

ANALYSING THE INFLUENCE OF MARKETING STRATEGIES ON READY-MIX CONCRETE MANUFACTURERS' BUYING BEHAVIOR: A STUDY WITHIN THE CEMENT INDUSTRY

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ABSTRACT

In today's competitive business landscape, marketing strategies play a pivotal role in shaping purchasing decisions within the construction materials sector. This article examines the impact of marketing strategies on the buying behavior of ready-mix concrete manufacturers, with a focus on their interactions with the cement industry. By analysing various marketing tactics and their impact on supplier-customer relationships, this study contributes valuable insights that can inform strategic decision-making and enhance the effectiveness of marketing efforts within the construction materials sector. By leveraging the power of artificial intelligence, we aim to optimize route planning, scheduling and resource allocation, thereby contributing to the construction industry's efficiency and sustainability. The delivery of ready-mixed concrete is a cornerstone of efficient and effective construction projects. By understanding the components, processes, benefits, challenges and best practices associated with ready-mixed concrete delivery, construction professionals can ensure the successful execution of projects while maintaining the highest standards of quality and efficiency.

Key words: marketing strategies, ready-mixed concrete, construction industry, benefits, challenges, quality and efficiency.

1. **How to cite this article:** 1Balasubramaniam M 2Sasikumar P. ANALYSING THE INFLUENCE OF MARKETING STRATEGIES ON READY-MIX CONCRETE MANUFACTURERS' BUYING BEHAVIOR: A STUDY WITHIN THE CEMENT INDUSTRY. *Int J Drug Deliv Technol*. 2026;16(76s):2007-2018. DOI: 10.25258/ijddt.16.76s.193.

2. INTRODUCTION

This study highlights the vital role of ready-mix concrete manufacturers and their reliance on cement suppliers. By effectively communicating value propositions, addressing pain points and fostering brand loyalty, marketing strategies can greatly impact the decisions made by ready-mix concrete manufacturers. Various marketing tactics are explored, including product differentiation, pricing strategies, branding, promotion and distribution methods. The ready-mix concrete industry plays a pivotal role in the construction sector by providing a convenient and high-quality solution for construction projects. As competition within the industry intensifies, the influence of marketing strategies on the buying behavior of ready-mix concrete manufacturers has become a critical area of exploration. Understanding how marketing strategies impact manufacturers' purchasing decisions is essential for optimizing business growth, customer engagement and market positioning.

In this study, we examine the relationship between marketing strategies and the buying behavior of ready-mix concrete manufacturers. Understanding the buying behavior among ready-mix concrete manufacturers is most important. It considers aspects such as quality considerations, cost considerations, supplier relationships and the alignment of marketing efforts with industry trends.

Market Trends and innovative marketing approaches within the cement industry will improve the productivity. The role of sustainable practices, technological advancements and digital marketing in shaping purchasing decisions. The effective marketing strategies can foster collaboration, trust and long-term partnerships. Traditional concrete production is associated with a significant carbon footprint due to the energy-intensive processes involved in cement production and transportation of raw materials.

Sustainable RMC aims to address these concerns by minimizing carbon emissions and other environmental impacts. Sustainable RMC seeks to optimize the use of raw materials and reduce waste. New mix designs and formulations are being developed to create concrete with improved strength, durability and workability while using fewer natural resources and producing less waste. Incorporating recycled aggregates, such as crushed concrete or reclaimed asphalt pavement, can reduce the demand for virgin aggregates and decrease the environmental impact of quarrying. Some efforts are being made to capture and utilize carbon dioxide emissions from industrial processes, including cement production, to create more sustainable concrete materials. Sustainable RMC takes into account the entire life cycle of concrete, from raw material extraction to production, transportation, use and eventual disposal. This approach helps identify

opportunities to reduce environmental impacts at each stage. Various sustainability certification systems and standards, such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method), encourage the use of sustainable construction materials like RMC. Proper understanding and characterization of the different types of processing wastes are essential for devising effective management strategies. This includes analysing the chemical composition, physical properties and potential environmental hazards associated with these wastes.

