Title of Article: “Improving the Quantity Surveyors Practice: the Case of in-Situ Concrete Work Valuation in Nigeria.”

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Abstract: Presence of deleterious substances in concrete is believed to contribute to structural building failures in Nigeria. To ensure that only quality concrete works produced by contractors are valued, approved and paid for, materials of concrete were sampled among ‘on-going’ concrete production sites. Sampled concrete aggregate materials and cement were taken to the laboratory for investigations on presence of deleterious substances and compressive strength. Some parts of the aggregates were washed in clean water and the liquid contents laboratory tested. Cement specimens tested obtained good results unlike the aggregates which contained deleterious substances, sulphates, carbon-dioxide, etc. in quantities capable of harming the concrete. Present practice rarely considers testing materials before and during concrete production process. The Quantity Surveyor’s valuation is therefore fraught with professional error if payments are made for poor quality concrete work which may have received earlier approval. Enforcement of quality control measures such as washing the aggregates before utilization among other is imperative.

Key words: Concrete, Deleterious substances, Quality, Valuation practice