

18 JUNE 2020

TO ALL QUEENSLAND CONCRETE PUMP OPERATORS

WHSQ CONCRETE PUMPING CODE OF PRACTICE– SAFE CONCRETE PUMP OPERATIONS ON SITE

We are the peak national industry body for the heavy construction materials sector, including pre-mixed concrete suppliers.

We are urging all concrete pump and concrete supply companies to be aware of their responsibilities under the [Workplace Health and Safety Queensland Concrete Pumping Code of Practice](#) starting 2 December 2019.

Whilst our members believe that most concrete pumps are operating safely, they are reporting a number of cases on construction sites where key parts of the Code are not being followed, increasing the likelihood of serious incidents.

In particular, our members have reported that concrete truck drivers are regularly the only person near the concrete pump which should be periodically monitored and inspected during the pour by a trained operator as per AS2550.15.

This is counter to Section 3.3 of the Code of Practice (Planning by the Concrete Pumping PCBU) which states “drivers of pre-mix concrete delivery trucks should not be considered workers for pumping operations, unless trained to carry out this function, and authorised to act in this capacity by their PCBU”.

As well, our members believe the following requirements should be observed to ensure site safety:

1. Safety pins must be used on lever/cam-lock type pipe clamps
2. Safety chains must be attached to slurry caps and extended rubber hose.
3. Outriggers, when set up and extended in accordance with the job requirements must be periodically monitored for settlement and movement.
4. Emergency stop buttons are clearly visible and working
5. Rules involving overhead power lines are complied with
6. Pump operators to take into consideration traffic management, pedestrian control, and legal access for agitators
7. Grates over hoppers are fitted and securely locked into position.

Like you, CCAA members want to protect the health and safety of their employees, contractors, people on site, and the public.

We request that these issues should be addressed before discharging into pumps, and through positive communication between the pump operator, concrete truck driver, concreters, and site management. In some markets (nationally and internationally) concrete truck operators are instructed not to discharge if major safety risks exist, and we hope that that we can prevent this from occurring in Queensland.

CCAA and the concrete pumping industry have a good history of working together to increase safety on construction sites, and we kindly request your support in this matter. CCAA has also produced a [Concrete Pump Delivery Industry Guideline](#) which you may find of assistance.

Thank you for your time. For further discussion, please contact your pre-mixed concrete supply representative.

Aaron Johnstone
State Director – Queensland