PROVEN PERFORMANCE
ALDI DISTRIBUTION CENTRE, CARDIFF

TOPFORCE
Aldi is a leading global discount supermarket chain with almost 10000 stores in 18 countries and an estimated turnover of more than 50 Billion Euros. As part of its expansion program a new £59 million regional distribution centre and offices would be built at Wentloog, Cardiff.

THE CHALLENGE
Unforeseen ground conditions and hydrological constraints pushed the development costs high enough to force Aldi to look at other sites outside Wales. Wales Government stepped in and offered a £4.5 million grant to assist the project. When completed the building would include a 3000m2 office complex, 250 car parking spaces, 100 loading bays, gatehouse and access roads.

The designs specified an enhanced concrete mix with a Fibrin XT fibre. Moortown previously had a bad experience of using these fibres, through a competitor supplier on another distribution centre. Aldi’s design team were keen to see Tarmac’s offering and understand the process of adding the fibres. Over 10,000m3 was required for external floor slabs.

OUR SOLUTION
Topforce concrete is a product Tarmac regularly produce and as such, the fibre addition Aldi wanted was well know. A system of addition that combined the fibre manufacturers recommendation and Tarmac’s experience was offered and following a plant visit and trial, was accepted by the client. During the contract the client’s designers carried out spot visits to make sure addition was being carried out correctly.

RESULTS AND BENEFITS
10,400m3 of Topforce concrete with FibrinXT fibre was successfully supplied over a period of 13 months and the finished product was exactly as expected. The Topforce concrete reduced the effects of plastic shrinkage and plastic settlement cracking, whilst enhancing the surface properties and durability of the hardened, cementitious product.

This mix was used as an alternative to air entrained concrete (AEA). The contractor Moortown commented that they were impressed with the consistency of supply and quality of the product and would recommend Tarmac as a preferred supplier in future.

For more details contact topforce@tarmac.com or call 0800 1 218 218

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