

Ready-Mix Chute Washout JHA

Worked instructional example

Work and worksite

A ready-mix driver and site contact will rinse external mixer chutes into a designated watertight washout container after a building concrete delivery. Work stays at ground level using the truck's permitted rinse and chute arrangements; collected washwater remains contained for the site's approved handling route. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- The site provides a released standing area, separated access and a container suitable for anticipated washwater and residue.
- Truck/chute deployment, rinse equipment and travel configuration follow this vehicle's instructions.
- This is partial coverage of concrete cleanup and truck operations. Drum entry, pump-line cleaning, hardened-concrete breaking, treatment and discharge to drains or soil are excluded.

Questions before work

- Where is the released washout position and how will vehicle movement remain separated from people?
- Who verifies container integrity, available capacity and the route for collected material?
- Can the driver rinse every included chute from the planned safe position without climbing or reaching into moving equipment?

Task Hazard Control

1 Accept the washout location

Hazard: An unsuitable standing area or overflow can expose workers and contaminate surrounding ground or drains.

Control: Site contact identifies the released truck position and suitable watertight container. Check integrity, available capacity and weather-related overflow risk; hold washout when a proper facility or material-handling route is unavailable.

Verification: Contact and driver study the container and approach before the truck enters.

Reasoning: A convenient empty patch of ground is not a washout facility.

2 Position and establish separation

Hazard: Truck movement can strike pedestrians or crush a person against the container.

Control: Keep the approach and positioning zone clear using agreed driver-guide signals where needed. Driver parks and secures the truck under its instructions; maintain protected pedestrian routes and space outside chute swing and wheel paths.

Verification: Movement lead checks the boundary; driver confirms the stationary condition before deployment.

Reasoning: The washout area combines vehicle movement with a fixed receiving object.

3 Deploy the permitted rinse arrangement

Hazard: Chute sections or hoses can swing, pinch hands or create awkward reaching positions.

Control: Driver follows the actual chute-locking and rinse instructions, arranging ground-level access and supported hose routing. Keep hands from closing joints and avoid climbing on the chute or container; pause if the planned reach is inadequate.

Verification: Driver checks chute security and access before water is enabled.

Reasoning: Ground-level work must remain ground-level throughout this bounded example.

Complete the work and hand over

4 Rinse into containment

Hazard: Alkaline washwater and concrete residue can burn skin or eyes; uncontrolled spray can reach other workers.

Control: Use the permitted rinse method directed into the container with nearby people outside the splash area. Select cement-resistant gloves, clothing and eye/face protection for the exposure; keep washing supplies accessible and remove contaminated protection promptly.

Verification: Driver monitors the stream and site contact checks splash separation and response supplies.

Reasoning: Containment protects the site while planned positions and PPE protect people.

5 Monitor and secure the collected material

Hazard: A leaking or overfilled container can spread wet residue; a hose on the ground can trip the next worker.

Control: Stop rinsing before capacity or containment is compromised and report leaks promptly. Maintain the site's required reserve for weather and subsequent use; secure the waste area and hose routes without entering the container or treating washwater on site.

Verification: Contact records actual capacity or leak findings and arranges the next collection action.

Reasoning: Washout planning continues after the driver finishes rinsing.

6 Secure the truck and hand over

Hazard: Unsecured chutes can swing during departure; an unreported full container can expose the next delivery.

Control: Driver shuts down rinse equipment and secures all chutes and hoses in the instructed travel configuration. Contact transfers container condition, restrictions and collection needs to the responsible site person before reopening vehicle access.

Verification: Driver checks travel security; site contact confirms the waste handover and exit route.

Reasoning: Vehicle closeout and containment closeout both need an accountable person.

Pause and reassess

- Container leaks, capacity is inadequate or rainfall changes overflow risk.
- Ground-level access, chute locks or the separated vehicle route is lost.
- Splash exposure, contaminated PPE or an uncontrolled waste/discharge route develops.

Improve the controls

Needs improvement: Wash the chute somewhere out of the way.

More useful: Site contact releases a watertight container with suitable capacity and a separated truck position before rinsing begins.

Needs improvement: Leave the washout for somebody else.

More useful: Contact records actual container condition and transfers collection needs and restrictions to the designated site person before the next delivery.

Decisions that change the analysis

Can clean-looking rinse water go into the nearest drain?

No such discharge is included here. Cementitious washwater remains in the designated containment and follows the site's authorized handling arrangements; clear appearance does not establish an acceptable disposal route.

What must the crew record for actual use?

Record the washout location, truck/rinse arrangement, container condition and available capacity, vehicle boundary, actual exposure or spill findings, responsible site contact and collected-material handover. Obtain site-specific waste requirements rather than treating this example as a discharge permit.

Training needs

- Vehicle-specific chute deployment, rinse equipment, securing and ground-level access instruction for the driver.
- Instruction in washout containment, alkaline splash protection, spill reporting and the site's waste handover arrangements.

Confirm applicable qualifications and actual training evidence for the people assigned. Related toolbox talks support discussion; they do not establish competence.

References and adaptation

US EPA Concrete washout best management practice

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-11/documents/concretewashout_0.pdf

NRMCA Mixer truck safety and jobsite chute rinse-off

<https://www.nrmca.org/learning-and-development/safety-series/>

OSHA 1926.21 Safety training and education

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.21>

References reviewed October 9, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This instructional example supplies no actual inspection results, signatures or work approval.