

# **DURANDAL RX:**

## A NEW REACTIVE REFRACTORY MATERIAL

---

**X.Y. XIONG**

Product Development and Application Manager

IMERYS REFRactory MINERALS

154/156, Rue de l'Université, F-75007 Paris, France

Mobile: +32-497448758

e-mail: [xiaoyong.xiong@damrec.com](mailto:xiaoyong.xiong@damrec.com)

## **PLAN OF PRESENTATION**

---

**-Objective**

**-Andalusite: characteristics**

**-Sinter Reactivity of DURANTAL RX in comparison with Reactive Alumina (RA)**

**-Substitution of Reactive Alumina by DURANTAL RX in castable**

**-Conclusions**

## **OBJECTIVE**

---

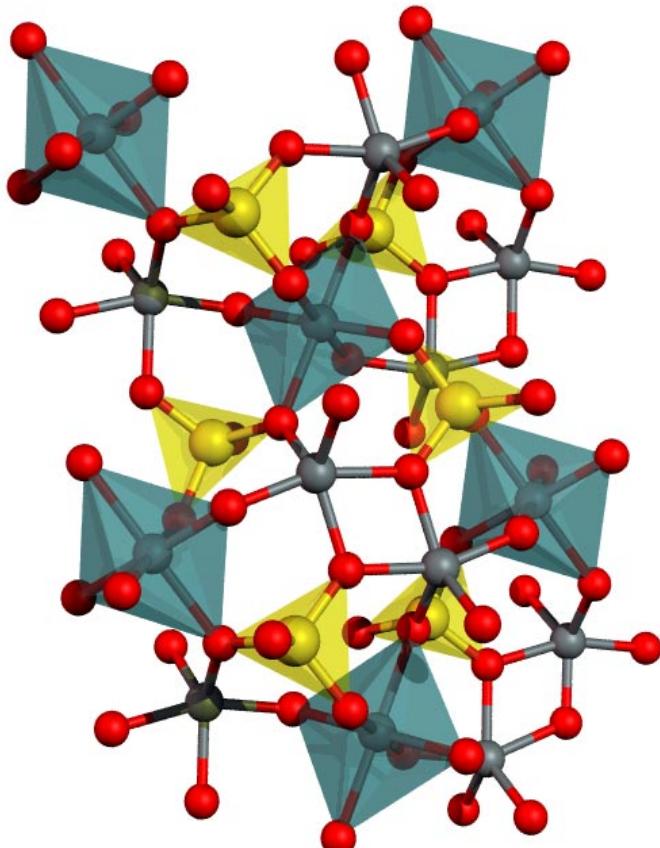
- 1. Sinter Reactivity of DURANTAL RX in Comparison with Reactive Alumina**
- 2. Application of DURANTAL RX in LCC and ULCC Castable Matrix: Creation of Ceramic Bonding of Mullite Nature, in Comparison with Reactive Alumina Matrix**

**ANDALUSITE:**

---

## **characteristics**

# Andalusite Crystal Structure



**Group :**

alumina silicates with Kyanite and Sillimanite

**Composition :**



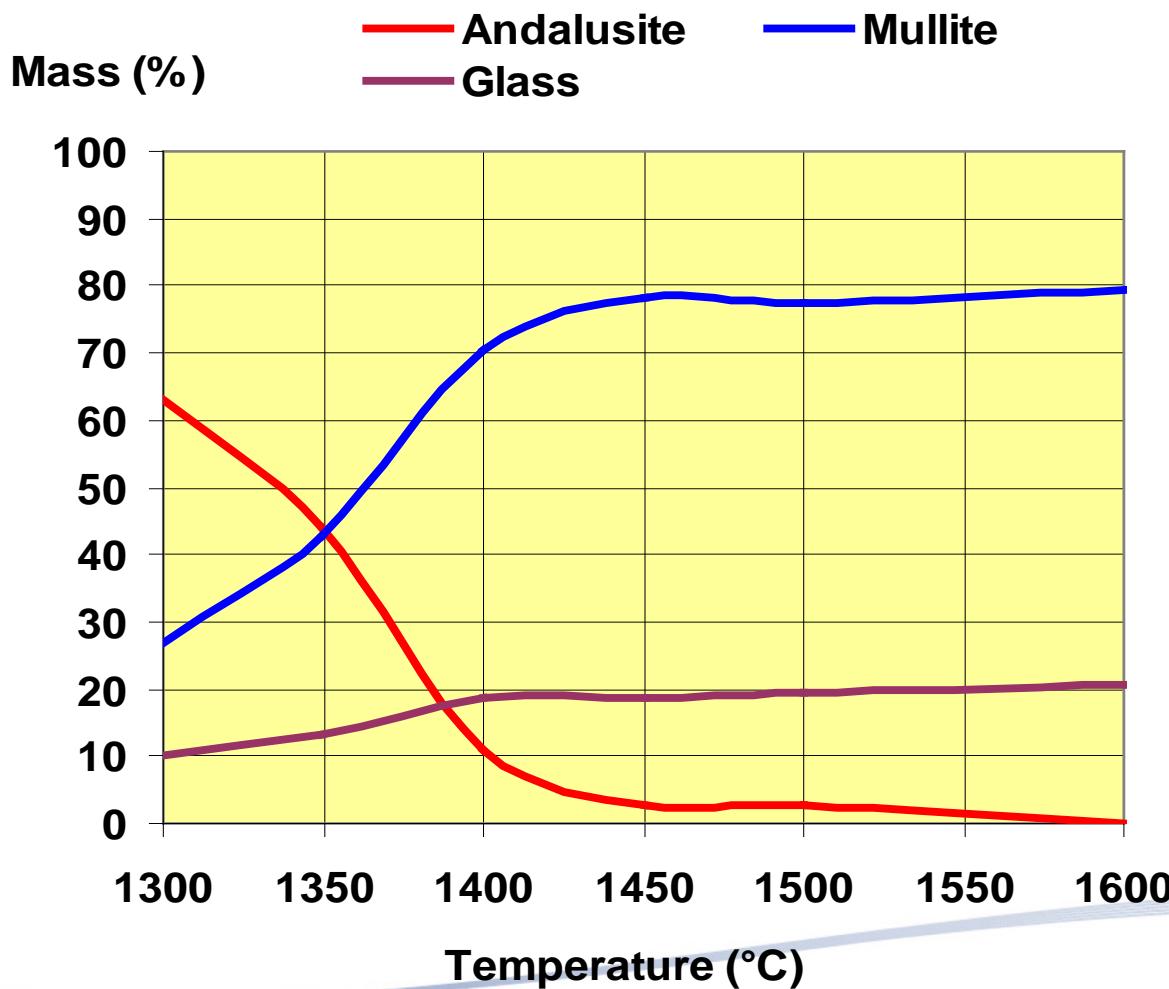
(63%  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , 37%  $\text{SiO}_2$ )

