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**SPECIFICATION FOR
ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT**
(Fifth Revision)

SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION

Sri Lanka Standard
SPECIFICATION FOR ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT
(Fifth Revision)

SLS 107 : 2015
(Attached Amd 481)

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SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION
17, Victoria Place
Elvitigala Mawatha
Colombo - 08
Sri Lanka

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Sri Lanka Standard
SPECIFICATION FOR ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT
(Fifth Revision)

FOREWORD

This standard was approved by the Sectoral Committee on Building and Construction Materials and was authorized for adoption and publication as a Sri Lanka Standard by the Council of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution on 2015-11-19.

This standard was first published in 1971 and subsequently revised in 1982, 1995, 2002 and 2008. This is the fifth revision of the part 1 of the standard. It incorporates the experience gained with the use of the last revision and brings the standard in line with the present practices followed internationally in production and testing of cement. Further criterion for differentiation of rapid hardening & normal hardening cement was also introduced.

For the purpose of comparison of cement type given in this standard with those given in **BS EN 197-1**, corresponding equivalent cement type with respect to **BS EN 197-1** is given where applicable.

Appendix **B** of the standard provides some guidelines on the use of cement while Appendix **C** gives some useful information on adulterated cement. Since this current revision of the standard refers to relevant SLS ISO standard test methods, **SLS 107: Part 2** will be withdrawn, with the reviewing of remaining cement standards.

Further guidance on usage of this cement with respect to other cements in Sri Lanka (see Appendix **D**) is included to satisfy a pressing need of the cement users.

For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test or observation shall be rounded off in accordance with **SLS 102**. The numbers of significant places retained in the rounded off value shall be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

In the preparation of this standard the assistance derived from the publications of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and British Standards Institution (BSI) are gratefully acknowledged.

1 SCOPE

This standard covers the requirements for constituents, composition, mechanical properties, physical properties, chemical properties, packaging, marking and delivery of Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC).

This specification pertains to four strength classes of OPC.

NOTE: *Requirements for other cements are covered in separate Sri Lanka standards (see Clause 2).*

2 REFERENCES

ISO 2859-1	Sampling procedures for inspection by attributes - Part 1
BS 8500	Concrete. Complementary British Standard to BS EN 206-1. Method of specifying and guidance for the specifier
BS EN 197-1	Cement - Part 1: Composition, specifications and conformity criteria for common cements
BS EN 206-1	Concrete - Specification, performance, production and conformity
BS EN 934	Admixtures for concrete, mortar and grout - Common requirements
SLS 102	Rules for rounding off numerical values
SLS 428	Random sampling methods
SLS 515	Specification for Masonry Cement
SLS 1247	Specification for Blended Hydraulic Cements
SLS 1253	Specification for Portland Limestone Cement
SLS ISO 679	Methods of testing cements - Determination of strengths
SLS ISO 9597	Cement - Test methods - Determination of setting time and soundness
SLS ISO 29581-1	Cement - Test methods - Part 1: Analysis by wet chemistry
SLS ISO 29581-2	Cement - Test methods - Part 2: Chemical analysis by X-ray fluorescence

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions shall apply:

3.1 additives : Constituents other than main constituents, minor additional constituents or calcium sulphate which are added to improve the manufacture or the properties of the cement, such as grinding aids, pigments or pack set inhibitors.

3.2 cement : An inorganic finely ground hydraulic binder which, when mixed with water, forms a paste which sets and hardens by means of hydration reactions and processes and which, after hardening, retains its strength and stability even under water.

3.3 composite sample : Homogeneous mix of spot samples taken.

- a) at different points; or
- b) at different times,

from a supply of cement in the bulk or bag form obtained by thoroughly mixing the combined spot samples and, if necessary, reducing the size of the resulting mix.

3.4 consignment : Quantity of cement delivered at a given time by a single manufacturer, factory, depot or dispatching centre. It may consist of one or more lots.

3.5 increment : Quantity of cement taken in a single operation of the sampling equipment used.

3.6 laboratory sample : Sample prepared by thoroughly mixing and if necessary reducing from a large composite sample (spot or composite sample) and intended for use by laboratories undertaking the tests.

3.7 lot : In any consignment or part of a consignment, all the packages of cement or quantity of bulk cement belonging to one batch of manufacture or supply shall constitute a lot.

3.8 main constituent : Specially selected inorganic material used in a proportion exceeding a total of 95 % (m/m) related to the sum of all main and minor additional constituents (see 5.1 and 5.2).

