



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between PCL & PLC?

- PCL (Portland Cement Lime) is a bagged product only and is a cement-lime masonry cement consisting of portland cement and hydrated lime.
- PLC (Portland Limestone Cement) is an ASTM C595 product, a Type I-II portland alternative, that allows 5% to 15% limestone to be added to the manufacturing process. PLC will be available in both package and in bulk moving forward.

Why change from Type I-II Portland Cement?

Switching to PLC offers the benefits of an environmentally sustainable product without sacrificing quality or performance. As a proactive leader in the reduction of CO₂, Heidelberg Materials developed EcoCem products as a cement option to help lower the carbon footprint of final products.

How does EcoCemPLC™ affect the physical properties of concrete/mortar?

“Like for like” versus ASTM C150 portland cement:

- Equivalent strength performance
- No admixture dosage changes needed or compatibility issues
- No significant set time changes

Potential benefits would include:

- Improved workability & finishing
- Reduced bleeding
- May increase durability

Why do contractors like working with Heidelberg Materials EcoCemPLC™?

Concrete made with Heidelberg Materials EcoCemPLC™ has excellent placing and finishing properties. Many contractors report that Heidelberg Materials EcoCemPLC™ concrete finishes and pumps slightly better than concrete made with Type I-II portland cement. This is a result of the difference in the cementitious Particle Size Distribution (PSD), where the interground limestone improves and broadens the PSD of the cement, resulting in “creamier” texture in most applications.



What PLC Cement Specifications does EcoCemPLC™ conform to?

PLC containing from 5% to 15% limestone is included in the current blended cement Type IL specifications of ASTM C595 and AASHTO M240.

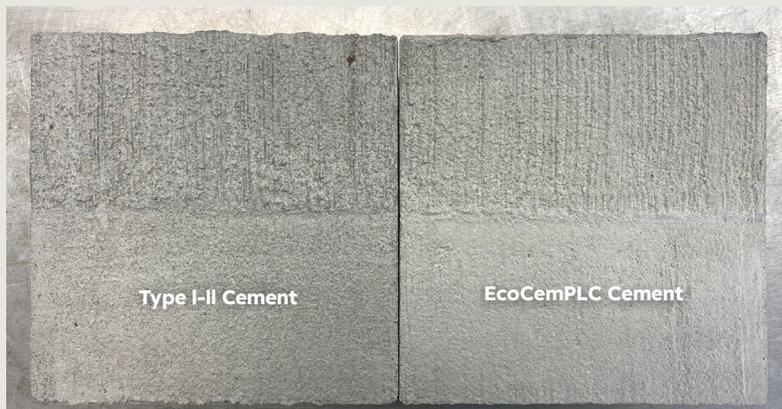
ASTM C595 and the use of Type IL are accepted in the following specifications:

- ACI 318 – Building Code for Structural Concrete
- ACI 301– Specification for Structural Concrete
- ASTM C94 – Specification for Ready-Mix Concrete
- ASTM C270 – Specification for Mortar for Unit Masonry
- ASTM C476 – Grout for Masonry
- ASTM C1436 – Packaged, Pre-Blended, Dry Combined Materials for Use in Wet or Dry Shotcrete (Guniting) Application
- ASTM C1713 – Historic Masonry Mortar
- FAA P501 – Concrete Paving Specification
- Included in AIA MasterSpec
- The only restriction in the use of Type IL cement may be in specifications of private design firms that have not updated their specifications to current industry standards.
- For assistance on specifications and additional data, reference the Portland Cement Association at www.greencement.com

Is PLC a new product?

Used in the U.S. for over a decade, PLC has recently grown in popularity as availability has increased. It has been widely used in Canada and Europe for many years.

What color changes could I expect to see?



◀ Color differences versus portland are minimized when mixed with sand



Look for our
EcoCemPLC
Type IL-MS (Moderate
Sulfate Resistant) in
bags across New York
& New England