**Density = 3.15, Hardness = 7.5**

**Crystalline system :**

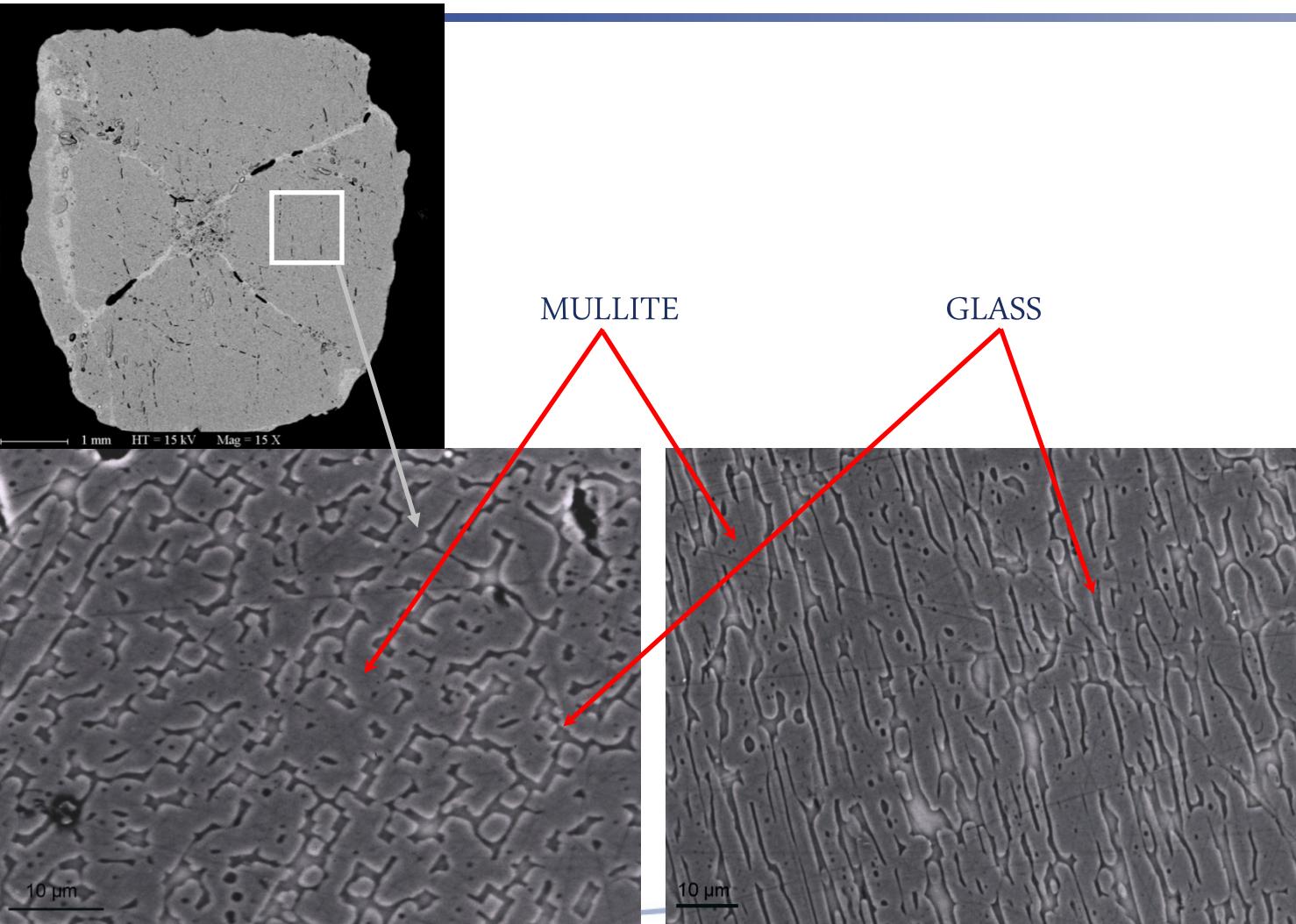
Orthorhombic

## Andalusite transformation with temperature: Mullitisation

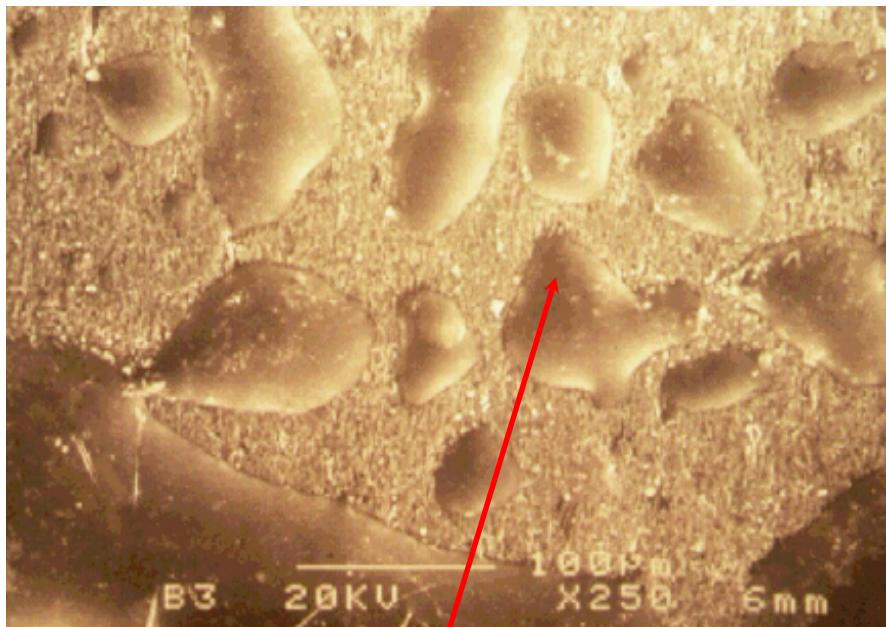
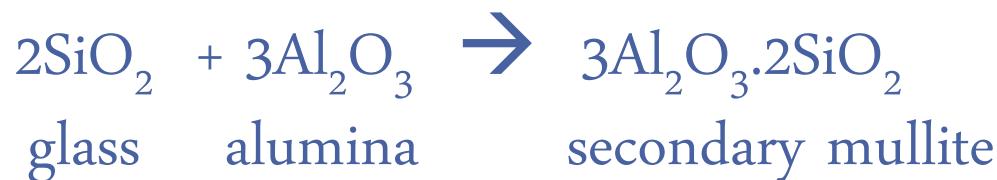


# Microstructure of the mullitised andalusite (1550°C)

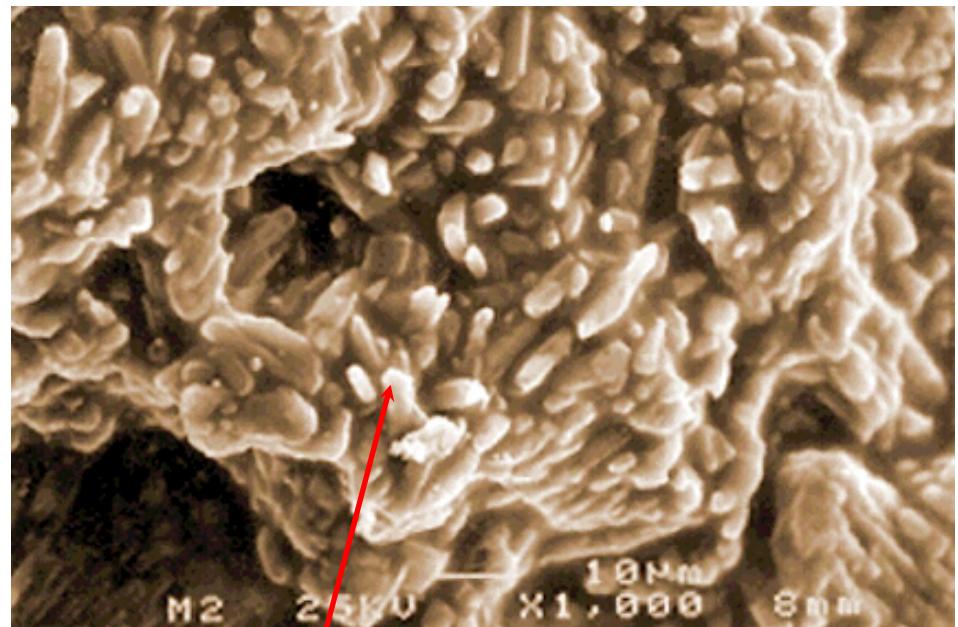
MULLITISED ANDALUSITE = MULLITE + GLASS COMPOSITE NETWORK



# Glass react with alumina for forming a secondary mullite



Glass droplets



Secondary mullite crystals

## Main characteristics of Andalusite

---

High Refractoriness under load

High Resistance to thermal shock

High Creep resistance

Formation of ceramic binding since middle temperature

# Sinter Reactivity of DURANTAL RX in comparison with Reactive Alumina (RA)

---

## **Measure of reactivity:**

---

- shrinkage after sinter**
- cold module of rupture**

# Chemical Composition of DURANTAL RX and Reactive Alumina

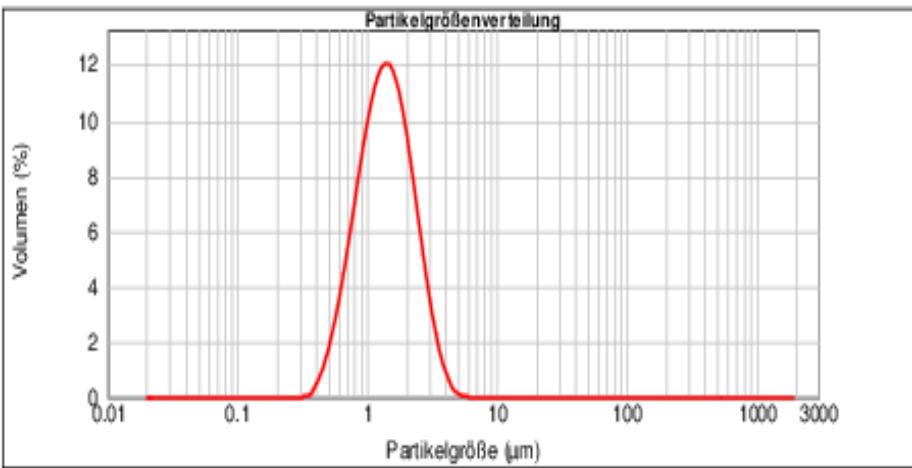
Chemical composition	DURANTAL RX	Reactive Alumina (RA)
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	<b>59,81</b>	<b>99,92</b>
SiO <sub>2</sub>	<b>38,06</b>	0,02
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0,85	0,02
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0,26	0,03
K <sub>2</sub> O	0,28	0,00

# Size distribution of DURANTAL RX and Reactive Alumina (RA)

d<sub>0.1</sub>: 0.722 µm

d<sub>0.5</sub>: 1.370 µm

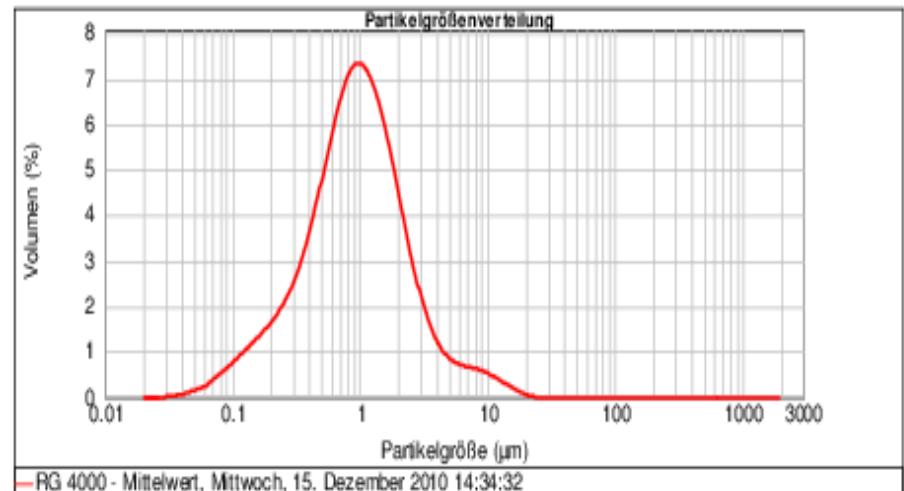
d<sub>0.9</sub>: 2.527 µm



d<sub>0.1</sub>: 0.248 µm

d<sub>0.5</sub>: 0.927 µm

d<sub>0.9</sub>: 2.808 µm



*Mastersizer analyse* **DURANTAL RX**  
D<sub>10</sub> – 0,72µm  
D<sub>50</sub> – 1,37µm  
D<sub>90</sub> – 2,53µm

*Mastersizer analyse* **Reactive Alumina**  
D<sub>10</sub> – 0,28µm  
D<sub>50</sub> – 0,93µm  
D<sub>90</sub> – 2,81µm

