**(A Sub-Committee Affiliated to the Geological Society Engineering Group)**

**APPLIED PETROGRAPHY GROUP (APG) THIRTY SECOND MEETING: SUMMARY**

1. The 32nd APG meeting was held on 13/02/20 in London. 20 – 22 members attended including several members from Europe and Canada.

2. The APG representatives on BSI committees B/517 (Concrete), B/502 (aggregates) and B/502/6 (aggregate testing) report that revisions and harmonisation of European standards are ongoing but no drafts were available as yet. No further progress has been made in relation to standard BS 1881 – 211 part 3 and its recognition as a European Standard.

3. The APG representative on the RMS Engineering and Physical Sciences committee reported that this committee is currently busy organising their major Microscience Microscopy Congress (MMC) in Manchester (5 – 8 /07/21). They are principally concerned with academic research and new microscopical techniques based on high cost instrumentation.

3. The completed final report of the results of the APG pan-European inter-laboratory trial, determination of the water/cement ratio in hardened concrete by optical methods will shortly be placed on the ‘open access’ documents page of APG web site as APG Special Report 4. Dr H. Wong has just had a paper published which reviews the results of the w/c ratio trial in the journal ‘Materials and Structures’. This paper will also be available as a free download.

4. It was agreed that a second stage of the determination of water/cement ratio trial should go forward. M. Eden of Sandbergs agreed to draft a proposal for this second trial using more realistic concrete reference standards. This proposal would be considered first by the Calibration Trial Steering (CTS) committee before full consultation with the APG membership.

5. The APG web site membership and events have been updated and the w/c ratio final report, APG SR4 is to be placed on the open access ‘documents’ page.

6. Two illustrated technical presentations were given during the afternoon session of this meeting.

 Both were concerned with aspects of the application of standards and specifications during investigations of materials failure in structures.

 1)Barrie Wells, (Conwy Valley Systems). Complexities in Overlapping Standards:

 How statistical analysis can help clarify the issues for the benefit of a public enquiry

 2) Alan Cobb, (GWP). A Building Materials Case Study: Problems arising from the use of sandstone for thin cladding panels.

7. The next APG meeting will be held on 17th September 2020 at the Geological Society in London.

 Alan Poole (APG Secretary) 24/02/20