The first step in sustainable waste management is waste minimization at the source. Ready-mixed concrete plants can implement best practices to reduce the generation of leftover concrete and other processing wastes. This includes optimizing batching processes, controlling mix proportions, and improving work practices. Leftover concrete can often be crushed and recycled as aggregates for new concrete production or for other construction applications. Additionally, washout water and slurry can be treated and reused within the plant or for non-critical applications. When recycling or reuse is not feasible, proper treatment and disposal methods are crucial to prevent environmental contamination. Techniques such as solidification, stabilization and pH adjustment can be employed to mitigate the harmful effects of these wastes. Ongoing research is essential to develop innovative methods for managing and utilizing processing wastes. This includes exploring new technologies for waste treatment and identifying novel applications for waste-derived materials. Compliance with environmental regulations and standards is paramount in the management of processing wastes. Ready-mixed concrete plants must adhere to local, regional and national guidelines to ensure that waste disposal practices are safe and environmentally responsible.

The integration of digital technologies and data-driven solutions is revolutionizing the RMC supply process. Advanced software, real-time monitoring systems and predictive analytics are being used to optimize batching, delivery scheduling and route planning. These technologies not only improve operational efficiency but also help reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by minimizing transportation distances. To minimize waste and improve efficiency, some companies are moving toward on-demand production models. By using mobile batching plants directly at construction sites, RMC can be produced in the exact quantities needed, reducing excess and waste. This approach enhances resource utilization and decreases the environmental footprint associated with overproduction.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

According to **Oluseye Olugboyega, Obuks Ejohwomu, Emmanuel Dele Omopariola and Alohan Omoregie (2023)**, Ready-mixed concrete (RMC) plays an important role in modern construction by offering a convenient and efficient solution for delivering concrete to construction sites. It is a mixture of cement, aggregates (such as sand and gravel), water and sometimes supplementary materials like fly ash, slag, or chemical admixtures. RMC is produced and mixed in batching plants under controlled conditions and then transported to construction sites using specialized trucks. As global concerns about environmental sustainability and resource conservation continue to grow, the concrete industry has been challenged to adopt more sustainable practices. This has led to the development of sustainable ready-mixed concrete, which focuses on reducing the environmental impact of concrete production and usage.

Xuan D, Poon C.S, Zheng W (2018) examined that the management and sustainable utilization of processing wastes from ready-mixed concrete plants are critical aspects of achieving environmentally responsible construction practices. The Ready-mixed concrete plants generate various types of processing wastes, including leftover concrete, washout water and slurry. These wastes can have detrimental environmental impacts if not managed properly, such as soil and groundwater contamination and contribute to the carbon footprint of the concrete industry. However, these wastes also present opportunities for resource recovery and reuse.

Yan S, Lin H. C and Liu Y C (2011) ascertained that production and supply of ready-mixed concrete (RMC) is a crucial component of the construction industry, providing a convenient and efficient solution for delivering high-quality concrete to construction sites. However, as sustainability concerns and technological advancements continue to reshape the construction landscape, the way RMC is supplied and delivered is undergoing significant adjustments. This introduction provides an overview of the key adjustments being made to the supply of ready-mixed concrete, taking into consideration environmental, logistical and technological factors.

Pheng L.S and Min W (2005) stated that time management is a critical aspect of the ready-mixed concrete (RMC) industry, influencing project efficiency, cost-effectiveness and overall construction timelines. Timely delivery of concrete is essential to adhere to project schedules and meet construction deadlines. Delays in concrete supply can lead to costly disruptions and potential contractual issues. Effective time management in the RMC industry contributes to smoother project execution and enhances overall project success. Efficient logistical planning is at the core of time management in RMC. This minimizes

transportation delays and ensures concrete arrives at construction sites when needed.

Lu M and Lam H C (2009) stated that efficiently managing the production and delivery of ready-mixed concrete (RMC) involves a complex interplay of factors, from batching and mixing to transportation and on-site placement. This study acknowledges the multifaceted nature of RMC operations, where production, transportation and placement are interconnected processes. Recognizing this complexity is essential in devising strategies for seamless coordination. Fragmentation can lead to inefficiencies, delays and increased costs.

Payr F and Schmid V (2009) examined that the efficient delivery of ready-mixed concrete (RMC) is a pivotal aspect of construction projects, influencing project timelines, cost-effectiveness and overall productivity. Timely and well-coordinated RMC deliveries are essential for maintaining construction schedules and minimizing disruptions. The traditional delivery models can lead to inefficiencies, unnecessary transit distances and increased environmental impact. Advanced technologies such as GPS tracking, real-time data analytics and route optimization software are transforming the RMC delivery landscape.

