



# Concrete Cutters

South East Water's water saving solutions for industry will help you make a positive contribution to the environment and save money in the process.

Being aware of how to save water in the workplace is just the first step. By putting the knowledge into practice you can make a real difference to long term water conservation.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Total water wastage per concrete cutting machine can be as high as 260,000 litres per year.
- ◆ Up to 110,000 litres of water is wasted per year when a cutting blade water flow is set to 'guess' instead of 'precise control'.
- ◆ Up to 150,000 litres of water is wasted per year by the use of inefficient open ended hoses.
- ◆ A pressure spray unit can reduce water consumption by a further 20% and provide a better cleaning action.

### Typical Water Usage

Concrete cutters mainly use water to cool and lubricate cutting blades as well as equipment and the general work area.

### Concrete Cutting

Activity	water use
Judge water flow to cutter	480 - 720 litres per hour
Control water flow with constant flow device	240 - 480 litres per hour
Leave water running when machine is idle	240 - 860 litres per day

### Equipment and Work Area Cleaning

Activity	water use (approx.)
Open ended hose for cleaning	600 to 1,200 litres per day
Nozzle trigger hose and spray nozzles	300 to 700 litres per day
Pressure spray unit	250 to 450 litres per day

### Common Water Wastage

- For every type, size and speed of a cutter there is an optimum water flow for correct operation. In practice, water flow rate is difficult to measure and a judgement is made by the operator on what is 'sufficient'. This generally leads to a much higher flow than is necessary.
- When the cutting machine is switched off, the water is left running – especially between cuts when there are a series of cuts to be made.

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## Water Management Guide Building Trades

### Cutter Blade Lubrication

#### Water Saving Tips

- Determine the correct water flow rate for your equipment by installing an inexpensive constant flow control device in the hose connection piece on the cutter.
- Insert a stop valve in the hose near the equipment and ensure that water is shut-off whenever the machine is idle.

### Equipment and Work Area Clean-Up

#### Water Saving Tips

- Whenever possible, the initial clean-up should be done by brush or broom. Dispose of solids and give a final quick hosing with a trigger hose fitted with a low volume, high velocity narrow or wide spray nozzle – depending on the job.
- Clean out the cut crevasses with a high velocity low volume jet nozzle.
- Use physical cleaning wherever possible and the correct spray nozzle for final clean-up.
- Save time and water by using a fan spray when cleaning larger surfaces. They provide a 'water broom' cleaning action allowing for a higher velocity cleaning action.
- If possible, use a commercial pressure spray unit for even greater water savings.

Hosing concrete residues into the stormwater is not acceptable but it is conceded that small traces of concrete from general cleaning finishes will be inevitable.



#### Call us for more information

For more information please call South East Water on 131 694 or visit [www.southeastwater.com.au](http://www.southeastwater.com.au)