3.9 manufacturer : The establishment responsible for the quality of cement manufactured.

3.10 minor additional constituents : Specially selected inorganic materials (such as fly ash, granulated blast furnace slag and natural pozzolana) used in a proportion not exceeding a total of 5 % (m/m) related to the sum of all main and minor additional constituents. (see 5.1 and 5.2).

3.11 percent (m/m) : Mass of a constituent expressed as a percentage of the total mass of the constituents.

3.12 packer/distributor : The establishment responsible for the quality of cement packed and/or distributed in Sri Lanka.

3.13 sample : Quantity of cement taken at random, in accordance with the specified sampling plan, from a large quantity (cement stored in silo, stock of bags, wagons, trucks, etc.) or from a fixed lot, relating to the intended tests. A sample may consist of one or more increments.

3.14 sample for retest : Sample which is to be kept for possible subsequent test in the event of the results from tests carried out on laboratory samples being in doubt or dispute.

3.15 spot samples : Samples which is taken at the same time and from one and the same place, relating to the intended tests, and which can be obtained by combining one or more immediately consecutive increments.

3.16 strength class of cement : Class of compressive strength as specified in Table 2.

4 ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT (OPC)

Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) conforming to this standard shall, when appropriately batched and mixed with aggregate and water, be capable of producing mortar or concrete which retains workability for a sufficient time and after defined periods attains specified strength level and possesses long term volume stability. It shall behave in a similar manner when mixed with water to form neat cement slurry.

5 CONSTITUENTS

5.1 Main constituent

Portland cement clinker being the main constituent is a hydraulic material made by sintering a precisely specified mixture of raw materials (raw meal, paste or slurry) containing elements, usually expressed as oxides CaO, SiO₂, Al₂O₃, Fe₂O₃ and small quantities of other materials. The raw meal, paste or slurry is finely divided, intimately mixed and therefore homogeneous.

Portland cement clinker shall consist of at least two-thirds by mass of calcium silicates (3CaO.SiO₂ and 2CaO.SiO₂). The remainder shall consist of aluminium and iron containing clinker phases and other compounds. The ratio by mass CaO/SiO₂ shall be not less than 2.0. The magnesium oxide, MgO content shall not exceed 5.0 % (m/m) when determined in accordance with **SLS ISO 29581-1**.

5.2 Minor additional constituents

At the option of the manufacturer, minor additional constituents may be used in the manufacture of OPC provided the total amount of such materials shall not exceed 5.0 % (m/m) related to the sum of all main and minor additional constituents of the cement.

Minor additional constituents are specially selected, inorganic natural mineral materials, inorganic mineral materials derived from the clinker production process or constituents as specified in **5.1** unless they are included as the main constituents in the cement.

Minor additional constituents, after appropriate preparation, and on account of their particle size distribution, improve the physical properties of the cement (such as workability or water retention). They can be inert or have slightly hydraulic, latent hydraulic or pozzolanic properties. However, requirements are not specified for them in this respect.

Minor additional constituents shall be correctly prepared, i.e. selected, homogenized, dried and comminuted depending on their state of production or delivery. They shall not increase the water demand of the cement appreciably, impair the resistance of the concrete or mortar to deterioration in any way or reduce the corrosion protection of the reinforcement.

NOTE: *Information on the minor additional constituents in the cement should be available from the manufacturer on request.*

5.3 Calcium sulphate

Calcium sulphate is added to the other constituents of cement during its manufacture to control setting.

Calcium sulphate can be gypsum (calcium sulphate dihydrate, CaSO₄.2H₂O), hemihydrates (partially dehydrated gypsum CaSO₄.1/2H₂O) or anhydrite (anhydrous calcium sulphate CaSO₄) or any mixture of them. Gypsum and anhydrite are found naturally. Calcium sulphate is also available as a by-product of certain industrial processes.

5.4 Additives

Additives for the purpose of this standard are constituents not covered in **5.1** to **5.3** which are added to improve the manufacture or the properties of the cement.

The total quantity of additives shall not exceed 1.0 % (m/m) of the cement (except for pigments). The quantity of organic additives on a dry basis shall not exceed 0.2 % (m/m) of the cement. A higher quantity may be incorporated in cements provided that the maximum quantity, in percentage, is declared on the packaging and/or the delivery note.

These additives shall not promote corrosion of the reinforcement in concrete or impair the properties of the cement or of the concrete or mortar made from the cement.

