

LifeTech ® Superfines Admixture

CAS No. 554-13-2

QS-PDS-801 Revision: 05 Date of Last Revision: June 12, 2024



Formula: Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>

**Appearance:** An odorless, white powder. Lithium carbonate based admixture.

Application:

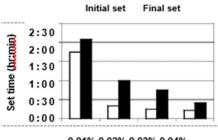
LifeTech superfines is the medium of the LifeTech grades of lithium carbonate available from Arcadium Lithium. Because of its fine particle size and narrow particle size distribution, this product has been chosen as the grade of choice where reactivity and performance are based on the surface area of the lithium carbonate particles providing controllable, uniform and predictable rates of reaction. Since it is the medium of the grades, it is not as reactive as the ultrafines, but more reactive than the fines. If a different reaction rate is desired, the other LifeTech grades should be evaluated in use.

## **Cementitious Systems**

LifeTech superfines is a chemical admixture that can be used to adjust and accelerate the setting time of cementitious systems such as high-alumina cements (HAC) and alumina-portland cement blends. Common applications for HAC and HAC/PC blends include:

- Refractory cements
- Self-leveling floor systems
- Quickset mortars
- Shotcrete / gunite
- Quickset adhesives
- Rapid-repair materials

The dosage of LifeTech superfines depends on the type of cementitious system in use, as well as the cement factor of the mix design. LifeTech superfines provides an accelerating effect by increasing the rate of cement hydration at an early age. In the presence of LifeTech superfines, compressive strength begins to develop immediately. The desired setting time can be adjusted by changing the



0.01% 0.02% 0.03% 0.04%

Admixture dosage rate

Figure 1
Effect of LifeTech superfines dosage rate on set times of HAC



dosage rate (See figure 1). For example, in a HAC system, the setting time can be adjusted to a few minutes. In general, LifeTech superfines is more reactive than technical grades of lithium carbonate.

In general dosages of 0.02-0.05 % are sufficient for pure HAC systems, and addition rates of LifeTech superfines should be increased as percentage of HAC in HAC/PC mixes is decreased. For example, in mixes containing 10% HAC, set times similar to those obtained at 0.02% addition of LifeTech superfines in pure HAC systems may need addition rates of 0.5-1.0 %. All addition rates are based on total cementitious amount. Our technical experts can provide assistance on dosage based on intended use. LifeTech superfines provides a uniform set throughout the mix not achievable with grades that provide a wider particle size distribution.

LifeTech superfines is a chemical admixture containing essentially no sodium or potassium alkalis, which are known to promote alkalisilica reaction (ASR) in cementitious systems containing reactive silica minerals. LifeTech admixture is based on lithium, which is known to suppress the ASR reaction in concrete.

## Other

The unique properties of LifeTech superfines have made this product the grade of lithium carbonate of choice in a number of other applications such as in manufacture of ceramics, welding rods, refractory materials, and specialty glasses. Dosage rates vary widely depending on the application. Because this product is more reactive due to its reduced particle size in these applications, in general, lower quantities of LifeTech superfines are needed than coarser grades of lithium carbonate. Testing should be conducted in the application to optimize dosage when substituting LifeTech superfines for another grade of lithium carbonate.



Product Specifications:	Li <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , wt. %	99.3 min
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Loss @ 500° C 0.6 max Na<sub>2</sub>O, wt. % 0.2 max CaO ppm 0.05 max SO<sub>4</sub>, wt. % 0.1 max Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, wt. % 0.003 max CI, wt. % 0.01 max Insolubles (in HCL), wt. % 0.02 max

D50 7 µm min 18 µm max

Malvern Span

D90 50 µm max

Malvern Median 12 um min 30 µm max

H<sub>2</sub>O\*, wt. % 0.6 max

\* Loss at 500°C

Other Data: Loose Bulk Density 0.4 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (25 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)

**Tapped Bulk Density** 0.7 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (44 lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)

Murgesh (SDS) - Physical Molecular Weight 73.89 **Properties:** 

720°C Melting Point

> Specific Heat @ 25°C 0.315 cal/g/°C Standard Heat of Formation -290.64 kcal/mole Standard Heat of Fusion 10.7 kcal/mole

Water Solubility: Lithium carbonate solubility varies between 8-12 gm/L depending

on temperature of the water. Water solubility is 1.3 wt. % @ 20°C

**Toxicity/Safety Data** Information on toxicity, safety, handling, storage and disposal is Handling / Storage / Disposal: contained in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for this product.

**Shipping Containers:** LifeTech superfines is packaged and shipped in polyethylene lined

> fiber drums containing 220 lbs (100 Kg) or in 55 lb (25 Kg) bags packaged 40 to a pallet for a total of 2,200 lbs (1,000 Kg) per pallet.

Packaging in supersacks is available upon special request.



**Shipping Limitations:** 

Shipments of LifeTech superfines require no dangerous goods shipping labels.

Post, Parcel, Air, Water, Rail, Truck

Acceptable within each carrier's weight limits

and packaging requirements.

LifeTech Ultrafines is not manufactured nor intended for drug use.



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