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**Silica Fume Association Publishes a *Silica Fume User's Manual***

The Silica Fume Association (SFA) announced the publication of a *Silica Fume User's Manual*. The manual is a comprehensive guide for specifiers, ready mix and precast concrete producers and contractors that describes the best practice for the successful use of silica fume in the production of high-performance concrete (HPC). The manual was produced under a cooperative agreement between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the SFA and will be of great value to the HPC Bridge Community.

Topics covered in detail include: proportioning, handling, batching and mixing, placing, finishing and curing silica-fume concrete—with specific emphasis on bridge deck and parking structure applications. The *Silica Fume User's Manual* will be distributed in both a bound soft cover edition and an electronic version on CD-ROM. Both versions are expected to become available during the second quarter of 2005.

“This manual will provide users of silica-fume concrete an essential desk reference that will quickly become an invaluable tool” said Dr. Terence Holland, the author and editor of the manual. The manual was developed from knowledge gathered from field experience of over 30 years—and the latest practices fueled by the recent growth of silica-fume high-performance concrete. For more information, or to order a copy of the *Silica Fume User's Manual* please contact the SFA at [www.silicafume.org](http://www.silicafume.org).

The Silica Fume Association was formed in 1998 to promote the benefits of silica-fume concrete and increase its usage in the United States. Based in Lovettsville, VA the association is comprised of manufacturers of silica fume and has a cooperative agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) designed to transfer technology to state transportation agencies and industry professionals on the benefits of silica-fume concrete as well as expand the use of the high-performance concrete in state highway and bridge projects. For more information about SFA visit [www.silicafume.org](http://www.silicafume.org).