

Why Use Helix

Where is Helix being used?

Helix has been used in most concrete applications including slab on grade, slab on metal deck, poured walls, ICF and precast products. Helix has been used in roads, grocery stores, airport terminals, hospitals, distribution centers, homes, storm shelters, military bases and more. Helix has been used in areas at high risk for earthquakes and hurricanes as well as applications requiring blast resistance.

How is Helix better than rebar?

Helix works with the concrete to improve its performance. Helix increases the bending strength and raises the first crack strength. It also improves ductility, or flexibility, and adds considerable resistance to cracking. Helix is specifically designed to not affect the compressive strength of concrete.

Are you telling me Helix can replace rebar as primary reinforcement?

Absolutely! Helix was originally designed to replace rebar for earthquake and blast resistance and has been used commercially for these and other structural applications.

Will Helix stick up through the surface?

No. During the finishing process, Helix settles below the surface leaving no visible pieces.

Will Helix rust?

Helix is electrogalvanized with zinc to prevent rust and other corrosion. Unlike standard rebar which may not be treated at all or simply have a fragile epoxy coating, Helix has an infused layer of zinc that won't chip, flake or crack.

How much Helix should I use?

We calculate the dosages based on the same factors used to calculate rebar needs.

How do I add Helix to concrete? Will it work with all concrete mixes?

Helix was designed to easily incorporate into all types/mixes of concrete. Simply add water to the truck, turn on the drum to max charging speed, then add Helix to the truck followed by the remaining mix materials. For complete instructions, please reference our Mix Design/Mix Instructions.

Does Helix meet my codes?

Helix has undergone extensive laboratory and field testing – more than 10,000 tests over 10 years. Helix has

been evaluated under and meets all performance based industry testing methods and standards including ASTM and ACI. This also includes international standards as Helix is in place in 30 countries world wide.

Why is Helix compared to rebar and not a steel fiber?

Helix doesn't slip out of the concrete. Simple friction is the only resistance to slipping for steel fibers. Helix must untwist before it can be pulled out increasing the strength needed by more than four times. This improved performance allows Helix dosages to be 1/3 that of other fibers.

