**California Academy of Sciences**
San Francisco, CA

**Architect:** Renzo Piano

**Owner:** California Academy of Sciences

**Year of completion:** 2008

**Climate:** Mediterranean Climate

**Material of interest:** Concrete

**Application:** Exterior

**Properties of material:** All concrete contains 30% fly ash, a by-product of coal-fired power plants. It also contains 20% slag, a waste product from metal smelting. These industrial by-products would otherwise be destined for a landfill. The use of locally extracted aggregates for the concrete mix is a major contributing factor in the quest for a LEED platinum rating.

**Sources:**
- [California Academy of Sciences, Renzo Piano](http://www.archdaily.com/6810/california-academy-of-sciences-renzo-piano/)
- [Cement.org](http://www.cement.org/buildings/buildings_cultural_CAS.asp)
- [Tim Griffith](http://www.timgriffith.com/index.php#mi=2&pt=1&pi=10000&s=1&p=2&a=0&at=0)