

**Effective Engineering &**



# **Developing A Sustainable, Low Volume Road Technology**

Samuel G. Bonasso, P.E.

131st CCAO/CEAO Annual Winter Conference



Dec. 12, 2011



**MECHANICAL  
CONCRETE®**





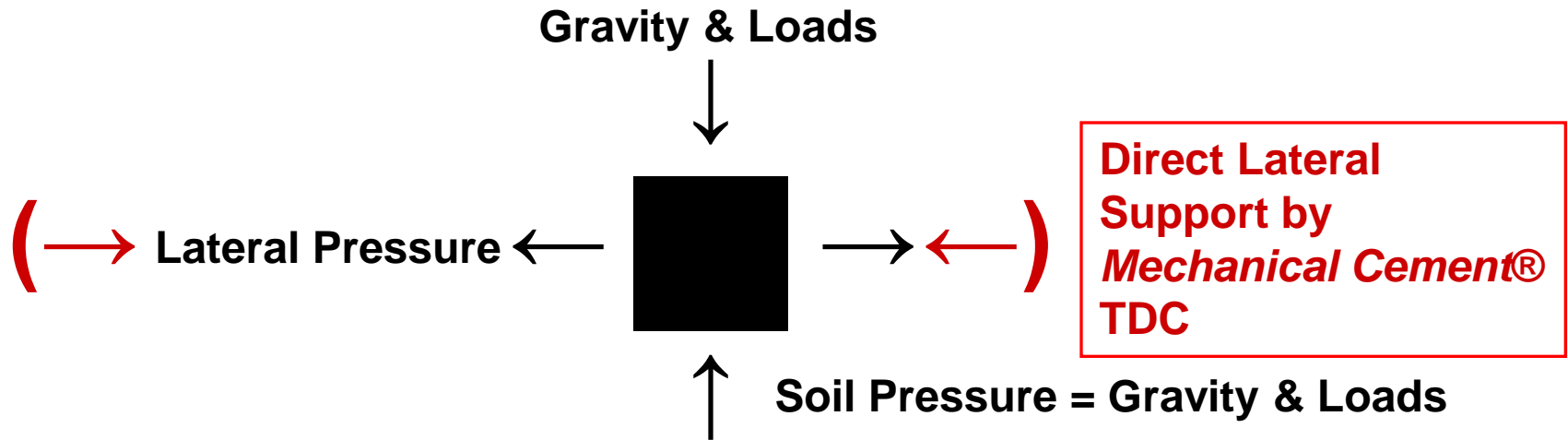
***Tire-Derived-Cylinder (TDC)-Mechanical Cement®***