Admixtures for concrete, mortar or grouts in dry form shall not be incorporated in BHC conforming to this standard.

When admixtures for concrete, mortar or grouts conforming to the **BS EN 934** series are used in cement the standard notation of the admixture shall be declared on bags or delivery documents.

6 COMPOSITION

The composition of the OPC shall be as shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1 – Composition of the OPC

Designation (1)	Equivalent cement type in BS EN 197-1 (2)	Composition % (m/m)	
		Main constituent Clinker (3)	Minor additional Constituents (4)
Ordinary Portland Cement	CEM 1	95 to 100	0 to 5

7 MECHANICAL, PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Mechanical requirements

The compressive strength of mortar prisms shall be determined in accordance with **SLS ISO 679** at the laboratory temperature of 27 ± 2 °C.

The moist air room or the cabinet for storage of the test specimens in the mould shall be continuously maintained at the temperature of 27 ± 1 °C and a relative humidity not less than 90 %. The temperature of the water in the storage container of test specimens shall be maintained at 27 ± 1 °C.

7.1.1 Standard strength

The standard strength of cement is the compressive strength of mortar prisms determined at 28 days and shall conform to the requirements given in column 4 of Table 2.

Two classes of standard strength are included in this standard. i.e. Class 32.5 and Class 42.5 (see column 1 of Table 2).

7.1.2 Early strength

The early strength of cement is the compressive strength of mortar prisms determined at either 2 or 7 days and shall conform to the requirements given in column 2 or 3 of Table 2 respectively.

Two classes of early strength are included for each class of standard strength, a class with ordinary early strength indicated by N and a class with high early strength indicated by R.

7.2 Physical requirements

7.2.1 Initial setting time

The initial setting time of cement paste of standard consistency as determined by the method described in SLS ISO 9597 shall conform to the requirements given in column 5 of Table 2.

TABLE 2 – Compressive strength and setting time requirements

Strength class (1)	Compressive strength N/m ²			Initial setting time min (5)
	Early strength		Standard strength 28 day (4)	
	2 day (2)	7 day (3)		
32.5 N	-	≥ 16.0	≥ 32.5 ≤ 52.5	≥ 75
32.5 R	≥ 10.0	-		
42.5 N	≥ 10.0	-	≥ 42.5 ≤ 62.5	≥ 60
42.5 R	≥ 20.0	-		

7.2.2 Soundness

The cement shall not have an expansion of more than 10 mm when tested for soundness by the method described in SLS ISO 9597.

7.3 Chemical requirements

In determining the chemical composition of cement, either the analysis by wet chemistry described in SLS ISO 29581-1 or by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) technique given in SLS ISO 29581-2 may be used. In the case of dispute, unless otherwise agreed by all parties, only the test methods described in SLS ISO 29581-1 shall be used.

The chemical requirements of all strength classes of the OPC shall conform to the requirements listed in Table 3.

TABLE 3 – Chemical requirements

Property (1)	Strength class (2)	Requirement % (m/m) (3)
Magnesia content	All	≤ 5.0
Sulphate content (expressed as SO ₃)		≤ 2.5 when tricalcium aluminate is 5.0 % (m/m) or less ≤ 3.0 when C ₃ A in clinker is more than 5.0 % (m/m). (see Notes)
Chloride content		≤ 0.10
Insoluble residue		≤ 5.0
Loss on ignition		≤ 5.0

NOTE 1: The tricalcium aluminate content (C₃A) is calculated by the formula

$$C_3A = 2.65 (Al_2O_3) - 1.69 (Fe_2O_3)$$

Where ;

$$C = CaO$$

$$A = Al_2O_3$$

NOTE 2: Test method for the determination of C₃A content of clinker from an analysis of the final cement is not yet develop

8 MARKING

8.1 OPC manufactured in compliance with this standard shall be marked on the bag legibly and indelibly with the particulars as given in (a) to (h). When supplied in bulk, manufacturer's certificate, the delivery note or the invoice shall also provide the following information:

- Name and the address of the manufacturer (see 3.9);
- Name and address of the importer, packer and distributor, where relevant (see 3.12);
- Generic name of the product in Sinhala, Tamil and English;

that is : සාමාන්‍ය පෝට්ලන්ඩ් සිමෙන්ති

சாதாரண போர்ட்லேண்ட் சீமெந்து

Ordinary Portland Cement

- Strength class: e.g 42.5 N (see Table 2);
- The week of manufacture and the date of packing;

- f) Net mass of the contents in kg if packed in bag or in tonne (1000 kg) if supplied in bulk;
- g) Any other information required in the standard
eg: type of admixture used, loss on ignition (if applicable), etc.; and
- h) Best before date (as declared by the manufacturer).

