Editorial

This edition is an important step towards internationalising *Ambiente Construído*. The call for papers written in English in the special edition, announced in mid 2016, received 68 submissions and involved many evaluators, including 21 foreigners. The result of this evaluation process is partially presented in the first section of this issue and comprises 12 articles.

The first two articles cover topics on Materials Science and Technology. Silva, Sanjad, Costa and Costa, from the Federal University of Pará, present their results of a study carried out on the basic characteristics and use of two paint formulations using native species from the Amazonian flora to restore historical buildings. The following article, by Oliveira and Corrêa from the University of São Paulo, addresses a numerical and experimental analysis of the shear strength of interconnected concrete block walls.

The second part consists of six articles that analyse different aspects of the thermal and energetic performance of buildings. The first paper, by Dantas and Vittorino from the Institute for Technological Research in the State of São Paulo and Loh from the University of São Paulo, presents an evaluation of the effects of adding titanium dioxide to mortars to maintain reflectance to solar radiation on facades. Afterwards, Krüger from the Federal University of Technology - Paraná, Fernandes from the Federal University of Paraná, Cardoso from IMED Meridonial Faculty and Kawamura from the Federal University of Paraná, present a proposal for a simplified method to obtain hourly estimates of indoor temperatures used to design energy-efficient buildings. Life cycle carbon emission in social housing is the subject of the article written by Caldas, Lira, Melo and Sposto from the University of Brasília. The authors analyse brick masonry and light steel frame housing and propose guidelines to design low carbon social housing. The fourth article was written by Santos and Auer from the Technical University of Munich and Souza from the Federal University of Minas Gerais. They conducted a study based on parametric simulations to investigate the availability of daylight in indoor environments in dense urban areas. Duarte, Fonseca, Goliatt and Lemonge, from the Federal University of Juiz de Fora, present an article on machine learning techniques used for predicting energy loads in buildings. In the sixth article, by Costa, Roriz and Chvatal from the University of São Paulo, results of a study are presented in which modelling alternatives of heat transfer between the floor and the ground in a single-storey house were evaluated. It is considered one of the most determinant aspects of the thermo energy performance of this type of building.

The special edition section concludes with four articles on Construction Management and Economics. The first one discusses temporary edge protection systems used in construction sites. The authors, Nonnenmacher, Costella and Costella from the Regional Community University of Chapecó and Saurin from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, propose a framework for selecting innovations in patents for these systems. In the following article, Melo from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte and Granja from the University of Campinas, present guidelines for target costing adoption in the development of real estate markets. Afterwards, a factorial analysis to identify factors that affect construction delays of residential real estate projects in Brazil is presented in an article by Maués, Santana, Santos, Neves and Duarte from the Federal University of Pará. Finally, this special section finishes with an article by Formoso and Sommer from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Koskela from the University of Huddersfield and Isatto from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul. They identify and discuss the causes of different categories of a specific type of waste in the construction process called making-do, based on analysing two case studies developed in Brazil.

This edition also comprises a section of articles on current flow. Three articles are included in the area of Architecture and Urbanism and six papers in Materials Science and Technology. Antocheviz and Reis, from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and Limberger from the Federal University of Santa Maria, present an analysis of users´ perceptions from the city of Porto Alegre concerning an inactive port area called Cais Mauá. To follow, there are two articles that address social housing. The first, by Meireles and Castro from the Federal University of São Carlos, discusses housing provision and urban development, based on a case study. Moreira and Silva, from the State University of Maringá, present a post occupancy evaluation of housing units from the *Vila Rural* Program, implemented in the State of Paraná between 1995 and 2002.

Concrete performance is the topic of the following three articles. Cordeiro from the Federal University of Pará, Masuero, Dal Molin from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and Souza and Paes from the Federal University of Pará wrote a paper that presents results of a study about the influence of the efficiency of the

mixing process and mixer type in the compressive strength of concretes produced using recycled coarse aggregates to reduce the effects of the variability of concrete residues. Furthermore, addressing the use of recycled aggregates, Gomes, Pereira, Uchôa, Oliveira and Almeida, from the Federal University of Alagoas, evaluated the compressive strength of concrete blocks produced using waste from a concrete block factory. Afterwards, the article by Santos, Arruda, Silva and Vitor from the Federal University of Uberlândia, deals with the modulus of elasticity of concrete produced using two lithological types of rock, basalt and dolomite, from different deposits in the *Triângulo Mineiro* region. The fourth article in the area of Materials Science and Technology was written by Tutikian, Zuchetto, Souza and Oliveira from the University of Vale do Rio dos Sinos. They present the performance of subflooring installed using mortar produced incorporating ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA), from the footwear industry, in terms of impact sound insulation.

At the end of this edition, there are two articles that analyse the structural performance of wood components. The first, by Cheung from the Federal University of Mato Grosso do Sul, Christoforo from the Federal University of São Carlos and Calil Junior from the University of São Paulo, presents an experimental evaluation concerning the loss of pre-stress in wood bridge decks. The second article addresses the influence of moisture content when obtaining the modulus of elasticity of sawn *Pinus sp* wooden beams. The latter was written by Segundinho from the Federal University of Espírito Santo, Carreira from the Federal University of Technology - Paraná, Regazzi from the Federal University of Espírito Santo and Dias from the University of São Paulo.

We would like to thank the authors and, especially, the evaluators who contributed to this edition. Enjoy reading it!.

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