+

**Stone Aggregate Material**

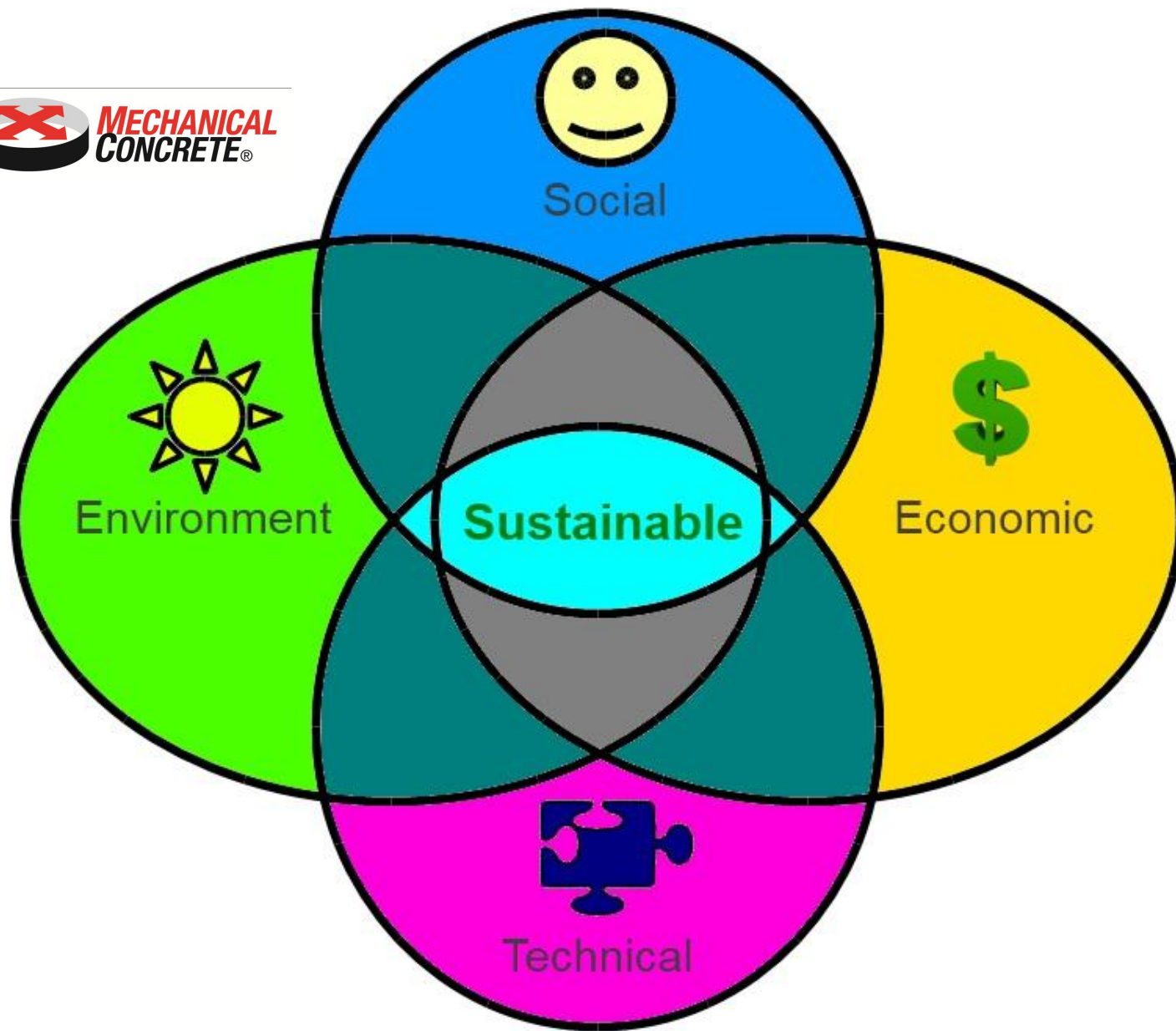


# How Mechanical Concrete<sup>®</sup> works



- Gravity & Loads on Particles ↓ create
- Soil Pressure Reaction ↑ also
- Creates & Transmits Lateral Pressure →
- **(TDC) Mechanical Cement<sup>®</sup>** Cylinder Direct Lateral Support for particles (→ ←)







## Four Way Sustainability Criteria

- **Economically Viable**—Reduces initial costs, maintenance, & extends useful life
- **Technically Feasible**—Effective, Simple, & Fast with better outcomes
- **Environmentally Friendly**—Reuses & Uses Less: Material, Energy & Labor
- **Socially Supportive**—Preserves scarce resources & improves productivity

# First Wall Section



# Basic Load Research Information

- HS 25 Truck Road Tire Pressures  $\leq 100\text{psi}$
- Contact area: 20,000 lb. wheel load  $\geq 200\text{ in}^2$
- Allowable bearing pressure sand 8000-4000 psf  $\leq 42\text{psi}$ — $21\text{psi}$
- By what factor will confinement increase this bearing capacity?



# WVU CE Laboratory Tests



TDC 50K Column Strength



Stone Aggregate Behavior

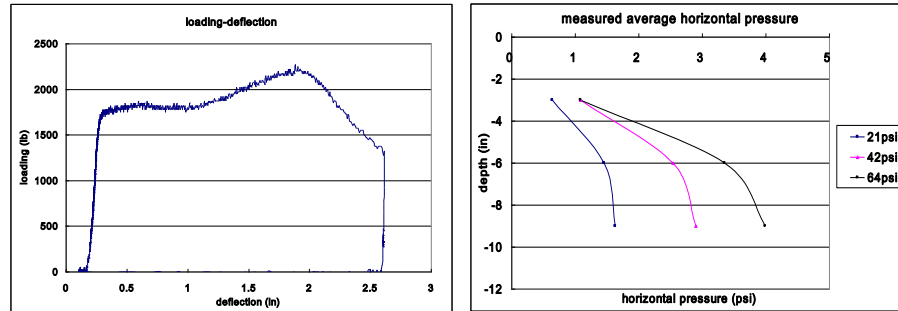
# Aggregate Materials Tested

- Compacted Course Sand
- Compacted Crusher Run Limestone
- Compacted AASHTO #8 Limestone
- AASHTO #57 Limestone