# Specific Surface of **DURANTAL RX** and Reactive Alumina

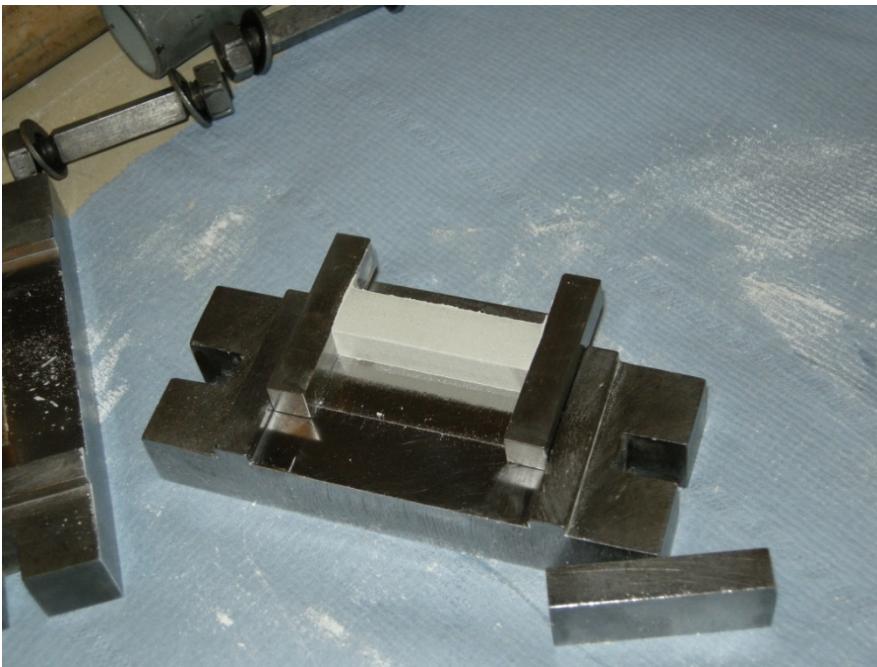
Sample	BET ( $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ )
<b>DURANTAL RX</b>	18,265
Reactive Alumina (RA)	6,551

