

# IRAQI SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY FOR CONCRETE (ISSC) NEWSLETTER



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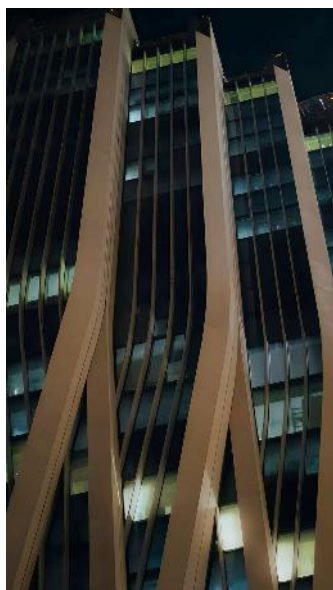
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## PRESIDENT'S MEMO: IRAQI SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY FOR CONCRETE (ISSC)



The society aims to develop and foster scientific activities related to concrete. This includes manufacturing technology, quality control, laboratory tests for various types of concrete, reinforced concrete design, and construction operations in projects. The society also seeks to collaborate with field specialists, researchers from research centres, and specialised universities to build a strong and productive network of relationships with specialised institutions both inside and outside the country to advance all matters related to concrete.

It's worth noting that the society was established under Law No. 55 of 1981 concerning Scientific Societies and is directly affiliated with the Department of Research and Development at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.



## FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ISSC

On Wednesday, February 19, 2025, the Iraqi Scientific Society for Concrete (ISSC) was launched with its first General Assembly meeting to elect the first Administrative Board members. The event took place at the Civil Engineering Department of the University of Technology.

The Administrative Board of the society for the term 2025-2028 is composed of Dr. Alaa H. Al-Zuhairi as the president, Dr. Maan S. Hassan as the vice president, Dr. Sahib Khedr, Mr. Faris A. Rasheed, Mr. Maher Ibrahim, Dr. Ali A. Abdulhameed, and Dr. Suhair K. Al-Haboubi as members. The board will administer all ISSC activities through the three-year term.



## WORKSHOP ON DRILLED PILE

The Civil Engineering Department at the University of Technology, in collaboration with the Iraqi Scientific Society for Concrete (ISSC), organised a workshop titled "BORED PILES: EQUIPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, CONCRETE QUALITY CONTROL, PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS." The workshop aimed to introduce bored piles, covering their equipment, construction processes, concrete quality control, and common problems along with their solutions. It also included presentations of case studies on this type of pile in implemented projects within the country.

The speaker was Mr. Faris A. Rasheed, a member of the Administrative Board of the Iraqi Scientific Society for Concrete. His contribution highlighted the society's commitment to enhancing concrete culture.

Discussions and inquiries regarding bored piles, their implementation challenges, and how to overcome these issues during execution took place during the workshop.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of achieving quality in construction and adhering to quality control for all materials involved in the construction of this type of pile.







## VISIT TO THE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

On Monday morning, May 5, 2025, Mr. Faris A. Rasheed, representing the Iraqi Scientific Society for Concrete (ISSC), visited the Training and Development Centre of the Ministry of Construction, Housing, and Public Municipalities. He met with the Centre's Director, Mr. Imad Nehad Mahdi, and Mr. Istabrak Sabah, Director of the Development Department.

During the meeting, discussions focused on the mechanism for implementing a series of specialised seminars and workshops prepared by ISSC, for example, deterioration of concrete bridges and rehabilitation methods, use of FRP in the maintenance of infrastructure facilities such as bridges, and the maintenance of steel bridges.

Discussions covered organising field visits to traffic congestion mitigation projects in Baghdad, and a proposal to publish scientific essays on those projects to be available for the public.

The ISSC representative emphasised the importance of integration between academic institutions and the industry to foster a supportive scientific environment that contributes to raising the efficiency of Iraqi engineers and enhancing the quality of engineering projects in Iraq.



## WEBINAR ON THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR BRIDGE AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING (IABSE)

On Saturday, May 17, 2025, the Iraqi Scientific Society for Concrete (ISSC), in cooperation with the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Technology, hosted an introductory webinar on the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE). The webinar was given by Dr. Raad Aziz, who introduced the importance of building relations between ISSC and IABSE to promote the research and construction activities in concrete construction projects.



## SEMINAR ON CONCRETE PROBLEMS

The Iraqi Scientific Society for Concrete (ISSC), in collaboration with the Training and Development Centre of the Ministry of Construction, Housing, and Public Municipalities, held a workshop titled "Concrete Problems on Sites: Causes and Solutions." The workshop took place at the National Centre for Engineering Consultations hall on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. The attendees were engineers from various departments of the Ministry of Construction, Housing, and Public Municipalities, in addition to consulting engineers from the private sector, Al-Kadhimiya Shrine, and others..

The workshop, which was given by Mr. Faris A. Rasheed, aimed to shed light on the reality of concrete in construction projects in Iraq and how the problems that occur in all stages, diagnosed and treated. The problems may arise through production at mixing plants, concrete transportation to sites, and execution issues. The key topics discussed were concrete mix design and influencing factors, concrete strength testing, concrete mixing, construction problems and formwork defects, concrete problems on sites (transportation - execution - curing - general problems), and proposed solutions.