NOTE 1: Attention is drawn to the product certification marking facilities offered by the Sri Lanka Standards Institution. See the inside back cover of this standard.

NOTE 2: For the “best before” date to be valid, cement should be delivered, stored and used as specified in Appendix B.

8.2 In the case of the bagged cement the size of the letters used for (c) and (d) shall be not less than 12 mm in height.

8.3 In the case of bagged cement brand name, SLS mark (if applicable) and generic name shall be displayed on the front side of the bag. Information in Figure 1 should be displayed on the rear side of the bag

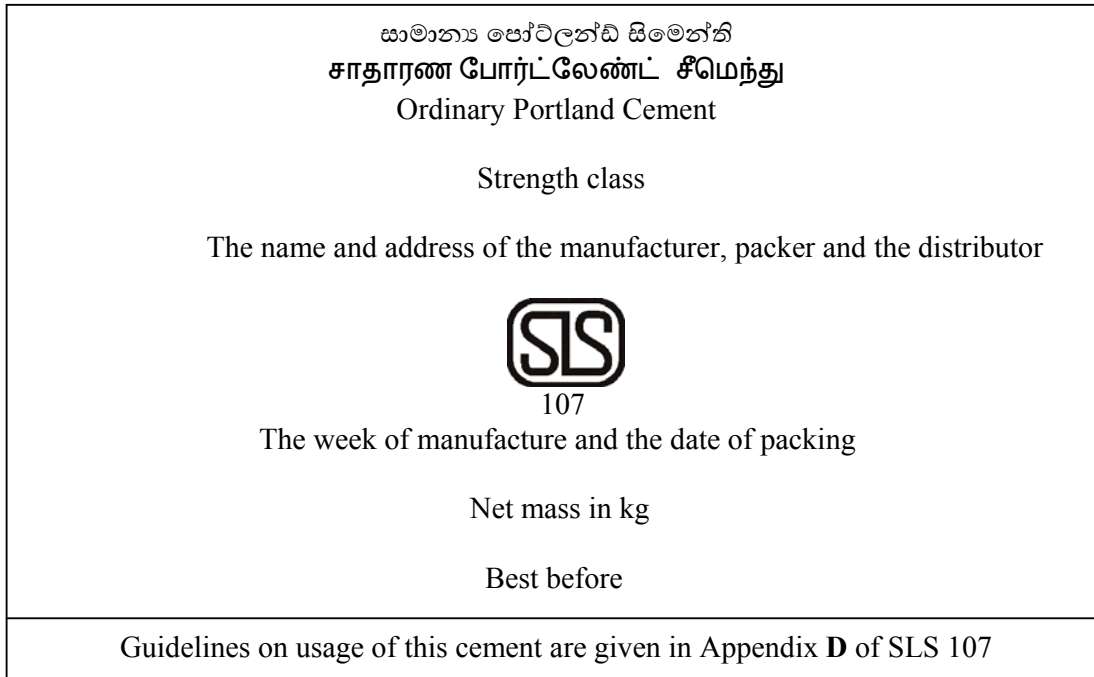


FIGURE 1 - Format for labeling the rear side of cement bag

9 DELIVERY AND PACKAGING

The cement shall be supplied in bulk, or packed in bags of sufficient strength and construction to prevent damage or deterioration of cement, during normal handling.

Any container used for bulk supply shall have an airtight fully enclosed body robust enough to prevent spillage of cement, and a special facility for dustless discharge such as air slide, pneumatic discharger or spiral conveyor.

When cement is supplied in bag form, the minimum net mass of each bag shall be 50.0 kg. The net mass of the bag of cement shall be determined by its gross mass and the mass of package. The nominal mass of the empty bag shall be marked to the nearest one gram on the package, where facilities exist for such marking. If mass of an empty bag is not displayed on the bag, mass should be determined by weighing 10 empty bags used for the same batch. These empty bags should be supplied by the manufacturer (see **3.9**) or packer/distributor (see **3.12**).

The bags of cement which are not in good condition, due to causes such as moisture patches, torn bags, burst stitches, spilling cement or exudation of cement dust, shall be rejected.