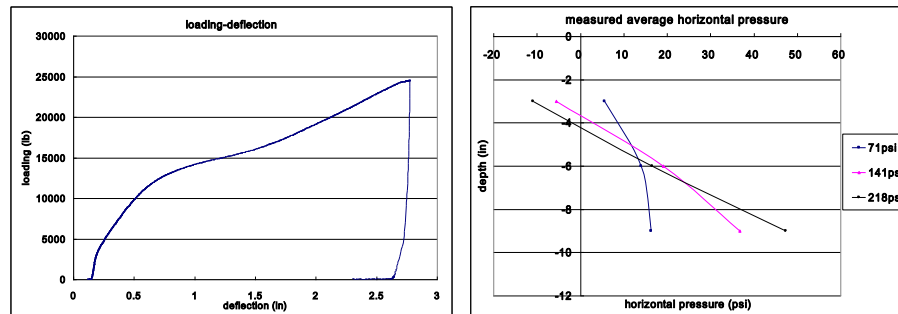
## Test Results 12" Long 20"φ Tube

### SAND AGGREGATE

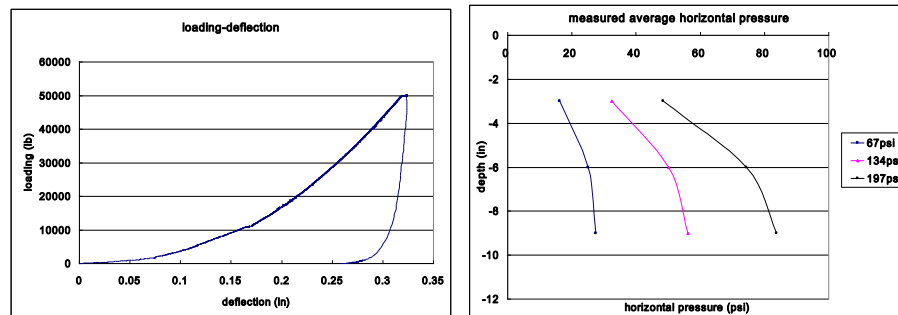
12" tube w/ 6" φ loading plate (28 in<sup>2</sup>) (6000lb max @ 200psi ) Bearing Failure at 1800 lb. approx. 63psi



12" tube w/ 12" φ plate (113 in<sup>2</sup>) sand (200psi)(23,000lb max) (HS 25 Wheel 20,000lbs at 100psi)



12" tube / 18" φ plate (255 in<sup>2</sup>) sand (200psi) (50,000lb max) (HS 25 Wheel 20,000lbs / 100psi)



# More R & D Was Needed

- How would it work in the field?
- Speed of Construction?
- Effect of tire sizes?
- Worker Learning Curve?
- Quality Tolerances?
- Applications?
- Weather and Climate?
- Behavior During Construction & Use?
- Economics?
- ???





# Standard Aggregates

## Uncompacted

- AASHTO #57 Crushed Stone\*\*
  - Any Relatively Uniform Size, #3, #1
- Structural Aggregate Material

## Compacted

- Sands & Graded Aggregates
- Indigenous materials
- Existing roadway base materials
- All Recycled aggregate materials

# Wall Construction Field Trials Laurel Aggregates Quarry in PA



# Wall Tests





# First Demonstration Projects



# West Virginia Division of Highways



Demo Project Doddridge County

Morgan Run Road Base

350 ***Mechanical Cement®***

Tire-Derived-Cylinders (TDC)

September, 2006



# Test Road filled TDC





# Test Road Surfaced



**September 27, 2006**





**First Israel Run Flood April 1, 2007**





**Israel Run, June 2008**  
**Flooding Damage**  
**2 Feet of Water**



**Israel Run April, 2009**





**Israel Run March, 2010**

# Bowie, Inc. Clarksburg, WV

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January 2007 Demo Project

Sorbello Gas Well

20' x 40' Service Pad

200 ***Mechanical Cement®*** TDC



# TDC Layout





# Dozer



**MECHANICAL  
CONCRETE®**





# Bowie/Sorbello Gas Well Service Pad—2 Hours



# TRIAD MSE Wall

## Demo Project June, 2006



- Larger Structure Demonstration
- 650 *Mechanical Cement*®  
Steel Belt Truck TDC
- Mechanically Stabilized Earth, MSE
- Use of Medium Truck Tires
- Impacts of Tire Size Variations
- Interconnections between cylinders








## **TRIAD MSE Retaining Wall**

**650 TDC Medium Truck Tires Total Length 190'x15' Max. Height**

# First Demo & R/D Outcomes

- Fast, Strong & Economical
- May be surfaced with any material
- Erosion Resistant
- Climate and Weather Resistant (5+yrs.)
- Engineered Product
- Interfaces well with traditional means and methods
-  worked as predicted(+)!  
The logo for Mechanical Concrete features a stylized red 'X' inside a grey circle, with the words 'MECHANICAL' and 'CONCRETE' in red and black text to its right.