## Press for sample preparation

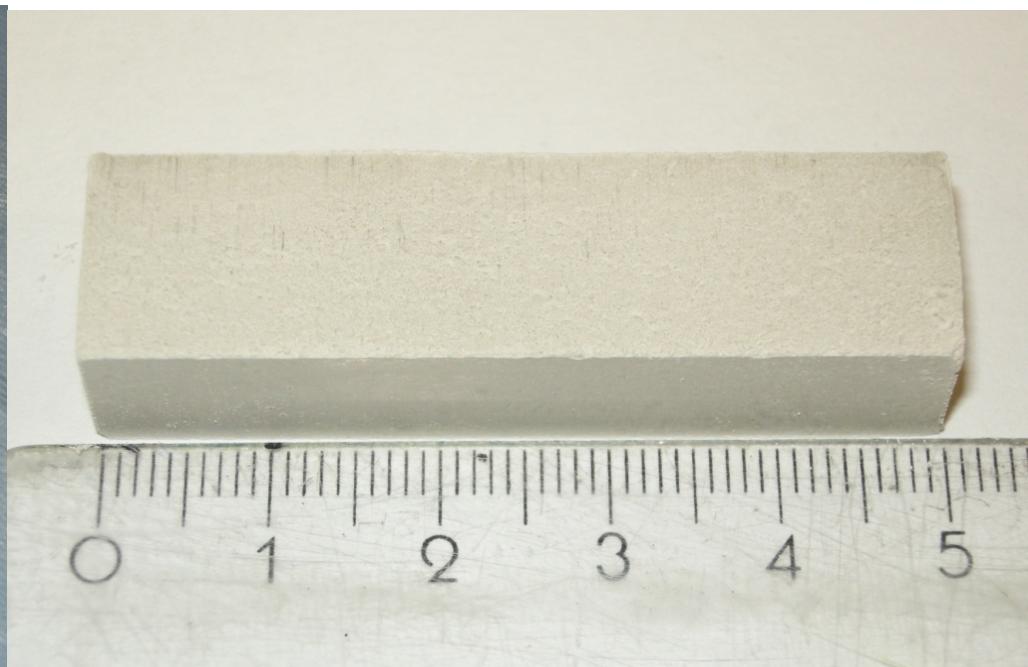
1000kg/cm<sup>2</sup>



## Samples to sinter



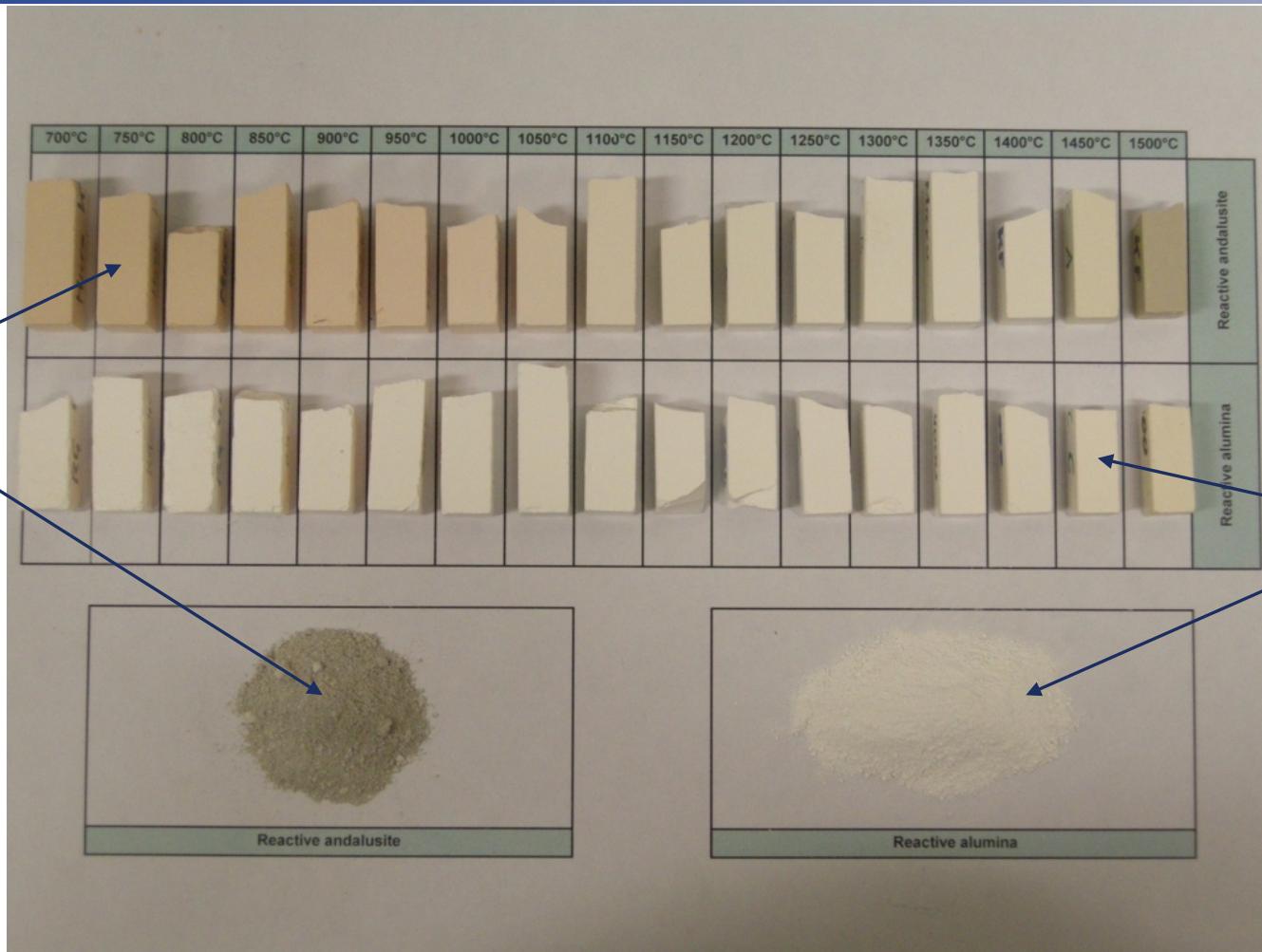
*Brick in the mould*



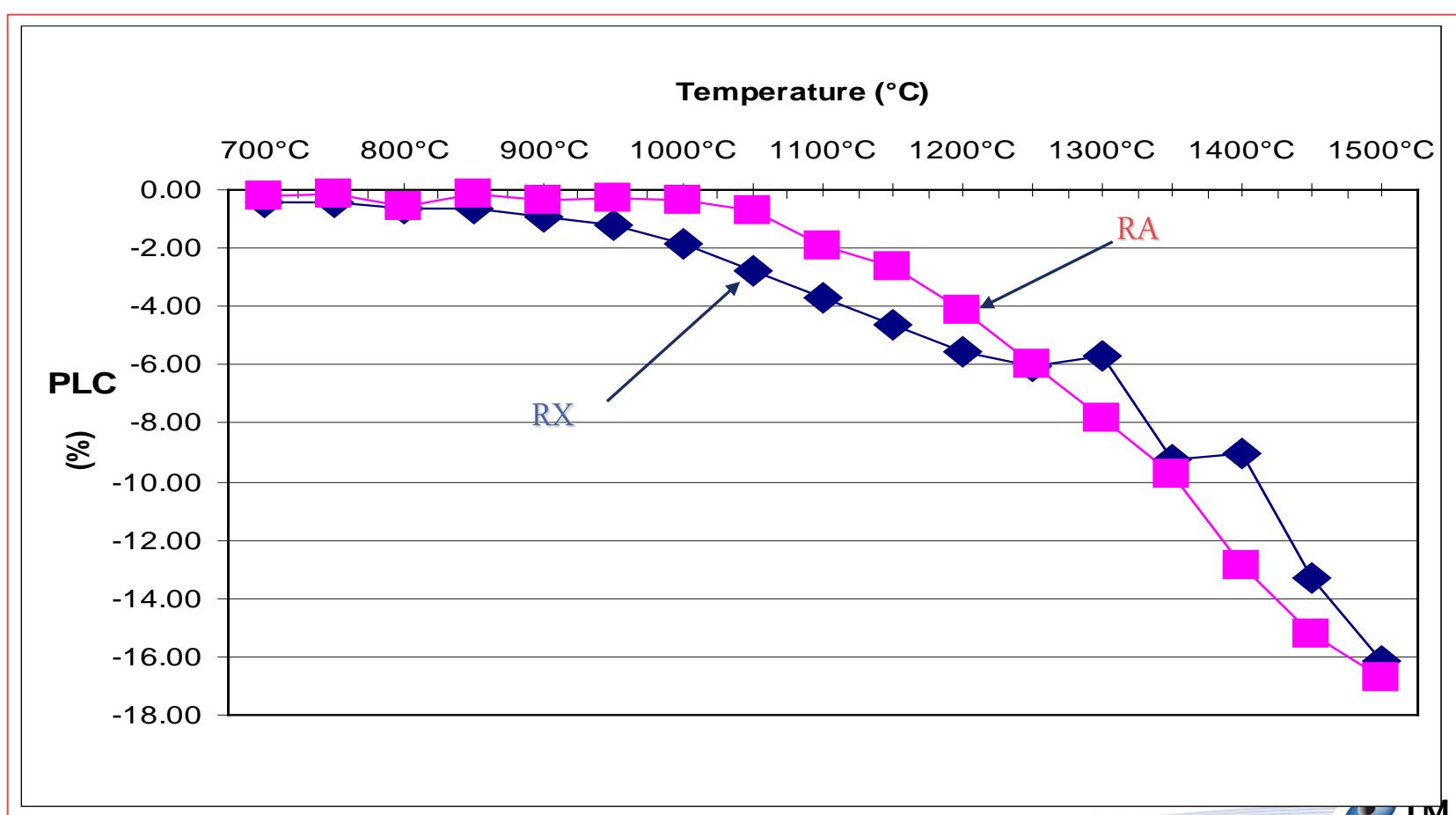
*Green brick size: 50 x 10 x 12 mm*

## Samples after sinter and testing

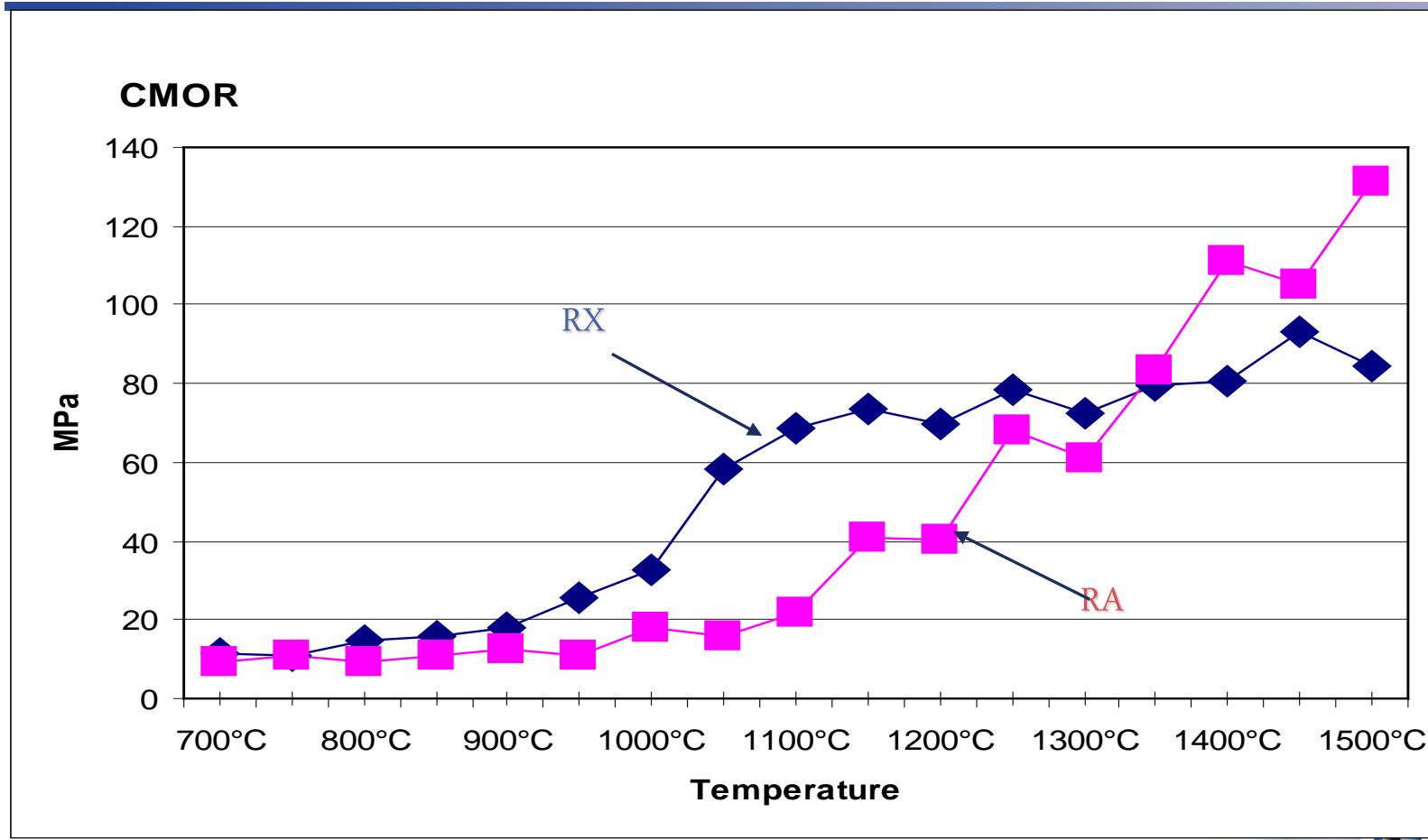
RX



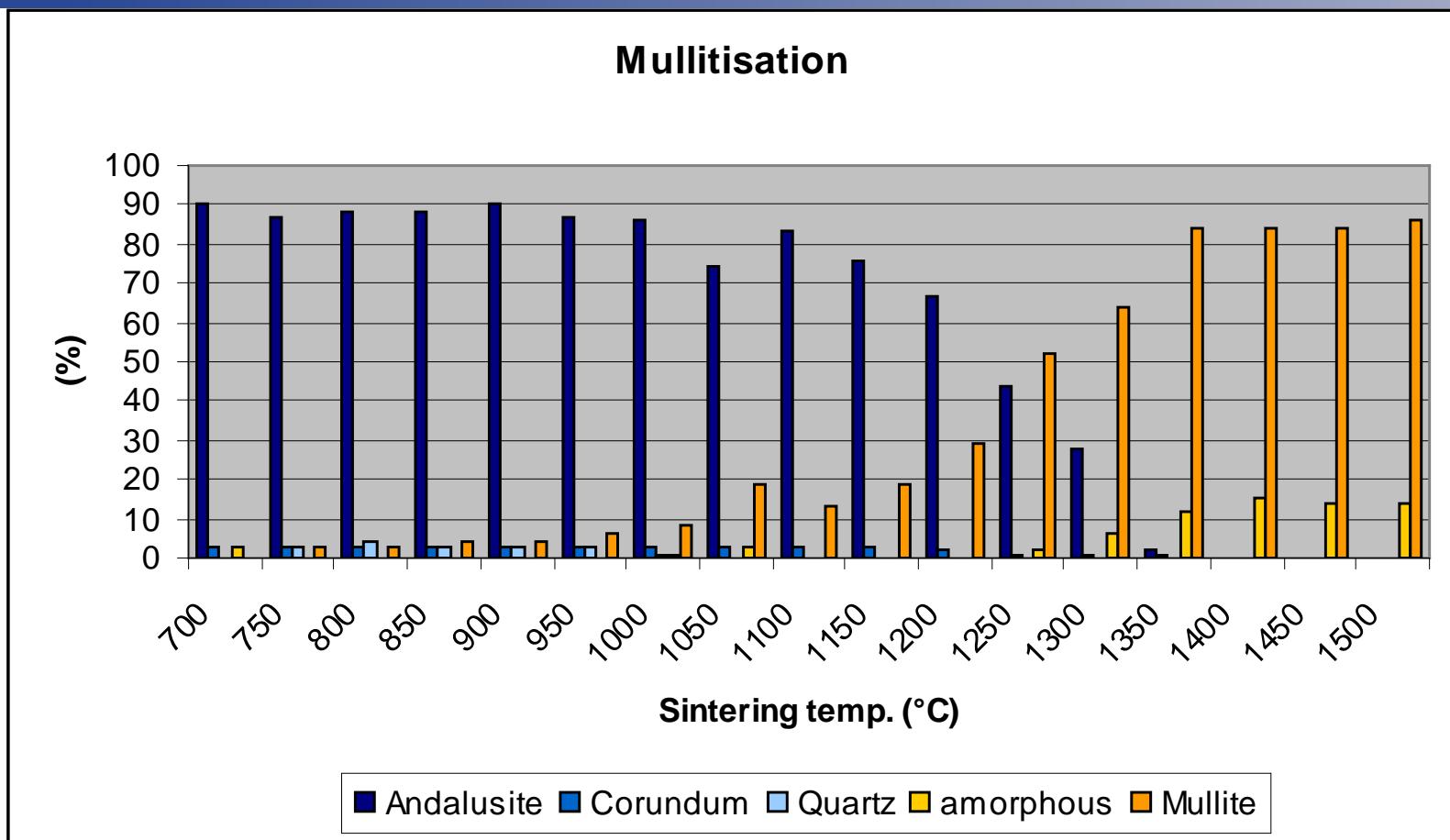
## Shrinkage of RX and RA vs. sintering temperature