10 MANUFACTURER'S CERTIFICATE

The manufacturer/packer/distributor shall be satisfied that the cement at the time of its delivery complies with the requirements of this standard. In case of imported cement time of delivery means the time of delivery to a port in Sri Lanka.

The manufacturer/packer/distributor on request shall forward a certificate to this effect to the purchaser or his representative. The certificate shall include the results of tests on samples of cement relating to the material delivered.

Following test information shall be provided:

- a) Test results relevant to mechanical, physical and chemical requirements.
- b) Mineral composition of clinker.

11 INDEPENDENT TESTS

If the end-user or his representative requires independent tests, they shall be carried out in accordance with this standard on the written instructions of the end-user or his representative.

The manufacturer/vendor shall supply, free of charge, the cement required for testing unless otherwise specified in the enquiry and order, the cost of the tests shall be borne as follows:

- a) by the manufacturer/vendor if the results show that the cement does not comply with the requirements of this standard; and
- b) by the end-user if the results show that the cement complies with the requirements of this standard.

12 SAMPLING

Where the compliance of a lot to the requirements of this specification is to be assessed based on statistical sampling and inspection, sampling scheme given in Appendix A shall be applied.

In case a sample is required for independent tests, it shall be taken, at the option of the end-user or his/her representative, before delivery or within one week after delivery of the cement as per Appendix A.

Where the compliance with this specification is to be assured based on manufacturer's control system coupled with type testing and check tests or any other procedures, appropriate schemes of sampling and any other inspection procedures can be adopted.

All the samples shall be directed to the testing authority with immediate effect and the tests shall be commenced within 4 weeks of the delivery of the sample to the testing authority.

13 INSPECTION AND TESTING

13.1 Inspection

13.1.1 *Lot supplied in bulk*

Where the cement supply is in bulk form, each container shall be inspected at the sampling stage for the relevant delivery and packing requirements as per clause 9.

13.1.2 *Lot supplied in bags*

Where the cement supply is in bag form, each bag selected as in A.2.1, shall be inspected at the sampling stage for the marking and packaging requirements specified in clause 8 and clause 9 respectively. Required facilities shall be provided by the manufacturer/vendor responsible for the quality or its representative.

13.2 Testing

The laboratory sample (see A.3) shall be tested for all the mechanical, physical and chemical requirements specified in clause 7.

14 COMPLIANCE OF A LOT

Any lot, when sampled in accordance with clause 12, fails to comply with any of the following requirements during the period declared by the manufacturer, shall be deemed not to comply with this standard.

14.1 Delivery and packing

14.1.1 *Lot supplied in bulk*

Each container shall comply with the relevant delivery and packing requirements in clause 9.

14.1.2 *Lot supplied in bags*

- a) Each bag in the sample drawn in accordance with clause **12** shall comply with the marking requirements given clause **8**.
- b) The number of bags not conforming to relevant delivery and packaging requirements in clause **9** shall be less than or equal to the corresponding acceptance number given in column **3** of Table **4**.

14.2 **Laboratory sample**

The laboratory sample (see **A.3**) shall comply with the mechanical, physical and chemical requirements given in clause **7**.

APPENDIX A
SAMPLING OF CEMENT

A.1 SAMPLING EQUIPMENT

A sampling tube (see Figure 2) or an appropriate instrument shall be used.

