

Safety_{matters}



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Ready Mixed Concrete Driver Expectations During COVID 19

With over 3,500 certified concrete trucks in the province of Ontario, the men and women that continue to deliver concrete to Ontario's essential construction projects are truly the heart and soul of our industry.

Our ready-mix drivers need the respect and support of everyone on the job site to safely and effectively deliver concrete under the challenging conditions we are facing due to COVID-19. The Ready Mixed Concrete Association of Ontario (Concrete Ontario) would, therefore, like to highlight the following critical safety issues that must be addressed on every site to ensure driver safety.

Maintain Physical Distancing at All Times

- All job site workers shall remain a minimum of 2 metres (6 ft) from both the driver and their concrete truck at all times.
- While waiting to unload the ready mixed concrete truck, the driver shall remain in their vehicle to ensure physical distancing requirements are met.



• If a job site requires employee health declarations, the form should be sent electronically to the concrete producer 48 hours before the concrete delivery. The health declarations will be completed by the driver on the day of the concrete delivery, and can be posted on the passenger side door window to allow site personnel to review the information and take pictures of the completed document for their records.

Do Not Touch the Concrete Truck

- The only person that can touch the concrete truck is the ready mixed concrete driver. As the COVID-19 virus can survive on surfaces for extended periods of time, it is essential for driver health and safety that they are the only person touching their equipment.
- The only person authorized to utilize the truck controls is the driver of the ready-mix truck. Since this is a critical control function that the driver is constantly handling, no third parties are permitted to touch the controls under any circumstances, other than a safety emergency.
- The water dispensing system and hose is only to be used by the driver of the ready-mix truck (see job site water supply).

Electronic Ticketing & Confirmation of Delivery

- While individual companies are at various stages of development when it comes to Electronic Ticketing, the key objective of all members is to reduce or eliminate the potential for cross-contamination between construction workers in the passing of paper tickets between company personnel.
- Where electronic ticketing systems have been developed, they should be utilized on all construction projects.
- Where electronic ticketing is not available, printing and emailing a copy of the delivery ticket to the contractor and testing company prior to delivery can provide the delivery and mix information, and allow the purchaser of the concrete to confirm that the correct concrete has been supplied before the material is

- tested and placed.
- Under no circumstances should printed delivery tickets be signed and returned to the concrete producer, as this significantly increases the risk of cross-contamination.
- If electronic ticketing systems allow for remote acceptance, then these features can be used. Otherwise, verbal acceptance while maintaining 2 metre distance should be utilized until better procedures can be developed.

Jobsite Water Supply

- Ready-mix drivers will continue to supply water to contractors and testing companies that need to wash the cement paste off their tools or equipment.
- The tools or equipment must be placed on the ground or in a containment area near the truck, and the driver will wash the equipment without directly touching the items and keeping a safe distance from other workers.
- Please note that the water tank on a ready-mix truck is designed for concrete slump adjustments and chute washdown activities only. If large amounts of water are required on the job site, other water sources should be employed.

Spotter for Back-up Operations

• While we realize that there are many labour challenges on construction sites, ready mixed concrete trucks still require a signaller or flag person in order to back into job sites for concrete deliveries. These safety requirements are critical to the safety of every worker on the job site and cannot be overlooked.

Concrete Chute Usage

- While it has become common practice for the contractor to guide the concrete chute during concrete placement, this practice creates additional safety challenges during COVID-19 and should be avoided wherever possible, due to the potential for cross-contamination.
- Where contractor contact with the chute system cannot be avoided, the ready-mix driver is required to follow their own company-specific policies regarding this practice.
- If the practice is allowed, Concrete Ontario recommends that the contractor be required to wear gloves at all times, to minimize the potential for cross-contamination and that the ready-mix driver disinfects any surfaces the contractor has touched with soap and water, or any other company approved disinfectant, before storing the chutes back on the truck.

Concrete Ontario welcomes any additional feedback that workers in the construction industry would like to offer regarding the safe delivery of concrete to Ontario's essential construction projects. Thank you for your support in respecting and upholding the safety considerations put in place to protect our drivers and everyone in our industry during COVID-19.



Concrete Ontario Health & Safety Committee

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