

EQUIPMENT NAME

Portable Concrete Washout Container

MANUFACTURER

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DISTRIBUTOR

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Member, U.S. Green Building Council

OVERVIEW

Concrete or cementitious (mortar, grout, stucco, cement, slurry) washout wastewater is a byproduct of construction jobsite activities. Concrete washout has long been identified as a major contributor to urban runoff pollution if proper pollution prevention practices are not regularly performed. Such materials washed into storm drains, open ditches, streets, or streams have a direct impact on local waterways and habitat living in that environment.

Washout wastewater impacts the environment in three ways:

- Wash water is alkaline with a pH near 12, a level that is corrosive and can be compared to ammonia or drain cleaner. This can result in devastating effects on aquatic life, vegetation, and soil.
- High suspended solids count in turbid concrete washout water slurries. Illegal discharge into waterways may result in substantial fish die-off and permanent damage to the ecosystem.
- Trace metals in ready mixed concrete wash water pose potential serious adverse health effects to human beings.

In response to the burgeoning pollution problem due to construction activities and stepped-up government enforcement efforts, including enforcement of the Clean Water Act, Concrete Washout Systems, Inc. has designed a unique portable concrete washout container (patent pending).

EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION

A portable, self-contained structural steel container with a latching door; integral ramps can accommodate concrete pump trucks. Available with a non-stick plastic liner or sprayed polymer coating. The watertight container is designed to control, capture, and contain caustic concrete wastewater and washout material generated by construction activities. Holding capacity will accommodate 50 to 100 mixer washouts. To ensure washout wastewater materials do not adhere to the container, a plastic liner or sprayed polymer coating is available.

The washout container is suitable for both commercial and residential jobsites.

The washout container design allows trade personnel to easily washout concrete trucks, pumps, and other equipment associated with cement on-site and enables easy off-site recycling of the same concrete materials and wastewater.

Process: Concrete mixer and pump trucks wash out their contaminated water and excess concrete into the containers after a concrete pour. Product design enables separating the contaminated water and excess concrete materials and recycling of both materials. A vacuum system removes wastewater from the container for offsite disposal or recycling.



SPECIFIC CONTAINER TYPES

Ramped Container



Description: 20' L x 8' W x 2' H (in rear) and 14" H (in front). 5.5 cu. yd. concrete washout capacity.

Rampless Container

Low Profile Container





Rampless Container: 12' L x 8' W x 2' H. 6.0 cu. yd. concrete washout capacity.

Low Profile Container: $18' L \times 8' W \times 14'' H. 5.0$ cu. yd. concrete washout capacity.

BENEFITS

- Highly efficient and cost-effective method for separating and recycling solid and liquid washout materials.
- Portability feature keeps the job site clean and keeps the contractor from EPA or other regulatory agency fines for stormwater pollution.
- EPA recognized as a Best Management Practice (BMP) for containment and control of concrete waste materials generated, including concrete wastewater.
- LEED compliant. Contributes to points achievable for Credits MR 2.1 and 2.2.
- Compliant with CHPS Criteria.

CONTROL PROCEDURES

- Containers placed on the jobsite where wastewater control is needed and to allow easy removal offsite for recycling.
- Container placement coordinated with Contractor's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
- Proper housekeeping measures by all trades when washing out equipment. Assumes inspectors will be monitoring the jobsite for washout pollution violations.
- Containers inspected and liquid materials removed when container is 3/4 full to prevent overflow and possible site contamination; vacuum system employed for liquid materials removal. All such removed materials are held in approved containment structures until removal offsite.
- After removal from the washout container, caustic concrete washwater must be disposed of or treated and recycled in an environmentally safe manner and in accordance with federal, state, or local regulatory guidelines as appropriate for the project location.
- Solidified concrete materials remaining in containers transported offsite for unloading at a recycling site.

ADDITIONAL DATA

Pending United States Patent No. 2004/0155126-A1.

File as Section 01 57 26 Temporary Concrete Washout Wastewater Control according to CSI MasterFormat 2004 Edition.



REFERENCE SOURCES

Atlantic Concrete Washout, Inc. www.atlanticconcretewashout.com

Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) www.222.chps.net

Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) MasterFormat 2004 Edition Numbers & Titles www.csinet.org/masterformat

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) www.epa.gov

U.S. Green Building Council LEED Green Building Rating System www.usgbc.org

United States Patent and Trademark Office <u>www.uspto.gov</u>

