



Information Bulletin: Concrete Heat Premiums

The Concrete Floor Contractors Association of Canada represents the concrete finishing industry.

Information Bulletins are designed to provide state of the art information to owners, specifiers and contractors to both improve quality and reduce problems.

We hope that this information will assist you in this goal.

If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to contact us at 905-582-9825 or by e-mail at info@concretefloors.ca

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With Our Finish !***



October 21, 2010

Concern:

The Ready Mixed Concrete Industry (RMCI) applies a seasonal premium for winter heat costs commencing November 1st and ending April 15th (may vary regionally). This cost premium creates an artificial demand to advance project schedules to minimize these material cost premiums by the [concrete purchaser](#).

Considerations:

While concrete floor contractors commonly make extended efforts to accommodate this increased demand, it is not possible to multiply the capacity of our trade to avoid costs created by the RMCI. Concrete floor contractors have traditionally faced excessive labour overtime costs relating to the significant variability, reductions and delays in concrete delivery leading up to this implementation date as well.

In order to manage the interests of all parties, it is essential to consider the following:

1. Projects should be scheduled reasonably with as much notice as possible – last minute scheduling is difficult to accommodate effectively.
2. Schedules need to be maintained— last minute schedule adjustments are difficult to accommodate effectively.
3. Site conditions must be prepared in accordance with CSA A23.1 prior to commencing work.
4. The [concrete purchaser](#) must inform the concrete floor contractor of any volume limitations from the ready mixed concrete producer so that schedules can be planned to reduce waiting costs and job site problems (eg: cold joints).
5. The supply of concrete must be maintained as agreed at the [pre-construction meeting](#) or at the time of ordering in consultation with the concrete floor contractor. Variations in concrete supply must be communicated to the concrete floor contractor in order to modify plans to balance the needs of the entire industry during this time period.

It is unacceptable that the concrete floor contractor should be forced to absorb overtime placement costs relating to inadequate concrete delivery. The [concrete purchaser](#) is responsible for:

1. The payment of ready mixed heat costs.
2. The supply of concrete to be delivered as agreed in consultation with the concrete floor contractor. Hours of work in excess of the normal 8 hour day due to delays in concrete delivery may constitute extra work.
3. The delivery rate shall be maintained in a continuous manner such that concrete is supplied at a constant rate and not in large batches intermittently. This avoids the development of cold joints, over-stressing of the placement process and the resulting rejection of over-aging of concrete on site.

Further References:

- CSA A23.1-2009 Materials and Methods of Concrete Construction