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Date: September 13, 2017

Subject: Technical Briefing Abstract – Mushrooms and U.S. Infrastructure

The U.S. is facing a costly infrastructure problem. Concrete cracks and crumbles over time due to a combination of exposure to moisture and regular use. This means bridges, sidewalks, foundations for houses, and more will soon have to be replaced across the nation. Scientists believe they might have found a long-lasting solution to this problem. The solution they are testing is mixing a certain type of fungus (Trichoderma reesei) into the concrete mixture as it is poured. This fungus then germinates when exposed to moisture and produces calcium carbonate deposits which fill cracks.