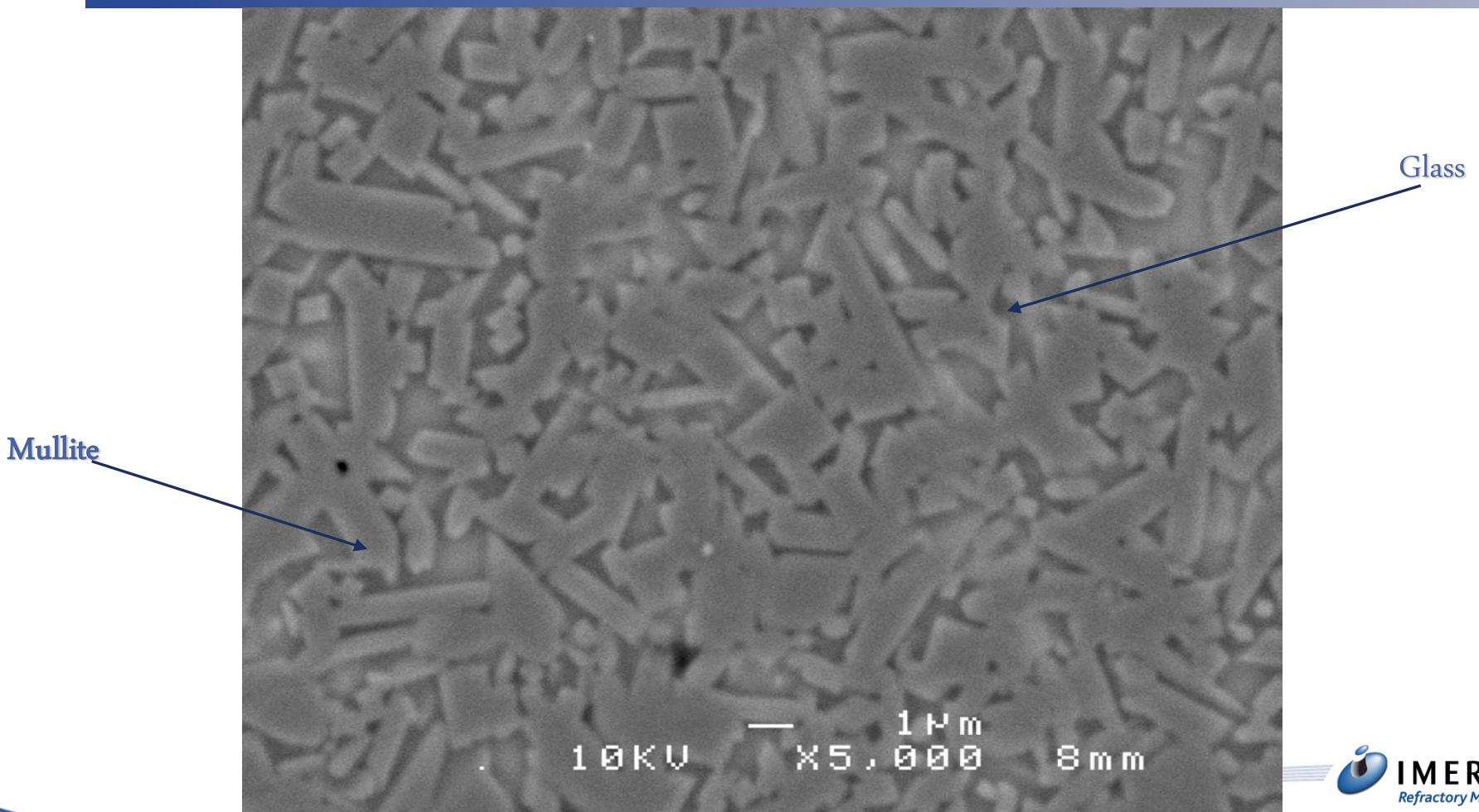
## Cold module of rupture vs. sintering temperature



# DURANTAL RX mullitisation vs. sintering temperature



## DURANTAL RX after sinter at 1500°C x 3h



# **Substitution of Reactive Alumina (RA) by DURANTAL RX in LCC and ULCC Castable**

---

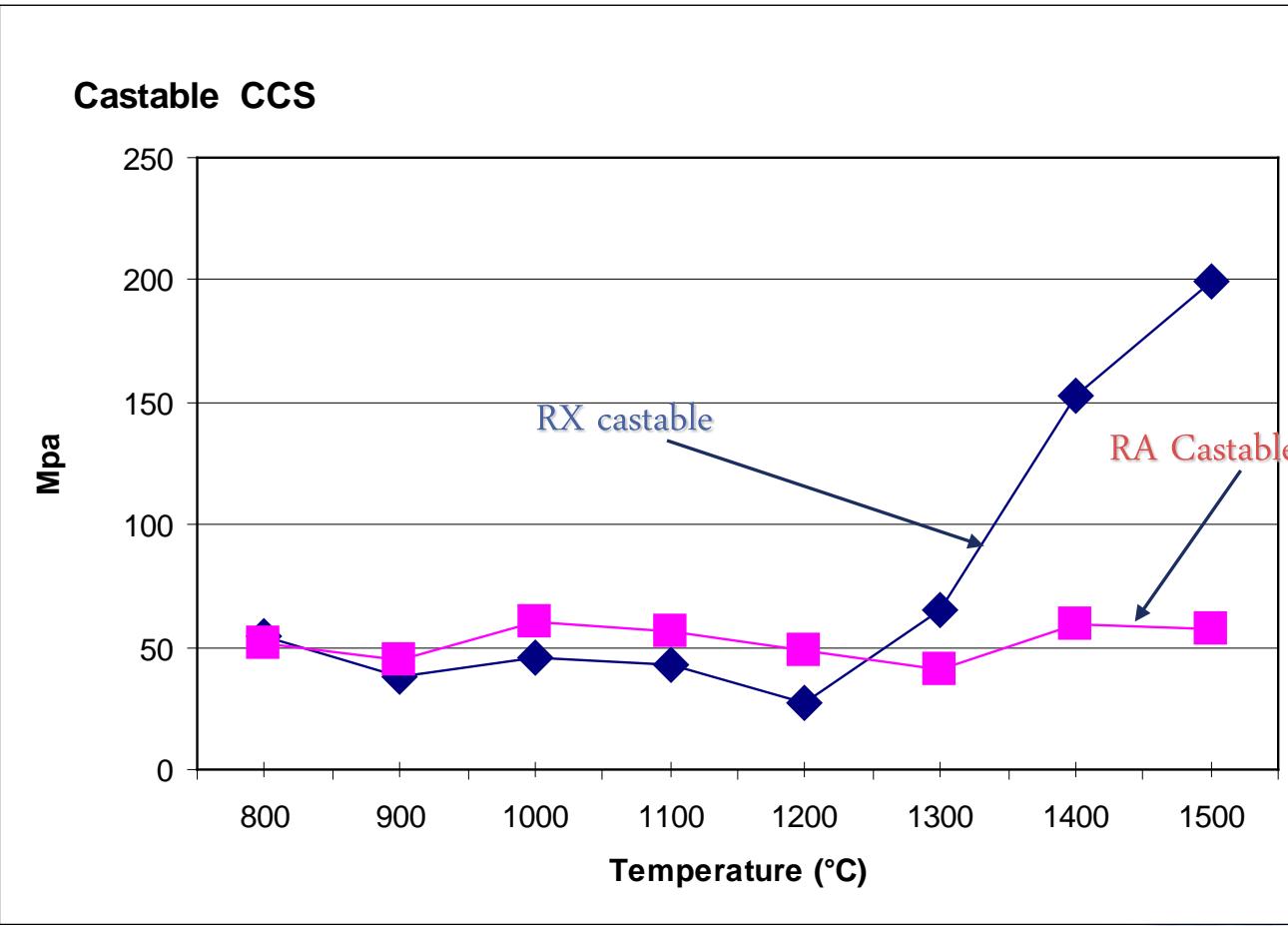
---

# **Comparison of ceramic bonding by measuring the cold mechanical strength (CCS and CMOR) from middle temperature to high temperature**

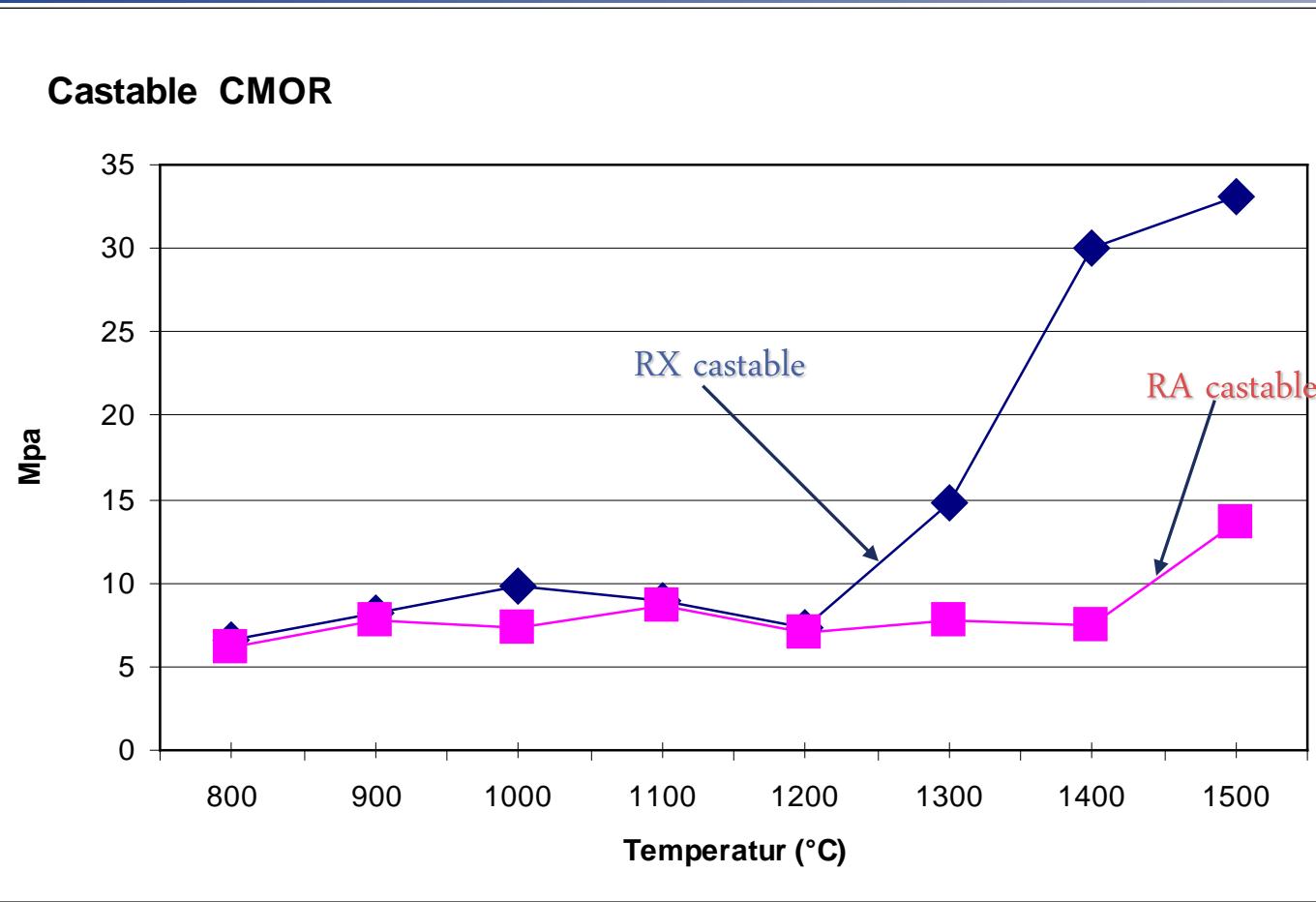
# A pure corundum LCC castable used to test ceramic bonding strength