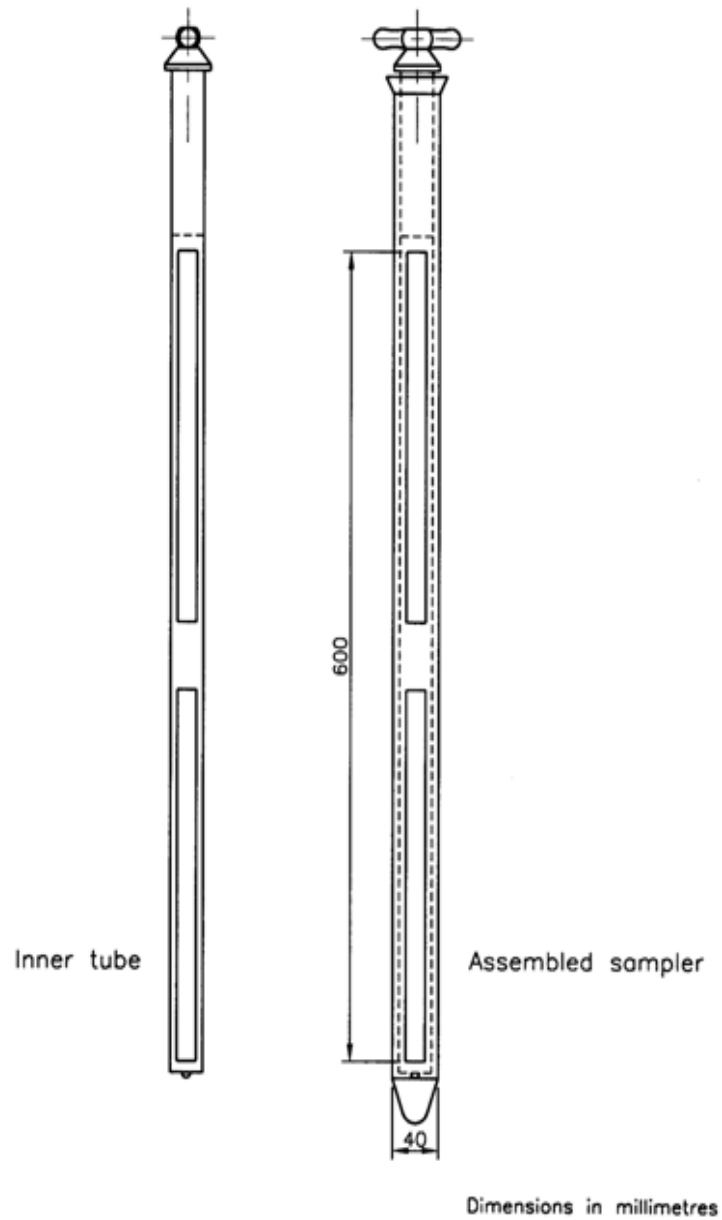


FIGURE 2: Sampling Tube

A.2 SCALE OF SAMPLING

A.2.1 Sampling from bags

Where the cement packed in bags, the sample shall comprise the number of bags that is given in column 2 of Table 4, selected at random from the lot in accordance with the lot size given in column 1 of Table 4.

TABLE 4: Scale of sampling

Lot size (N) (1)	Sample size (n) (2)	Acceptance Number (3)
Up to 280	08	00
281 to 1200	32	01
1201 to 3200	50	02

NOTE: Table 4 was prepared in accordance with *ISO 2859-1:1999 - Sampling procedure for inspection by attribute and Part 2 - Sampling schemes index by Accepted Quality Limit (AQL) for lot by lot inspection.*

To ensure the randomness of selection, a method given in **SLS 428** shall be used.

Alternatively all the bags in the lot may be arranged in a serial order and starting from any bag, every n^{th} bag be selected in order to meet the requirement given in column 2 of Table 4, n being the integral part of N/n where N is the lot size (number of bags in a lot) and n is the sample size (number of bags have to be selected).

Approximately equal quantities of cement shall be taken from each bag selected and make composite sample in order to meet the requirements of laboratory sample (see clause **A.3**).

Appropriate sampling instrument described in **A.1** shall be used to collect the cement from the bags.

A.2.2 Sampling from large containers and bulk transport (after loading or before unloading)

Sufficient number of increments shall be drawn from evenly distributed points of each container (wagon, truck, etc...) and a composite sample shall be made in order to meet the requirements of laboratory sample (see clause **A.3**). Increments shall be taken by using a sampling tube or appropriate sampling instrument.

Care shall be taken not to take materials from the top and bottom layers of the mass of cement. The thickness of the layer to be considered is at least 150 mm.

A.2.3 Sampling while charging or discharging

Sampling shall be carried out with suitable increments at regular intervals when the cement is being charged into the container/silos or being discharged from the containers/silos and composite sample shall be made in order to meet the requirements of laboratory sample (see clause **A.3**). The increments shall be such that one increment is taken per 10 tons of cement or as per the agreement between the manufacturer (or vendor) and the customer (or purchaser). Appropriate sampling instrument shall be used.

A.3 LABORATORY SAMPLE

Prior to preparation of laboratory sample, the composite sample shall be carefully homogenized (in a laboratory) with clean dry implements, not liable to react with the cement.

Homogenization shall be achieved by a suitable mixing machine if available. In the absence of a mixing machine, careful mixing shall be done with a shovel on a clean dry surface.

Immediately after homogenization of sample, it shall be divided equally (see **Note**) into required number of laboratory samples by using a sample divider or other suitable means. The laboratory sample shall be of such a size that all the tests whatever specified can be carried out twice.