Chatveera B and Lertwattanakul P (2009) found that the use of ready-mixed concrete plant sludge water is an emerging topic in the construction industry, driven by a growing emphasis on sustainability and responsible waste management. Sludge water, a by-product of concrete production and washing processes, was traditionally considered a waste stream requiring disposal. Ready-mixed concrete plants generate sludge water as a result of cleaning concrete mixers, equipment and production areas. This water contains cement particles, aggregates and chemical admixtures, making it a suspension with varying levels of solids content. Historically, sludge water has been treated as a waste product and often required costly disposal methods, impacting both the environment and operational costs.

Schmid V, Doerner K.F, Hartl, R.F, Savelsbergh M.W.P and Stoecher W. A (2009) analysed that the delivery of ready-mixed concrete plays an important role in the construction industry, ensuring that construction projects are executed efficiently, cost-effectively and with high-quality results. Ready-mixed concrete, a carefully proportioned blend of cement, aggregates, water and additives, offers unparalleled convenience as it arrives at the construction site prepared and ready for immediate use. This eliminates the need for on-site mixing and the associated challenges of ensuring consistency and accuracy. Whether for large-scale infrastructure projects or small residential constructions, the proper handling of

ready-mixed concrete delivery is critical to achieving structural integrity and project success.

Wu M, Shen Q, Xu M and Wu D (2013) found that the Just-In-Time (JIT) purchasing is a strategic approach widely adopted across various industries to optimize inventory management and minimize waste by ensuring that materials and components are acquired precisely when needed for production. In the context of a ready-mixed concrete batching plant, JIT purchasing plays a crucial role in streamlining operations, reducing costs and enhancing overall efficiency. This approach ensures that raw materials are acquired and utilized at the right time, allowing for timely and accurate concrete production while minimizing excess inventory and associated expenses.

Graham L.D, Forbes D.R and Smith S.D (2006) examined that the ready mixed concrete delivery system is a critical component of the construction industry, ensuring the efficient transport and placement of concrete at construction sites. Traditional methods of managing this system often rely on manual scheduling and optimization, which can lead to inefficiencies and delays. Neural networks, a subset of artificial intelligence techniques, offer the ability to capture complex patterns and relationships within the delivery system's data.

4. INFLUENCE OF MARKETING STRATEGIES ON READY-MIX CONCRETE MANUFACTURERS' BUYING BEHAVIOR

The competitive nature of the ready-mix concrete industry has compelled manufacturers to seek suppliers that offer not only high-quality products but also a comprehensive and value-added experience. Marketing strategies, ranging from branding and communication to pricing and service offerings, have a profound impact on how manufacturers perceive and interact with suppliers.

❖ Marketing Strategies and Their Impact Branding and Reputation:

A strong brand image and a positive reputation can create trust and confidence in manufacturers, influencing their choice of supplier. The suppliers that clearly communicate their unique value proposition, such as product quality, on-time delivery and cost-effectiveness, are more likely to attract manufacturers.

Pricing Strategies:

Competitive pricing, transparent cost structures and flexible payment terms can sway manufacturers' decisions in favour of certain suppliers.

Customization and Flexibility:

Suppliers that offer tailored solutions and adapt to manufacturers' specific requirements can stand out in a crowded market.

Communication and Engagement:

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Effective communication channels and responsive customer service contribute to a positive supplier relationship.

Innovative Offerings:

Suppliers that introduce innovative products, sustainable practices, or cutting-edge technologies can capture manufacturers' attention. Manufacturers' buying behavior is influenced by a combination of rational and emotional factors. These include price sensitivity, perceived product quality, supplier reliability, trustworthiness, past experiences and the alignment of supplier's values with the manufacturer's needs. By identifying the strategies that hold the greatest sway, suppliers can modify their marketing efforts to align with manufacturers' preferences, enhancing customer engagement and loyalty.

❖ Significance of Ready-Mixed Concrete Delivery

Ready-mixed concrete delivery serves as the backbone of modern construction. Its significance lies in its ability to provide a consistent and reliable building material that can be tailored to meet specific project requirements. The convenience of having pre-mixed concrete delivered to the site minimizes construction delays, optimizes labour utilization and enhances construction site safety.

