



Bio: Joseph Thomas/Cementitious Materials Consultant

Education: BS, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID - 1982

Attended university on ROTC scholarship and majored in both Electrical Engineering and Political Science. Graduated in 1982 and was commissioned an officer in US Army.

Endured 13 months of additional schooling while attending counterintelligence and strategic-intelligence training in Sierra Vista, AZ and Williamsburg, VA, respectively.

He then worked for US Scientific Evaluation Team located near Tokyo Japan for the better part of a decade, serving as technical research specialist, then assistant director, and finally as director of the facility. Initially, his assigned focus was related to blast absorbing and blast resistant concrete, as well as highly densified concrete needed for various radiation shielding applications. While in Japan he became fluent in the Japanese language.

After leaving government service he worked as a consultant hooking up US companies with Asian counterparts in a variety of fields related to his time in Asia. One of those companies, Hess Pumice/Idaho Minerals (perlite), offered him a management position, which he accepted. He served as HP's VP-R&D for over 15 years, which included developing their marketing/sales footprint in Asia and Europe, as well as North America. Product development work included lightweight concrete construction products, Type IP cements, coatings products, blast absorbing encasements, cementitious oil field products, and several natural pozzolan products. The pozzolans became HP's high-volume processed pumice sales leader within a couple of years.

After a decade and a half of corporate life, he decided to strike out on his own as a consultant in the cementitious materials world. He owns and operates a cement/concrete lab in Idaho in conjunction with the consulting business. He has developed or co-developed additional lightweight cementitious products for oil field services companies, as well as guided the development of new natural pozzolan resources in North America, the Middle East, and the Far East for a multitude of clients. He also developed a patented technology for the remediation/beneficiation of non-spec or waste fly ash.

He has also worked with forward thinking DOTs that want to be prepared for the looming and inevitable shortages of artificial pozzolans - namely fly ash. Lastly, he works closely with several civil engineering departments at key research universities in the preparation and testing of both natural pozzolans and beneficiated fly ashes, as well as specialized commercial labs which are certified for various ASTM concrete, cement, and pozzolan performance testing.

In all, he has over 30 years of experience with cementitious materials, focusing on SCMs & Natural Pozzolans, blended cements, lightweight cements, ultrafine cementitious grouts, lightweight aggregates, and the remediation of non-spec waste products which have cementitious value. The majority of the commercial and soon to be commercial raw natural pozzolan products available in North America were developed under his guidance.