

Lunar Construction Res	earch:
Japanese Spend \$40,000	,000!!!
Wall Street Journal April 2, 1997	

What Can Be Learned From Mixing Concrete In Space?

- ■Gain Better Understanding Of Concrete.
- Assess Similarities Or Differences Between Concrete Made In Space And Concrete Made On Earth.
- **Examine Microstructure Using ESEM.**

What Can Be Learned From Mixing Concrete In Space?

- **Examine Physical Properties.**
- ■Understand Relationship Between Microscopical And Physical Differences.
- Results, In Part, Will Lead To The Next Generation Of High-Performance Concrete.

OBJECTIVE

To Determine The Effects Of Microgravity On The Mixing And Curing Of Concrete.

MISSION STS-68

Space Shuttle "Endeavour" OV-105

LAUNCH

September 30, 1994, 7:16 am EDT Kennedy Space Center, Florida

LANDING

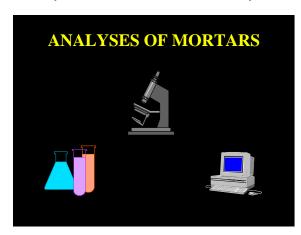
October 11, 1994, 1:02 P.M. EDT

Edwards Air Force Base, California

MISSION DURATION

11 Days, 5 Hours, 47 Minutes, 8 Seconds





EARTH REFERENCE SAMPLE

Mixing Date: December 8, 1994 EDT Cleveland, Ohio.

Parameters: Vacuum, Temperature, Time, Orientation of Mixer, Mechanical, and Gravity.

PERMEABLE PORE SPACE Microgravity: 24% Earth: 26%

SPECIFIC GRAVITY Microgravity: 2.62 Earth: 2.58

COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH Microgravity: 7600 psi Earth: 5700 psi

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

- *Developed a viable mixing chamber for making concrete in a zero gravity environment.
- *Produced the world's <u>first and</u> <u>only</u> concrete mixed and cured in space.