		Formulation <b>reactive alumina (RA)</b>	Formulation <b>DURANTAL RX</b>
Raw Materials	Size	%	%
white fused alumina	2-5mm	33	33
white fused alumina	1-3mm	10	10
white fused alumina	0-1mm	20	20
white fused alumina	0-0.3mm	15	15
calcined alumina	5µ	11	11
<b>reactive alumina</b>		<b>6</b>	
<b>Durantal RX</b>			<b>6</b>
cement Kernous	Segar 71	5	5
STPP		0.15	0.15
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100.15</b>	<b>100.15</b>

# Cold Crush Strength vs. sintering temperature



## Cold module of rupture vs. sintering temperature



---

# **Comparison of ceramic bonding by measuring the cold module of rupture (CMOR) in function with temperature**

## 3 Castables Varying Microsilica Content from 0 to 5%

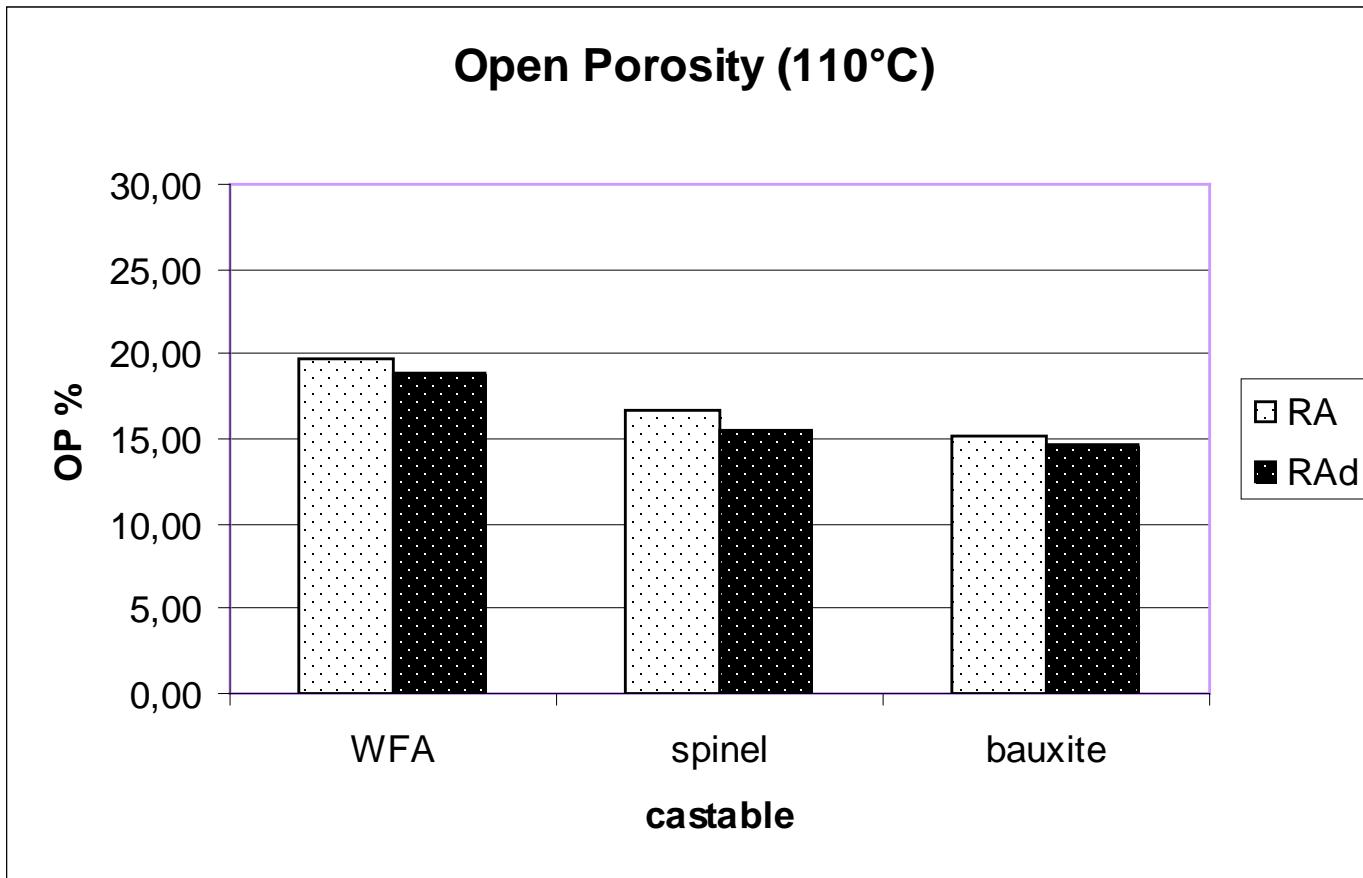
		WFA castable		Spinel castable		Bauxite castable	
Raw Materials	size	formulation RA	formulation RX	formulation RA	formulation RX	formulation RA	formulation RX
white fused alumina	5-10mm			15	15		
white fused alumina	2-5mm	33	33	20	20		
white fused alumina	1-3mm	10	10	20	20		
white fused alumina	0-1mm	20	20	10	10		
white fused alumina	0-0.3mm	15	15				
sinter spinel 78%	0-0.5mm			5	5		
sinter spinel 78%	325M			14	14		
bauxite 88%	3-5mm					16	16
bauxite 88%	1-3mm					20	20
bauxite 88%	0-1mm					24	24
bauxite 88%	200M					20	20
<b>Microsilica</b>	<b>971U</b>			<b>0,5</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
calcined alumina	5µ	11	11	5	5	5	5
<b>reactive alumina</b>	<b>1µ</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>5</b>	
<b>DURANTAL RX</b>	<b>1µ</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>5</b>
Cement	secar 71	5	5	5	5	5	5
STPP		0,15	0,15	0,15	0,15	0,15	0,15
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100,15</b>	<b>100,15</b>	<b>100,65</b>	<b>100,65</b>	<b>100,15</b>	<b>100,15</b>