NOTE: *In general at least 5 kg of cement sample would be sufficient to carry out all the tests twice.*

A.4 PACKING AND STORAGE

The samples shall be packed, dispatched and stored in polyethylene/polypropylene (PE/PP) bags with thickness at least 100 µm or rigid containers made of material that is inert to cement and non-corrodible. They shall be dry, impervious (to air and moisture) and clean. In this respect they shall not have been used for packing products which are likely affect the samples.

Each of the laboratory samples shall be divided into two equal portions and packed separately (second portion of the sample for retest if required).

To minimize the aeration,

- a) Where the rigid container is used, it shall, as far as possible, be completely filled and their closure shall be sealed (integral seal or other suitable means).
- b) Where the PE/PP bag is used, the air in the bag shall, as far as possible, be removed and provision shall also be made to seal them where necessary.

The samples shall be stored at less than 30 °C until commencement of test.

NOTE: *It should be noted that packaging, however air-tight, cannot in the long term prevent a certain amount of aeration, which may vary depending on the properties of the packing material.*

APPENDIX B

GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF CEMENT

B.1 SAFETY WARNING

Dry cement in normal has no harmful effect on dry skin. When cement is mixed with water, alkali is released. Precautions should therefore be taken to avoid dry cement entering the eyes, mouth and nose and to prevent skin contact with wet cement.

Repeated skin contact with wet cement over a period may cause irritant contact dermatitis. The abrasiveness of the particles of cement and aggregate in mortar or concrete can contribute to this effect. Continued contact during a working day can lead to cement burns with ulceration but this is not common. Some people are sensitive to the small amounts of chromate which may be present in cement and can develop allergic contact dermatitis, but this is rare.

When working in places where dry cement becomes airborne, protection for the eyes, mouth and nose should be worn.

When working with wet mortar or concrete, waterproof or other suitable protective clothing should be worn such as long sleeved shirts, full length trousers, waterproof gloves and shoes. Clothing contaminated with wet cement, mortar or concrete should be removed and washed before further use.

If cement enters the eye it should immediately be washed out thoroughly with clean water and medical treatment should be sought without delay. Wet mortar or concrete on the skin should be washed off immediately.

B.2 STORAGE

To protect cement from premature hydration after delivery, bulk silos should be waterproof and internal condensation should be minimized.

Paper bags should be stored clear of the ground, not more than eight bags high and protected by a waterproof structure. As significant strength losses begin after several weeks of storage in bags in normal conditions, and considerably sooner under adverse weather conditions or high humidity, deliveries should be controlled and used in order of receipt.

B.3 GROUTING AND RENDERING

Where cement is to be used in grouts or renders that are pumped through small apertures, such as spray nozzles, it is recommended that the user passes the cement or suspension through a screen of suitable mesh aperture to retain any occasional coarse particles.

B.4 HEAT GENERATION

The cement hydration process generates heat, particularly in the first few days. Cements with higher early strength usually have a higher initial rate of heat generation than those with lower early strength. A higher initial rate of heat generation may be an advantage for thinner concrete sections, because it reduces the need for extended striking times. However, it may be a disadvantage for larger sections on account of the temperature gradients, which are set up.

B.5 FINENESS

A variety of Cement of different fineness is available. In general, fineness varies from about 300 m²/kg to 400 m²/kg with the latter value in the order of that of rapidly hardening Portland cement. If the selection of a cement is to be based on fineness, the advantages and disadvantages listed below should be taken into account with respect to the specific application under consideration.

Cement with a greater fineness has the following advantages:

- a) possesses a higher volume per unit mass and hence yields greater volume of cement in volume batched concrete or mortar;
- b) develops higher early strength although standard strength (28 days) may not be very different from any other cement;
- c) improves workability and also causes less bleeding in mortar or concrete; and
- d) requires a lesser curing period.

An OPC with a greater fineness has the following disadvantages:

- a) decays rapidly when left exposed to the atmosphere;
- b) gives rise to higher shrinkages and greater proneness to cracking;
- c) more amenable to “pack set” when cement bags are piled one above the other;
- d) higher cost of grinding;
- e) requires more gypsum to retard the initial set of cement which has more tricalcium aluminate available for early hydration;
- f) faster alkali-aggregate reaction if such a reaction is likely with the aggregates used;
- g) generates heat more rapidly during the chemical reaction; and
- h) requires good initial curing.

However, it should be noted that most of the disadvantages can be overcome by greater quality control.

B.6 STRENGTH CLASSES OF CEMENT

Strength Class 52.5 cement can be manufactured or imported for a specific project under the permission of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution.

