the

course remains challenging as is the intention, most have passed and a fair proportion has been awarded Credit. All those who pass are eligible to apply for Associate Membership of the Institute, with the designatory letters AMICT after their names.

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Assessment is by closed-book, three-hour written examination in invigilated exam centres. The exams normally take place in May, though in 2020 they were cancelled because of the COVID-19 restrictions. This year, they have been rescheduled to take place on 21 October and registration is now open. The ICT welcomes enquiries from interested employers and aspiring candidates, and indeed from potential course providers to deliver future training. 



## Further information:

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