❖ Key Components of Ready-Mixed Concrete

Ready-mixed concrete consists of four primary components such as cement, aggregates (sand and gravel), water and chemical additives. These components are precisely measured and mixed at a batching plant, ensuring that the final concrete blend possesses the desired properties such as strength, durability and workability.

The delivery process of ready-mixed concrete involves several stages. First, the concrete mix is prepared at a central batching plant. Once ready, the mix is loaded onto specialized transit mixers equipped with rotating drums that prevent the concrete from setting during transport. The transit mixers then transport the concrete to the construction site, where it is discharged either directly into place or via pumping equipment, depending on the project's requirements.

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To study the branding and reputation of RMC manufacturers.
- ❖ To analyse the innovative marketing approaches of RMC suppliers.

6. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

- ❖ H1: There is an association between branding and confidence in manufacturers.
- ❖ H2: Flexible payment terms influence the manufacturers' decisions in favour of suppliers

7. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher has used 150 questionnaires to collect data and received 147 questionnaires and the usable questionnaire is 144. So the sample size of the study is only 144. The Cronbach's Alpha value of this study is 0.838 which is more than 0.7. Therefore, the reliability of the question is proved.

8. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

i. KAISER-MEYER- Olkin (KMO) AND BARTIETT'S TEST

Table: 1

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.843
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	458.026
	df	66
	Sig.	.000

Source: Primary Data

The KMO test value is 0.843 which is more than 0.5, so that, it can be considered as very good and valid to conduct data reduction technique.

ii. COMMUNALITY TABLE

Table: 2

Communalities		
	Initial	Extraction
A strong brand image will create trust and confidence in manufacturers.	1.000	.439
Positive reputation influencing their choice of supplier.	1.000	.424
Product quality and on-time delivery will attract the manufacturers.	1.000	.480
Cost-effectiveness, are more likely to attract manufacturers.	1.000	.568
Flexible payment terms influence the manufacturers' decisions in favour of certain suppliers.	1.000	.611
Transparent cost structures will attract the customers.	1.000	.525

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Budget constraints that might affect the ability to customize RMC orders.	1.000	.478
Require customization of concrete mix designs to meet specific project requirements.	1.000	.478
Customization and flexibility needs in the context of a Ready Mix Concrete product.	1.000	.393
Suppliers need to introduce innovative products to capture manufacturers' attention.	1.000	.444
Innovative marketing approaches will improve the productivity.	1.000	.445
Ongoing research is essential to develop innovative methods for managing and utilizing processing wastes.	1.000	.436
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.		

Source: Primary Data

Initially all variable in the communality table is expected to share 100% variance. Thus, initial value of each items is 1.00 which means 100% variance share by each item. The extraction value is ranging from 0.393 to 0.611 which shows that minimum variance share of item after extraction is 39.3% and maximum variance share of item is 61.1%.

iii. **TOTAL VARIANCE EXPLAINED**

Table: 3

Total Variance Explained									
	Initial			Extraction			Rotation		
	Eigenvalues			Sums of Squared Loadings			Sums of Squared Loadings		
		%			%			%	
Component	Total Variance	of Variance	Cumulative %	Total Variance	of Variance	Cumulative %	Total Variance	of Variance	Cumulative %

1	4.37	36.142	36.142	4.37	36.142	36.142	2.704	24.66	24.66
2	1.383	11.528	47.671	1.383	11.528	47.671	2.704	23.01	47.671
3	.967	8.055	55.726						
4	.832	6.934	62.660						
5	.804	6.697	69.357						
6	.655	5.538	74.895						
7	.632	5.268	80.162						
8	.568	4.730	84.893						
9	.527	4.388	89.281						
10	.517	4.310	93.591						
11	.445	3.706	97.296						
12	.324	2.704	100.000						
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.									