APPENDIX C

SOME USEFUL INFORMATION ON ADULTERATED CEMENT

C.1 GENERAL

Most common form of adulteration is to produce underweight cement bags. The next common form is to insert warehouse cement sweepings which may be partially aerated. Less common forms are inclusion of very fine quarry dust and inclusion of hardened cement lumps in finely ground form. Every user should exercise caution in the purchase of cement and if adulteration is suspected it may be useful to inform the manufacturer/vendor.

C.2 IDENTIFICATION

The best form of identification of adulterated cement is to conduct all the tests specified in this standard. It is also possible to identify adulteration by some simple observations. Some means of identification using simple observations are as follows:

- a) Check whether machine stitches of cement bags are tampered with. Generally hand stitches are similar on both sides of the bag and are of inferior quality;
- b) If the cement bag bends sharply when handled or transported, it is likely to have been tampered with;
- c) When the bottom stitched end of the bag is pounded on the floor a few times to pack the cement, and if the bag is tampered with, the opening used for filling cement at factory (a top cover of the cement bag) will open out easily or can be seen as damaged slightly;
- d) The gross mass of a cement bag is approximately 100 g to 200 g more than the net mass specified, otherwise it is likely to have been tampered with;
- e) When equal volumes of cement and water are shaken in a test tube or clear glass bottle and left for a few minutes slight adulteration may show as a dark spray and heavy adulteration may show up as a precipitate; and
- f) When cement is spread into a thin layer on a glass sheet and then covered with another similar glass sheet, adulterated cement may show up patches of slightly different shades of colour.

APPENDIX D
GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF CEMENT TYPES AS PER SRI LANKA STANDARDS

Cement type	SLS No	Strength class	(a) Normal strength concrete (grade 30 & below)	(b) Medium strength concrete (greater than grade 30 & up to 40)	(c) Concrete subjected to severe exposure condition	(a) & (c)	(b) & (c)	Pre-cast concrete	Cement based products	Rendering	Plastering	Masonry work
OPC	SLS 107	32.5 N/R 42.5 N/R	*** ***	** ***	** **	** **	** **	*** ***	*** ***	*** ***	** **	** **
BHC	SLS 1247	32.5 N/R 42.5 N/R	*** ***	** ***	*** ***	*** ***	** ***	** **	* *	*** ***	** **	** **
PLC	SLS 1253	32.5 N/R 42.5 N/R	*** ***	** ***	* *	* *	* *	** **	* *	*** ***	** **	** **
MC	SLS 515	22.5 N	Not Recommended								***	***

*** - Strongly recommended, ** - Recommended, * - May be used under technical guidance,
 BHC - Blended Hydraulic Cement, OPC - Ordinary Portland Cement, PLC - Portland Limestone Cement, MC - Masonry Cement.

NOTE 1: Specific guidelines with respect to usage of different types of cement for concrete are given in **BS EN 206-1** and **BS 8500**.

NOTE 2: For the specific exposure condition of “concrete subject to water pressure in a very aggressive condition rich in sulphates”, PLC content in the mix should be more than that of OPC, if PLC is selected.

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AMENDMENT No.1 APPROVED ON 2016-06-23 TO SLS 107:2015

**SRI LANKA STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT
(Fifth Revision)**

2 REFERENCES

In line 7, delete 'BS' and substitute 'SLS'.

3.8 main constituent

In line 2, delete 'a total of 95%' and substitute '5 %'.

5.1 Main constituent

Insert 'or by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) technique given in **SLS ISO 29581-2** may be used. In case of dispute, unless otherwise agreed by all parties, only the test methods described in **SLS ISO 29581-1** shall be used' at the end of paragraph 2.

5.4 Additives

Delete entirely paragraph 4.

In paragraph 5, line 1, delete 'BS' and substitute 'SLS'.

TABLE 2

In the merged row of Column 2, 3 and 4, delete 'N/m²' and substitute 'N/mm²'.

TABLE 3

Delete entirely the contents of 'TABLE 3' and substitute the following;

Property (1)	Strength class (2)	Requirement % (m/m) (3)
Chloride content	All	≤ 0.10
Insoluble residue	All	≤ 5.0
Loss on ignition	All	≤ 5.0
Sulfate content (expressed as SO ₃)	32.5N, 32.5R, 42.5N	≤ 3.5
	42.5R	≤ 4.0

Delete entirely **NOTE 1** and **NOTE 2**.

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