## Casting property comparison

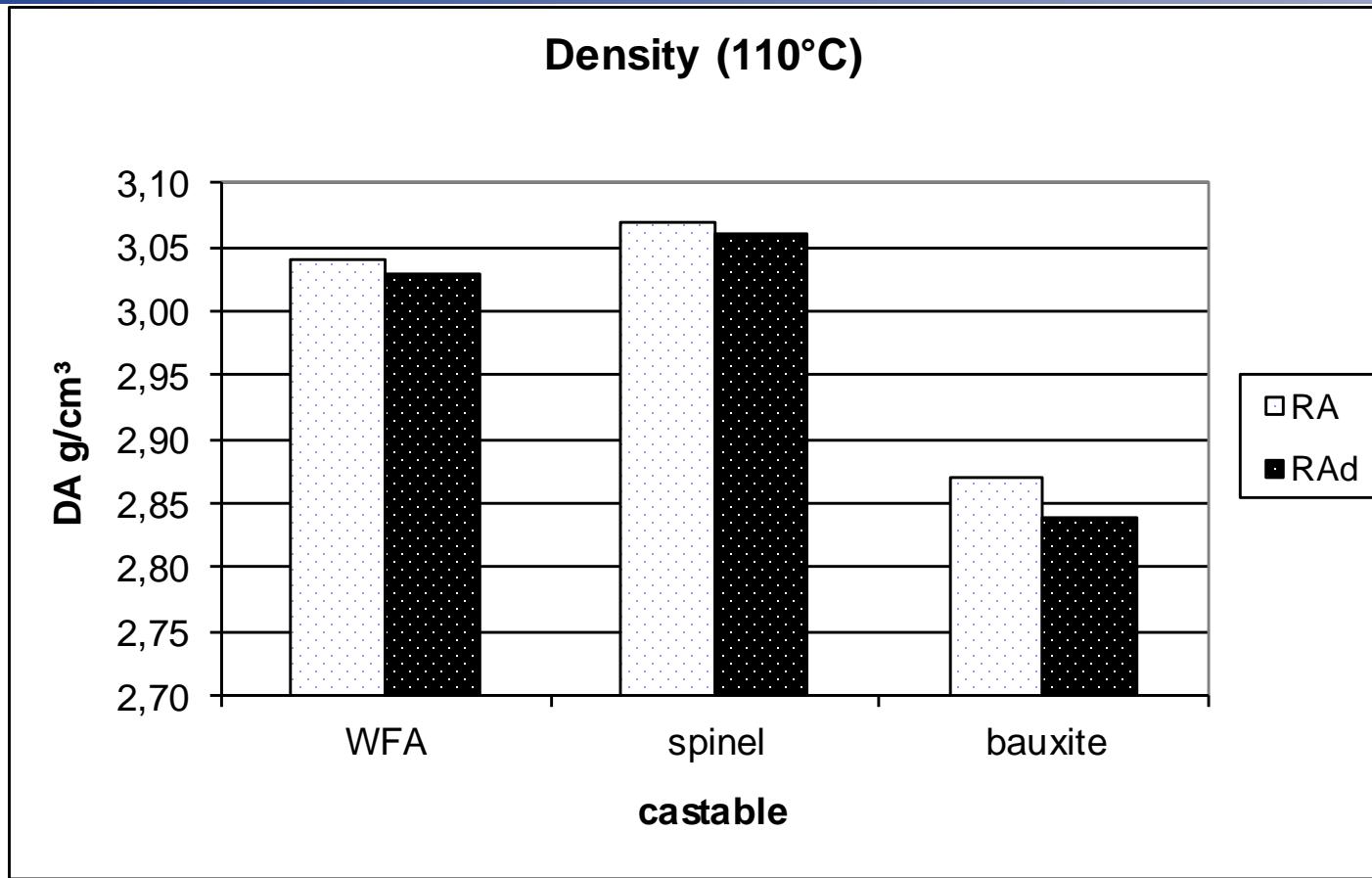
---

**drying at 110° C**

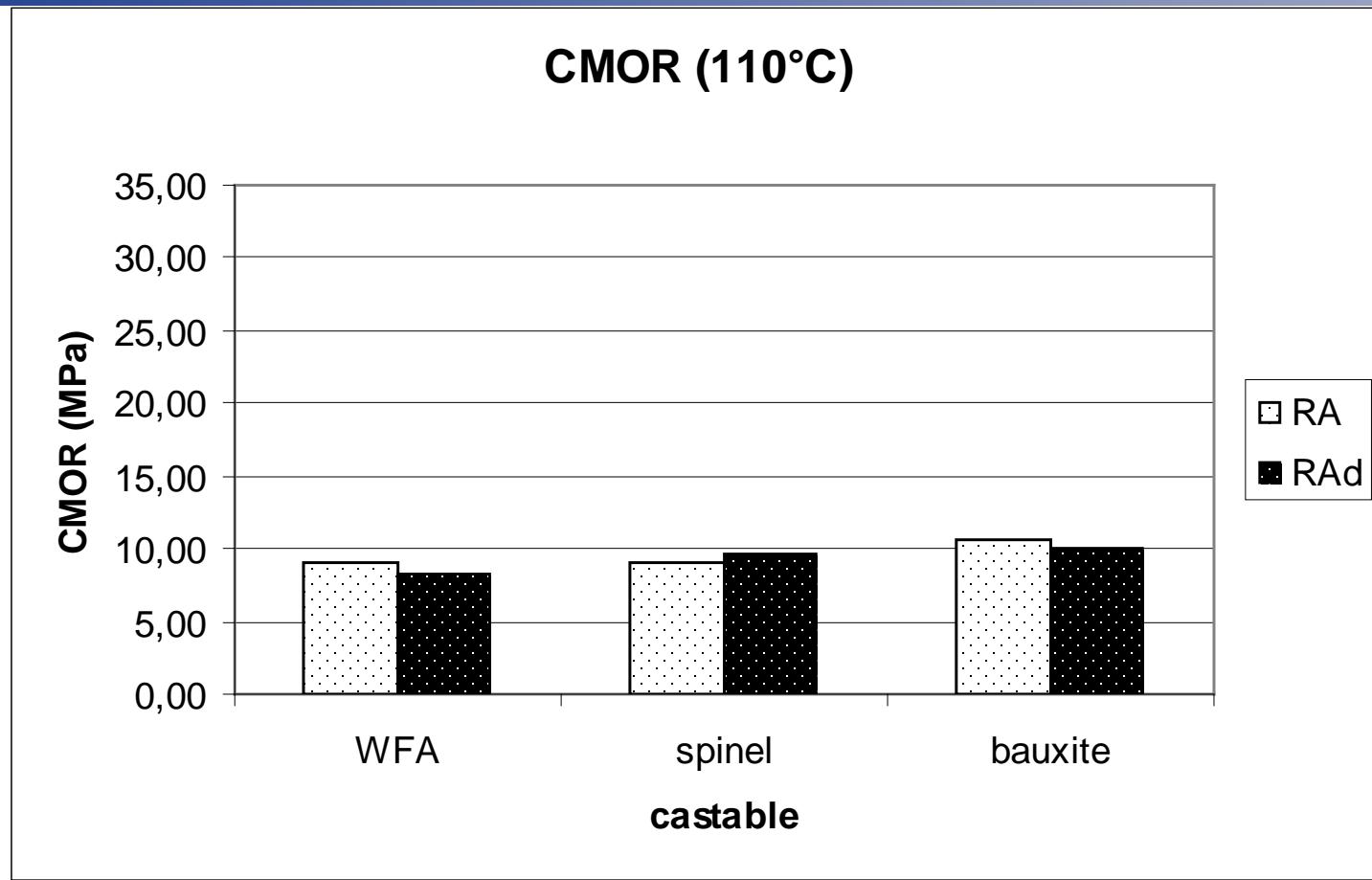
## Substitution doesn't change open porosity



## Low density of RX changes slightly the density of castable



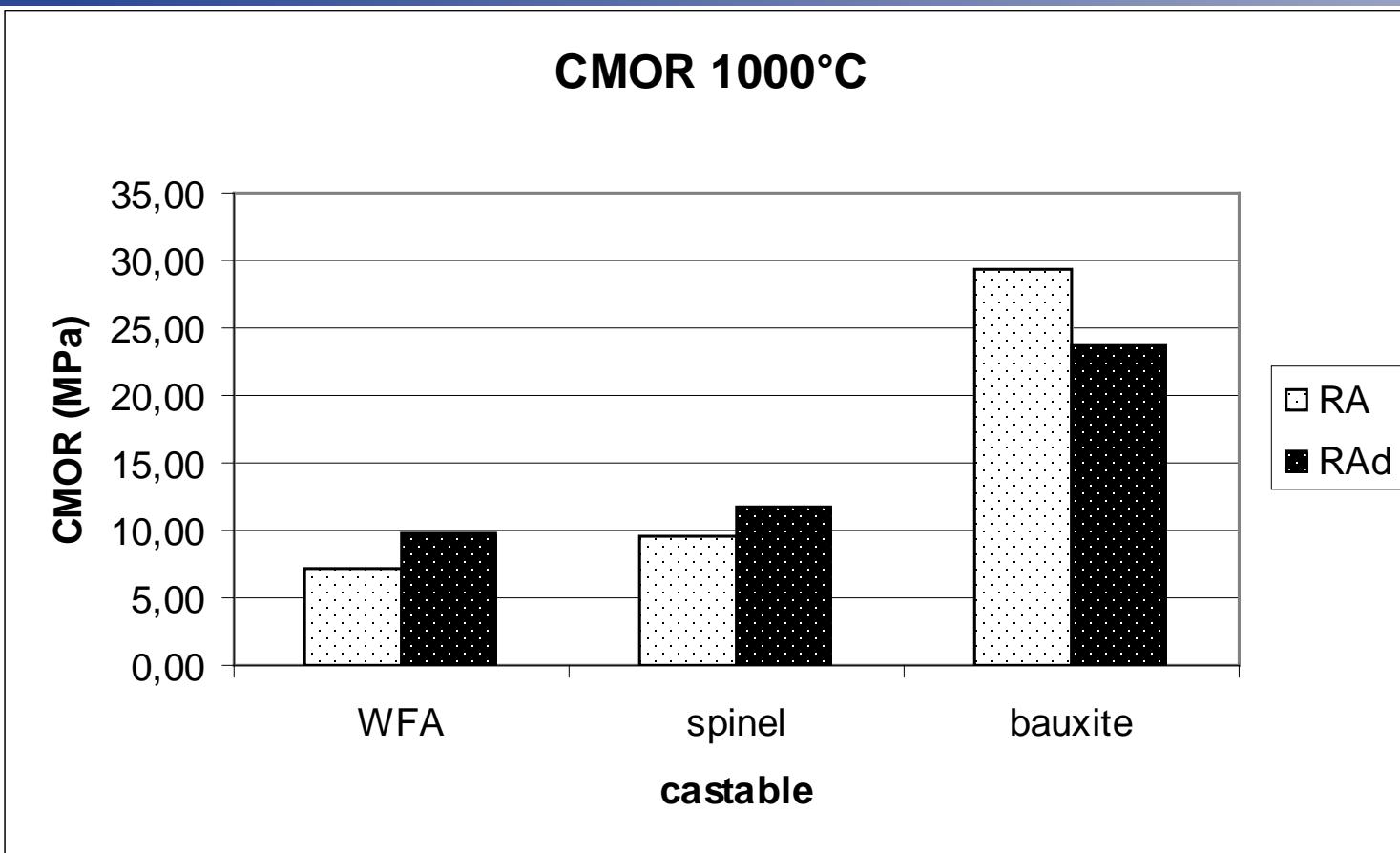
## Cold module of rupture stays no change