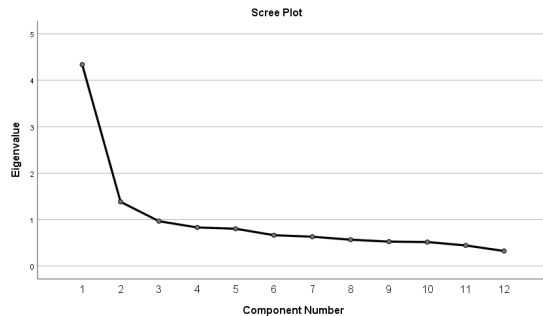
Source: Primary Data

Total variance contributed by the first component is 36.142 and second component is 11.528. The Eigen value for a given factor measures

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the variance in all the marketing strategies on ready-mix concrete manufacturers' buying behavior variables are accounted by that factor. It is also clear that there is two distinct components having the Eigen values greater than 1 from the given set of variables. Eigen value for factor 1 is 4.337 and the second factor is 1.383.

Chart: 1



iv. ROTATED COMPONENT MATRIX

Table: 4

Rotated Component Matrix ^a		
	Component	
	1	2
Cost-effectiveness, are more likely to attract manufacturers.	.730	
Transparent cost structures will attract the customers.	.698	
Require customization of concrete mix designs to meet specific project requirements.	.668	
Suppliers need to introduce innovative products to capture manufacturers' attention.	.663	
Ongoing research is essential to develop innovative methods for managing and utilizing processing wastes.	.614	
Positive reputation influencing their choice of supplier.	.611	
Flexible payment terms influence the manufacturers' decisions in favour of certain suppliers.		.774
Budget constraints that might affect the ability to customize RMC orders.		.673
Innovative marketing approaches will improve the productivity.		.662

Product quality and on-time delivery will attract the manufacturers.		.634
Customization and flexibility needs in the context of a Ready Mix Concrete product.		.588
A strong brand image will create trust and confidence in manufacturers.		.552
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.		
Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.		
a. Rotation converged in 3 iterations.		

It was found from the above table that the fixing of cut-off point through rotation component matrix. In this way there are 6 variables under component 1 and 6 variables under component 2. The factors taken for this study is branding and reputation, pricing strategies, customization and flexibility and innovative offerings.

v. ANOVA

Table: 5

ANOVA						
		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Branding and Reputation	Between Groups	1.252	3	.417	.397	.755
	Within Groups	146.971	140	1.050		
	Total	148.222	143			
Pricing Strategies	Between Groups	1.783	3	.594	.561	.642
	Within Groups	148.377	140	1.060		
	Total	150.160	143			

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Customization and Flexibility	Between Groups	2.547	3	.849	.926	.430
	Within Groups	128.391	140	.917		
	Total	130.938	143			
Innovative Offerings	Between Groups	5.787	3	1.929	2.186	.092
	Within Groups	123.519	140	.882		
	Total	129.306	143			

Source: Primary Data

It was found from the above table, the p-value of branding and reputation, pricing strategies, customization and flexibility and innovative offering is more than 0.05 at 5% level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis was accepted for all the above factors. Therefore, there is no significant relationship between marketing strategies on ready-mix concrete manufacturers' buying behavior and age of the respondents.

vi. **POST HOC TUKEY HSD TEST**

Table: 6

Multiple Comparisons							
Tukey HSD							
Dependent Variable	(I)	(J)	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
	15-25 Years	26-35 Years	-.013	.219	1.000	-.58	.56

Branding and Reputation	36-45 Years	15-25 Years	.169	.219	.867	-.40	.74
		26-35 Years	.246	.311	.859	-.56	1.06
		46-55 Years	.013	.219	1.000	-.56	.58
	26-35 Years	15-25 Years	.182	.252	.889	-.47	.84
		46-55 Years	.259	.336	.867	-.61	1.13
		15-25 Years	-.169	.219	.867	-.74	.40
	36-45 Years	26-35 Years	-.182	.252	.889	-.84	.47
		46-55 Years	.077	.336	.996	-.80	.95
		15-25 Years	-.246	.311	.859	-1.06	.56
	46-55 Years	26-35 Years	-.259	.336	.867	-1.13	.61
		15-25 Years					
		46-55 Years					

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		36 -45 Ye ars	-.077	.33 6	.99 6	-.95	.80
Pricing Strategies	15- 25 - 35 Ye ars	26 - 35 Ye ars	-.061	.22 0	.99 3	-.63	.51
		36 -45 Ye ars	.242	.22 0	.69 0	-.33	.81
		46 -55 Ye ars	.046	.31 3	.99 9	-.77	.86
	26 - 35 Ye ars	15- 25 Ye ars	.061	.22 0	.99 3	-.51	.63
		36 -45 Ye ars	.303	.25 3	.63 1	-.36	.96
		46 -55 Ye ars	.107	.33 7	.98 9	-.77	.98
	36 -45 Ye ars	15- 25 Ye ars	-.242	.22 0	.69 0	-.81	.33
		26 - 35 Ye ars	-.303	.25 3	.63 1	-.96	.36
		46 -55 Ye ars	-.196	.33 7	.93 8	- 1.0 7	.68