# WV DOH Approval October 9, 2008



## WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Division of Highways

1900 Kanawha Boulevard East • Building Five • Room 110  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0430 • 304/558-3505

Joe Manchin III  
Governor

October 9, 2008


Mr. Samuel G. Bonasso, P.E.  
The Reinforced Aggregates  
208 Wagner Road  
Morgantown, West Virginia 26501

Dear Mr. Bonasso:

The West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, (WVDOT/WVDOH) Materials Control, Soils and Testing Division has evaluated your submittal of Mechanical Concrete per Materials Procedure (MP) 106.00.02. The material used to fill the used tires was listed as AASHTO #57. This material should always be inspected and approved prior to use on any Highways project. With the use of an approved aggregate and the use of used tires, MCS&T would approve the product for material acceptance on a per project basis. In order to get your product to be continuously incorporated into Highways projects, you will need to promote your product to our various Divisions. I have emailed you a copy of contact listings for our ten Districts. These contact individuals will be most helpful to determine if a project using your product would be suitable for our needs. The more often your product gets incorporated into Highway's projects, the more likelihood there is that a specification will be written to address the use. Please feel free to use this materials approval for your promotional needs.

Thank you in your interest in providing the WVDOH/WVDOH with new technology/product. If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. John Taylor of this Division at (304)558-9876.

Very truly yours,

  
for Aaron C. Gillispie, P.E.  
Director  
Materials Control, Soils and Testing Division

ACG:Fjtm

E.E.O./AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



## Reinforced Aggregates Company

- Patent and Trademark Licensor
  - U.S. Patent 7,470,092 B2 (12/2008)
    - Contractor, Manufacturer, Project, Agency, Et. Al. Licenses
  - **Mechanical Concrete® & Mechanical Cement®**
- Construction Technology R & D
  - Basic Designs, Details, Specs & Standards
- Construction Market Developer

[www.mechanicalconcrete.com](http://www.mechanicalconcrete.com)



# Sundt Construction Tempe, AZ



## 2009 USDHS-CBP Productivity Assessment

Gibbons Ranch Road, Douglas, AZ

1400 feet unpaved, one lane

3000 Mechanical Cement®

Tire-Derived-Cylinders

# TDC In Place





# Filling TDC with Stone





# Filled TDC





# Stone Surface



# Site / Roadway Construction Productivity Rates

- Auto Tire Derived Cylinder (TDC) Placement
  - 1 Labor Hour = 150-AutoTDC 27"  $\phi$  x 8"
  - 800  $\pm$  sf Placed and Attached
  - 80 Labor Hours per 12' Lane Mile
  - 55 Labor Hours per Acre
- Roadway / Site Coverage
  - 12,000 - 27"  $\phi$  ATD Cylinders per 12' lane mile
  - 8100 27"  $\phi$  ATD Cylinders Per Acre
- Stone Spreading w/ 3 cy Wheel Loader
  - $\pm$  2400sf / 88 tons per hour
  - 27 Machine Hours per 12' lane mile
  - 18 Machine Hours per acre



# How it supports loads





# Sundt Construction Tempe, AZ



## 2010 USDHS-CBP Border Roads Project

2miles— 20' roadway in 4 sections

**Mechanical Concrete®** 8" Base

Soil-Tac Resin Wearing Surface (6"ABC)

40,000 Tire-Derived Cylinders



# USDHS CBP

## Imperial Dunes, CA Section 1 mile



# USDHS CBP

## Imperial Dunes, CA Section





# USCHS CBP

## O'Neal Valley, CA Section +/- 0.5Mile





# USDHS CBP

## O Neal Valley, CA Section



# Dana Prime #1 Mine Coal Haul Road



Laurita, Inc.  
Morgantown, WV

**REAGCO** N. WV Licensee

## Project Features

- 10 inch Reinforced Concrete Surface
- 8 inch **Mechanical Concrete**<sup>®</sup> Base
- 2 inch AASHTO #57 Cover
- 1450 **Mechanical Cement**<sup>®</sup> Cylinders
- 300 40Ton Coal Trucks per Day

# ***TDC Placement***





# TDC Filling w/ ASHTO # 57



# Concrete Slab Placement





# Finished Coal Haul Road







Laurita, Inc.  
CORESCO Mon River  
Barge Loading Facility  
Morgantown, WV

Project Features

- 10" Reinforced Concrete Scale Approaches
- 8" Compacted Limestone Road Surface
- 9" Mechanical Concrete® Base
- 300 Coal Trucks Per Day

