



CAN YOU AFFORD YOUR CONCRETE NOT TO BE CODE COMPLIANT: RISKS AND LIABILITIES

This bulletin provides details on what you need to know with respect to verifying that a concrete production facility is in compliance with all relevant requirements in CSA standards that are further echoed and/or referenced in owner, municipal, provincial and Alberta Building Codes (ABC).

If you would like to get more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Concrete Alberta at 780-436-5645 or info@concretealberta.ca or visit our website at <https://concretealberta.ca/certification/plant-certification>.

Design Code Requirements for Concrete in Alberta

A concrete production facility needs to be verified to produce to CSA. Similar to approving and verifying a concrete mix design to meet CSA, the same is required of a concrete production facility to produce concrete to CSA. Validation of a concrete production facility is required to be verified by owners, contractors, consultants, home builders and government agencies. It is mandatory by codes and standards.

| Code Reference | Verification Requirement Reference |
|--|---|
| Alberta Building Code (ABC) Based on National Building Code of Canada References CSA A23.1-19 | Division B: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.3.3. Plain, Reinforced and Pre-stressed Concrete 4.3.3.1. Design Basis for Plain, Reinforced and Pre-stressed Concrete Division C: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.2.10.9. Responsibility for Compliance |
| CSA A23.3-19 Design of Concrete Structures | Section 4.3: Concrete quality, mixing, and placement |
| CSA A23.1-19 Materials, Systems, and Equipment Performance | CSA A23.1, Section 5.2: Production of Concrete |

** If these codes and standards requirements for concrete production materials and equipment are not met, the concrete does not meet code and standards.*

Responsibilities of Concrete Producers and Owners/Constructors

| Concrete Producer | Owner/Constructors |
|---|---|
| Provincial Certification / Concrete Alberta Certification or Document and demonstrate compliance to CSA and ABC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stationary plants to CSA A23.1-19, Section 5.2 and ABC Division C-2.3.1 and C, A-2.3.1 Volumetric Mixers to CSA A23.1-19, Section 5.2.2.8 and ASTM C685/C685M and CSA exposure requirements | Ask for Provincial Certification (or equivalent) annually: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA A23.1, Section 5.2: Production of Concrete - "The owner is responsible for quality assurance processes to verify that the requirements for concrete are met." CSA A23.1, Section 4.4.1.4: Responsibilities - "The owner shall be responsible to ensure that the requirements of this Standard are met..." ABC Division C:2.2.10.9. Responsibility for Compliance - "The owner shall ensure that all activities that take place on the site meet the requirements of this Code." And "The Constructor shall ensure that: the material and equipment used on site meet the requirements of this Code." CSA A23.3-19, Section 4.3.1.1 - Concrete quality, mixing, and placement - "Concrete shall be proportioned and produced in accordance with CSA A23.1 or CSA A23.4, as applicable." ABC Division C:2.2.10.9. Responsibility for Compliance - "The designer shall ensure that the plans and specifications comply with the requirements of this Code." |



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Concrete Alberta Certification

CSA recognizes the Provincial Concrete Facility Certification Program as operated by Concrete Alberta. Concrete Alberta assists the Alberta concrete industry, and the construction industry, by providing Ready-Mixed Concrete Plant and Mobile Mixer Certification Programs that are designed to provide the required verification to owners, contractors, home builders and others.



The certification provides owners, contractors, consultants, home builders and government agencies a single document that:

- Confirms a third-party validated audit of facilities, equipment and materials once every 3 years for compliance with all relevant requirements in CSA standards that are further echoed and/or referenced in owner, municipal, provincial and Alberta Building Codes and Standards.
- Confirms annual validation that all aspects of Concrete Alberta Certification are maintained.
- Provides validation to support a producer's claim of supplying concrete to CSA and to other codes and standards that reference it.
- Supports an owner's and contractor's obligation to validate the project specification requirements for submittals and certifications are met.

When a concrete producer is certifying to supply concrete that meets industry referenced codes and standards, an owner or their delegate can shorten their requirement of verifying this claim by asking the concrete producer for their Concrete Alberta certification documentation. It's convenient for owners and contractors to reference for project specification.