		46 -55 Ye ars	15- 25 Ye ars	-.046	.31 3	.99 9	-.86	.77
		26 - 35 Ye ars		-.107	.33 7	.98 9	-.98	.77
		36 -45 Ye ars		.196	.33 7	.93 8	-.68	1.0 7
Customiz ation and Flexibilit y	15- 25 - 35 Ye ars	26 - 35 Ye ars		.062	.20 5	.99 0	-.47	.59
		36 -45 Ye ars		.214	.20 5	.72 3	-.32	.75
		46 -55 Ye ars		.431	.29 1	.45 2	-.33	1.1 9
	26 - 35 Ye ars	15- 25 Ye ars		-.062	.20 5	.99 0	-.59	.47
		36 -45 Ye ars		.152	.23 6	.91 8	-.46	.76
		46 -55 Ye ars		.368	.31 4	.64 4	-.45	1.1 8
	36 -45 Ye ars	15- 25 Ye ars		-.214	.20 5	.72 3	-.75	.32

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		26 - 35 Ye ars	-.152	.23 6	.91 8	-.76	.46
		46 -55 Ye ars	.217	.31 4	.90 0	-.60	1.0 3
	46 -55 Ye ars	15- 25 Ye ars	-.431	.29 1	.45 2	- 1.1 9	.33
		26 - 35 Ye ars	-.368	.31 4	.64 4	- 1.1 8	.45
		36 -45 Ye ars	-.217	.31 4	.90 0	- 1.0 3	.60
Innovative Offerings	15- 25 Ye ars	26 - 35 Ye ars	-.396	.20 1	.20 4	-.92	.13
		36 -45 Ye ars	-.214	.20 1	.71 1	-.74	.31
		46 -55 Ye ars	-.585	.28 5	.17 5	- 1.3 3	.16
		26 - 35 Ye ars	.396	.20 1	.20 4	-.13	.92
	26 - 35 Ye ars	36 -45 Ye ars	.182	.23 1	.86 1	-.42	.78

		46 -55 Ye ars	-.189	.30 8	.92 8	-.99	.61
		36 -45 Ye ars	.214	.20 1	.71 1	-.31	.74
	26 - 35 Ye ars	26 - 35 Ye ars	-.182	.23 1	.86 1	-.78	.42
		46 -55 Ye ars	-.371	.30 8	.62 5	- 1.1 7	.43
		46 -55 Ye ars	.585	.28 5	.17 5	-.16	1.3 3
		26 - 35 Ye ars	.189	.30 8	.92 8	-.61	.99
	36 -45 Ye ars	26 - 35 Ye ars	.371	.30 8	.62 5	-.43	1.1 7
	26 - 35 Ye ars	36 -45 Ye ars	.182	.23 1	.86 1	-.42	.78

Source: Primary Data

The Post Hoc- Tukey HSD test is used to test the significant difference between groups based mean difference. It was ascertained from this study 26 - 35 age group respondents have more mean difference as compared with other age group respondents. It is concluded that 26 - 35 age group respondents strongly agreed that branding and reputation and pricing strategies are most important marketing strategies on ready-mix concrete manufacturers' buying behaviour.

15- 25 age group respondents strongly agreed that customization and flexibility are most important marketing strategies on ready-mix concrete manufacturers' buying behaviour and 46 -55 age group respondents accepted that innovative offerings are most important marketing strategies on

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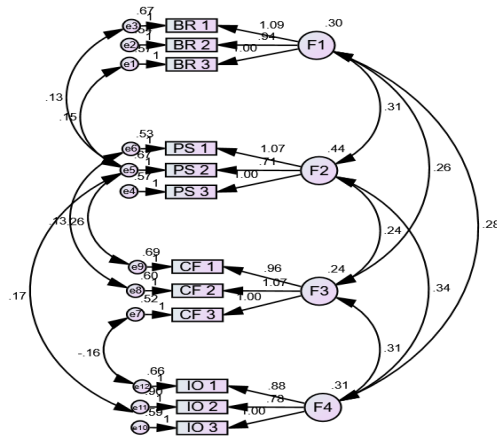
ready-mix concrete manufacturers' buying behaviour.

vii. CONFIRMATORY FACTOR ANALYSIS (CFA)

The research model was developed using IBM AMOS software 26.0.

