

A new *Shotcrete Magazine* feature:

SAFETY SHOOTER



*By ASA Safety
Committee Chair—
Chris Zynda of
Concrete Structures*

Cheap Insurance: Most of us in the shotcrete industry have had a plugged hose creating either a dust storm with the dry process or concrete overspray everywhere with the wet process. When a hose is plugged, it has been my experience that everybody on the crew starts yelling and running toward the operator. Communication between the nozzleman and the gun/pump operator is one of the most important and critical links on the job for productivity, and most of all, safety for everyone. Unfortunately, because of different job site layouts, continual rotation of people, and equipment movement on and around the job site, good communication is often difficult to achieve or maintain.

As safety conscience people, we should continually remind ourselves and members of our staff/crew that all necessary steps should be taken to maintain a clear and permanent contact between our nozzleman and gun/pump operator. When reliable visual contact is not possible, the use of two-way radios is recommended. The new two-way radio models are relatively inexpensive (about \$60 each), and they work very well, with a range of over 2 miles or 3 km!

Even though we did not have enough hose to shoot 2 miles, I figured we ought to give them a try anyway. They work, can improve safety, and can also contribute to increased production. Give 'em a try for safety's sake!