



AFTERSHOCK



As more samples continue to roll in, we have continued to test competitor's blocks through an independent lab. In this issue we will closely examine one of those tests. Perhaps the best indicator of service life for a refractory block is Cold Crush Strength after the block has been thermally cycled. It is easy to see from the chart below that Resco's block have a definite advantage over the competition when it comes to **Cold Crush Strength — After Shock.**

"But what makes one block perform better than another?"

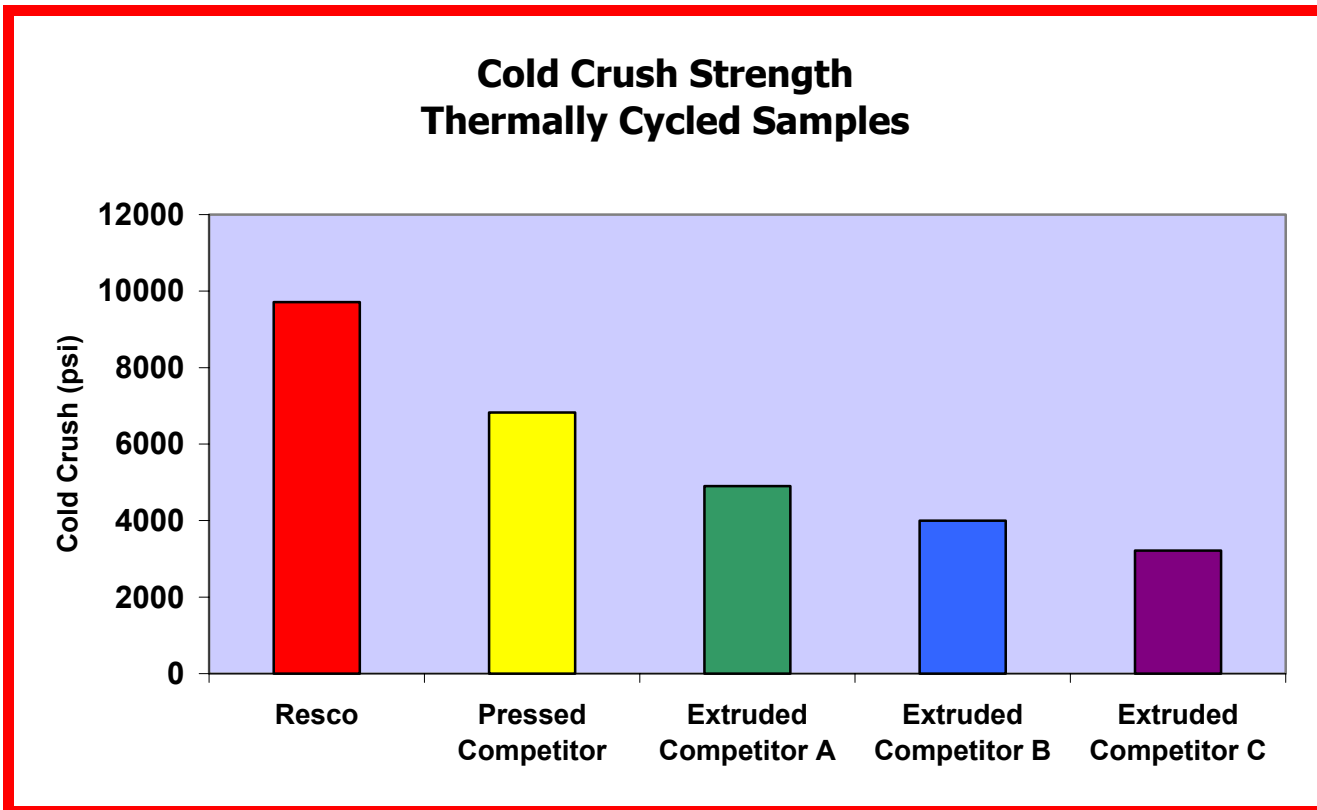
Of course the manufacturing of the block plays an important role, as does the mix itself. Resco uses a unique blend of Pyrophyllite and other materials to create a high strength, highly refractory mix. Our extrusion process helps to uniformly blend hard grains into the matrix or "glue" that will hold the shape together. However, not all extruded products are extruded equally. Poor control over the extrusion or

pressing process can introduce laminations. These laminations will create shear planes in the fired product, which will increase the likelihood of failure. Poor control over the mix can lead to segregated grain distribution which creates uneven properties throughout the block. Without a uniform body, the block starts off with a disadvantage.

When these defects are present, it is easy to see how the rigorous thermal cycling of a tunnel kiln can destroy a block over time.

"Have you ever poured freshly brewed tea over ice and heard the ice crack under the thermal stress?"

This is similar to what your block experience each time through the kiln. A block with a uniform matrix, density and particle size distribution will resist cracking. However, a block with defects will invite cracking by providing a perfect place for the crack to start.





Meet Our Team

Many of you have spoken with our behind the scenes Customer Sales Representatives, so we decided to give you a face to put with the voice. Claude "Bunkey" Derushia and Melinda Rancour are your Cartop Customer Service Representatives located here in Greensboro. They put out most of our quotes, enter all the orders, and handle the phones so you get to speak to a person every time you call us. So next time you speak to them, mention you saw their picture in BLOCK Talk!



Service with a smile!

Did You Know? REDART Trivia!

Reader response to our REDART article in the 2nd issue of Block Talk was phenomenal! Housing brick manufacturers seeking to expand their product lines have asked for many samples of Resco minerals and clays to develop new textures and coatings. The interest in REDART prompted us to have a trivia contest:

What date was the first REDART sold from Cedar Heights Clay—Oak Hill, OH?

Submit guesses no later than 11/30/04 to:
Block.Talk@rescoproducts.com

Samples of REDART or any other Resco clay or mineral can be acquired from your Resco Sales Representative or the e-mail address above.



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One Stop Shopping: Stocked for Your Convenience

When it comes to kiln cars, no one usually forgets the car top block. However the foundation castable (KC Mix), insulating castable (Rescocast 3-20R), IFB's or ceramic blanket may be an afterthought. Resco now stocks balanced quantities of these materials at the Greensboro Plant. You can also save on freight costs by ordering small amounts of castable, blanket or firebrick to fill out a truckload of PACO cartop block. Let Resco be your one stop source for kiln car repairs or rebuilds.

Stock Items

- ✓ 1" & ¼" PACO 2300°F Ceramic Blanket
- ✓ 9 x 4 ½ x 2 ½ LW-23 IFB
- ✓ Rescocast 3-20R
- ✓ KC Mix

Cole's Corner: BLOCK Talk Goes Digital



BLOCK Talk now has its own email address!

Block.Talk@rescoproducts.com

First, it will be used to collect answers for our REDART Trivia contest. It will also be used as a way for you to let me know what you think about BLOCK Talk.

[Got an idea for something you want to see in an issue?](#)

[Want to get BLOCK Talk electronically?](#)

Also, if you've missed any issues of BLOCK Talk, they are now archived on our web site. Simply go to www.rescoproducts.com and click on "Newsletters."

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

(cole.sadler@rescoproducts.com)