Figure: 1

Confirmatory factor analysis



GOODNESS OF FIT TEST FOR CFA

Table: 7

S.N	Measu re	Recomme nded value	Observed Value s	Interpret ation
1	CMIN/ DF	Between 1 and 3	1.343	Excellent
2	CFI	>0.95	0.965	Excellent
3	GFI	>0.90	0.939	Excellent
4	AGFI	>0.80	0.887	Excellent
5	IFI	>0.90	0.967	Excellent
6	TLI	>0.90	0.945	Excellent
7	RMSE A	<0.08	0.049	Excellent
8	SRMR	<0.05	0.05	Excellent

The model fitness CMIN/DF= 1.343, the discrepancy divided by degrees of freedom is 56.386 / 42 = 1.343, CFI = 0.965, GFI = 0.939, AGFI= 0.887, IFI = 0.967, TLI= 0.945, RMSEA= 0.049 and SRMR = 0.050.

9. FINDINGS

- ❖ Concrete has a limited working time, requiring efficient coordination between batching, transit

and placement to prevent premature setting. Coordinate delivery schedules to minimize waiting time and prevent concrete from setting in transit. On-site mixing is eliminated, saving valuable time and allowing for rapid construction progress.

- ❖ Batching plants enforce strict quality control measures, resulting in concrete with desired strength and durability.
- ❖ Manual mixing is eliminated, reducing labour demands and costs.
- ❖ Transit times and traffic congestion can impact the concrete's quality, necessitating optimized routes and scheduling.
- ❖ Extreme temperatures and adverse weather conditions can affect concrete setting and strength development, requiring appropriate measures to ensure quality.
- ❖ Ensure accurate measurement of components during batching to maintain consistency.
- ❖ Maintain effective communication between batching plant, transit drivers and site personnel for smooth operations.
- ❖ Follow industry standards and guidelines for mixing, transportation and placement of ready-mixed concrete.
- ❖ Advanced technologies such as IoT sensors, GPS tracking and cloud-based platforms enable stakeholders to monitor RMC operations in real time, allowing for timely adjustments and informed decision-making.
- ❖ Integrated planning leverages predictive modelling and analytics to forecast RMC demand accurately. By considering historical data, project schedules and external factors, planners can anticipate requirements and allocate resources efficiently.

10. CONCLUSION

The introduction of sustainable ready-mixed concrete represents a significant step forward in reducing the environmental footprint of the construction industry. By optimizing mix designs, utilizing alternative materials and embracing innovative production methods, the concrete industry can contribute to a more sustainable built environment. The sustainable management and utilization of processing wastes from ready-mixed concrete plants require a multifaceted approach. By adopting waste minimization, recycling, treatment and research-driven strategies, the concrete industry can significantly reduce its environmental impact while harnessing the potential of waste-derived materials for future construction needs.

The time management is an integral component of the ready-mixed concrete industry. Efficient coordination of batching, delivery and construction activities ensures that concrete is available when and where it is needed, optimizing project timelines and enhancing overall project success. An integrated approach to planning RMC production and delivery

offers numerous advantages in terms of operational efficiency, cost-effectiveness and sustainable construction practices. By harmonizing various stages of the RMC supply chain through real-time data utilization, predictive analytics and collaborative efforts, the construction industry can achieve enhanced project outcomes while minimizing waste and environmental impact.

In recent years, the construction industry has recognized the need for more sustainable practices to mitigate the environmental impacts associated with traditional concrete production and transportation. This recognition has driven the development of innovative strategies that aim to reduce carbon emissions, optimize resource utilization and enhance the overall efficiency of RMC supply chains. In light of evolving environmental regulations and a growing consciousness of sustainable practices, researchers and industry professionals have begun exploring ways to repurpose and recycle sludge water. This approach not only minimizes waste but also maximizes the efficient use of resources and reduces the environmental footprint of concrete production.

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