

How to use the CPC Position Statements

The ASCC Concrete Polishing Council (CPC) produces Position Statements covering topics of major interest to concrete polishing contractors. Many of these topics were suggested by CPC members as a result of actual jobsite and other issues.

The statements have received distribution via publication in ACI's *Concrete International* and carry the logos of the American Society of Concrete Contractors, the CPC and the American Concrete Institute. One purpose is to stimulate discussion of issues that often confront concrete polishing contractors. Another is to present a position, backed by the rationale for the position, and by available supporting published data.

How can CPC members best use these statements?

Some contractors attach the statements to their bid as an explanation for changes in contract scope or exclusions that are needed to limit their risk. If general contractors don't allow attachments to bids, modifications to individual items can be added directly to the contract, based on information in the Position Statements. Contractors may attach them to supplement their interpretation of the specifications and to acknowledge current industry standards. Or, they may be used to communicate with a specifier, as in an RFI.

Other contractors bring the Position Statements to preconstruction conferences and give copies to all members of the construction team. This approach allows all parties to discuss the issues before they become problems.

The Position Statements also can be used to address problems during or after construction. It's preferable to prevent problems by using the first two approaches discussed above, but contractors have also used the Position Statements in defense of their actions when dealing with owners, general contractors, construction managers, other trades, arbitrators, or their lawyers.

Some ASCC member companies have put the Position Statements on their company web server so project managers and superintendents can download them and use them immediately when a problem arises. If issues can be addressed when they're first raised by inspectors, design professionals, or owners, problems can often be resolved on the same day.

Member companies have also placed hard copies of the statements in notebooks they keep at the jobsite. Some send them to their database of design professionals, gcs, specifiers, etc. 1) for the information they contain, 2) to keep their name in front of their clients, and 3) to help establish themselves as experts in the concrete contracting industry.

The Position Statements give polished concrete contractors a means for improving quality of the built project by helping all members of the construction team to better understand issues specific to concrete construction. The papers are also a valuable risk management tool.