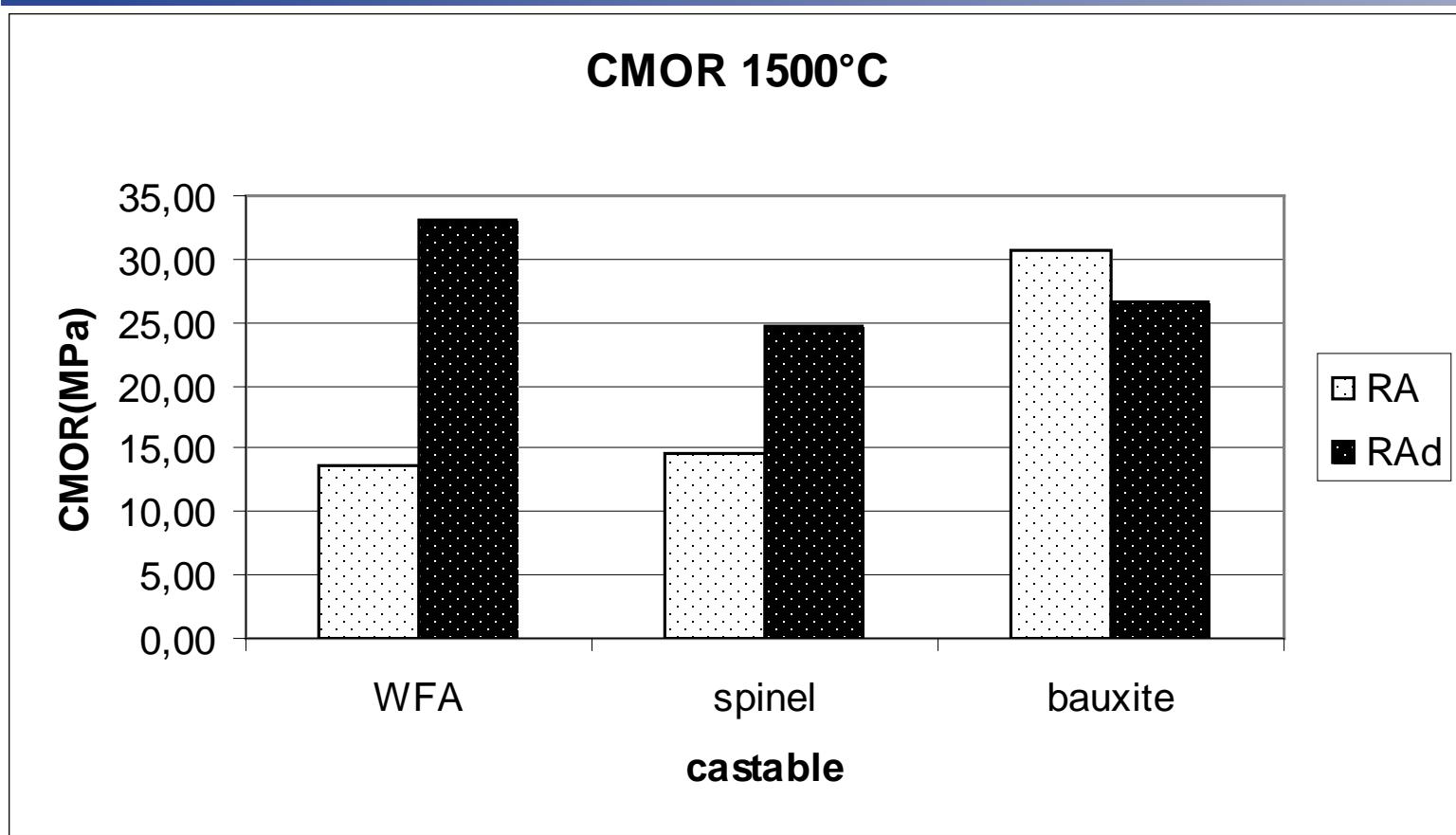
---

**substitution of reactive alumina by reactive  
andalusite has no impact on casting quality of  
castable**

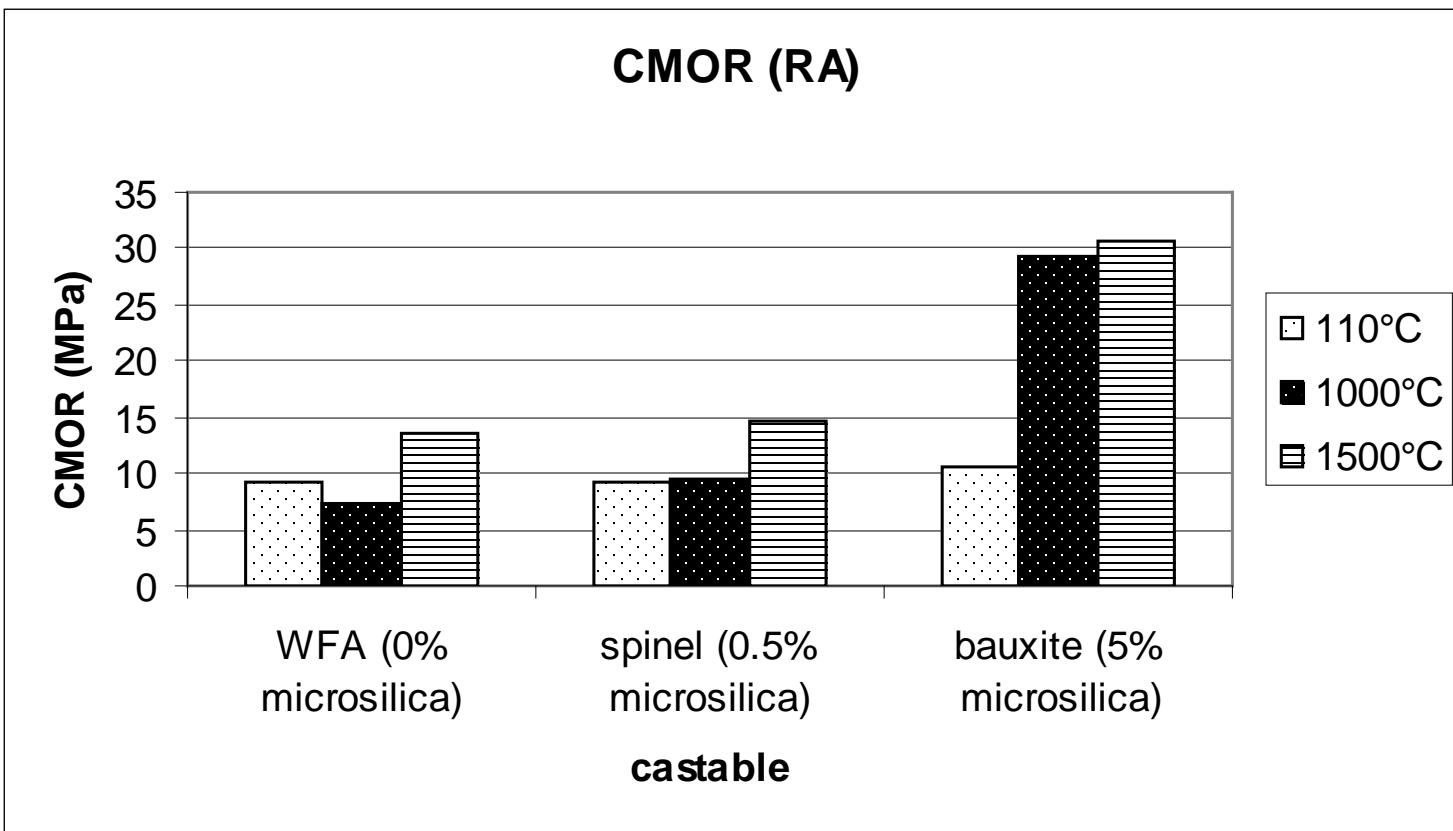
## Cold module of rupture after sinter at middle temperature



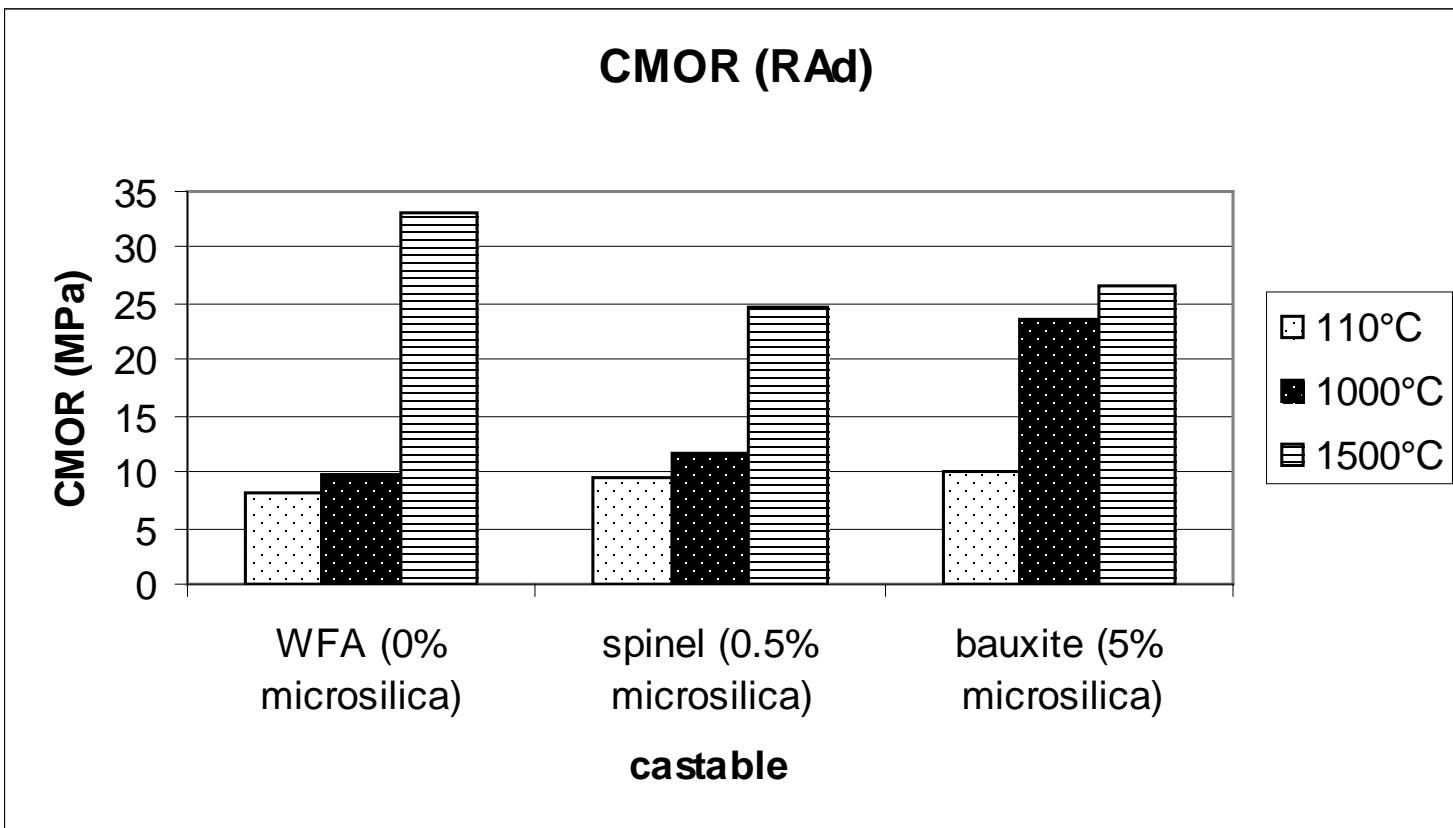
## Cold module of rupture after sinter at high temperature



# **Evolution of Cold module of rupture with temperature (Reactive alumina added castable)**



# **Evolution of Cold module of rupture with temperature (reactive andalusite added castable)**



# CONCLUSIONS

---

DURANTAL RX starts its mullitisation around 950°C and ends around 1350°C.

Starting temperature of ceramic bonding formation by DURANTAL RX is 150°C below starting temperature for creating a ceramic bonding with reactive alumina.

# CONCLUSIONS

---

For castables with microsilica addition (3-5%), DURANTAL RX develops the same level bonding strength as reactive alumina from middle temperature to high temperature.

# CONCLUSIONS

---

For microsilica free castables, in middle temperature around 1000° C, the ceramic bonding created by DURANTAL RX has the same level of strength than ceramic bonding due to reactive alumina. But in high temperature, DURANTAL RX develops a stronger bonding.

# CONCLUSIONS

---

DURANTAL RX can be used as Reactive Alumina to create ceramic bonding in LCC and ULCC castable

---

**MUCHO GRACIAS POR SU ATENCION**