



## **Scaling Prevention Sheet**

In the supplier/craftsman relationship, the success of one is directly tied to the success of the other. As your concrete supplier and a member of the Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association (IRMCA), we want the flatwork projects you build to be attractive and durable for many years to come.

Surface scaling issues are a constant reminder of the importance of a few basic but critical elements in the placement and protection of concrete that may enable it to withstand such harsh conditions.

- Any water added to the concrete mix at the job site dilutes the cement, weakens the concrete, and creates a less durable characteristic than was designed. Water should only be added after contacting the ready mix producer to determine that the maximum permissible water to cement ratio will not be exceeded.
- Water applied to the surface of concrete prior to or during the finishing process has the same diluting effect, but only the very top portion of the slab is weakened.
- Improper finishing techniques, tools, or timing that result in bleed water being trapped and/or worked back into the surface produces loss of surface durability.
- Concrete should not be placed on a frozen subgrade.
- Freshly placed concrete should not be allowed to freeze repeatedly until it has gained 4,000 psi compressive strength and dried sufficiently throughout.
- Curing must begin immediately upon completion of the final finishing operation and left in place a minimum of seven days. This includes ensuring the concrete stays above a temperature of 55°Fahrenheit during the curing period.
- Chemicals used for deicing purposes should be kept off the new concrete for the first year, including protection from chemicals tracked in by vehicles.

Our pledge to you, our valued customer, is to supply you with quality concrete that is durable, workable and delivered in a timely manner. If a job you build with our material experiences scaling or any other problem that analysis shows to be a result of our delivering into your hands a flawed product, we will support you with a no cost re-supply. However, if the problem is a result of the way in which the concrete was placed or protected, we cannot take financial responsibility for actions over which we have no control.

Additional Questions?

Contact:

Nick Gallagher

South Ready Mix

641-522-9206