# CORESCO Tire-Derived-Cylinder Placing



# CORESCO TDC Placing and Filling





# CORESCO Scale Approach



# CORESCO Finished Stone Surface



# Longview Power Plant Haul Road— Crafts Run Road



N. WV/SW PA Licensee  
Laurita, Inc. ARTBA Member  
July, August 2011 Morgantown, WV

- 10 inch **Mechanical Concrete**<sup>®</sup> Base w/ 6" topping
- 10 inch Reinforced Concrete Surface 500feet
- 6 inch Asphalt Wearing Surface 400 feet
- 600 Coal and Refuse Trucks Per Day



# Laying the base



# Base w/ Geo-Grid Mesh



# w/Reinforced Concrete surface





# Base Course



# Base Course



# First Ohio Project



Liberty Tire Recycling  
Monofill Industrial Roadway  
Minerva, OH  
November, 2011



# Liberty Tire Road Under Construction



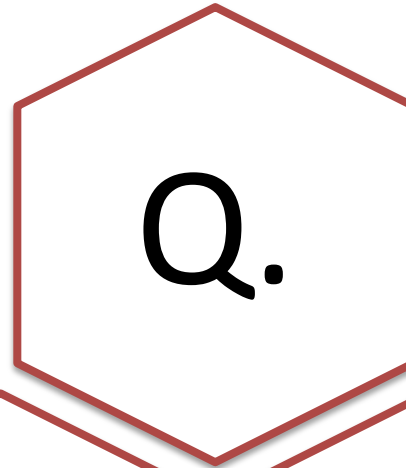
# Liberty Road Completed In Use



# Mechanical Concrete<sup>®</sup>

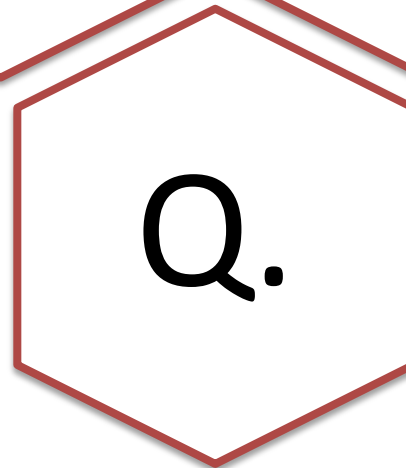
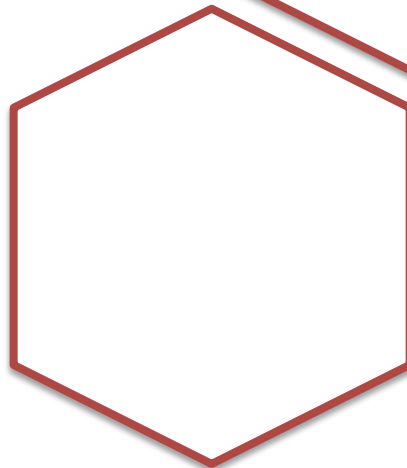
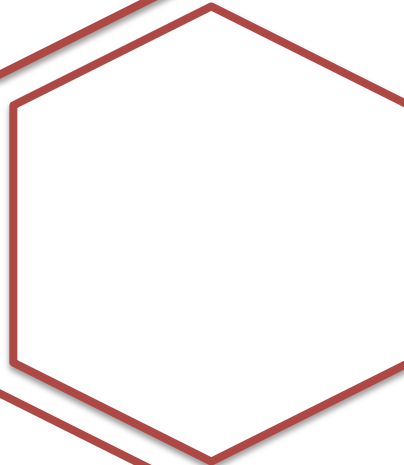
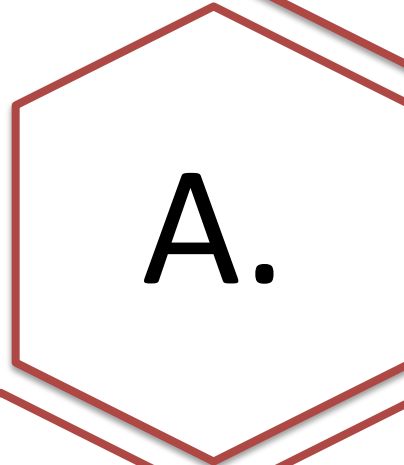
- Economically and **Sustainably** offers an increase in aggregate load carrying capacity of  $\geq 3x$  and
- **Significantly reduces potential failures**
  - Pothole, Ruts, & Aggregate Friction Loss failures
  - Road intersections, Interfaces and Boundaries
  - Soft subgrade destabilization
  - Ditch line & Shoulder Drainage Erosion & collapse
- UTUBE Videos Available under “mechanical concrete”





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