

Anti-adhesive Coatings

Keeping trucks, plant and heavy equipment clean

Repel 52 is Berryessa's biggest selling product. Demand for an anti-adhesive coating first came from Humes when they were using Repel 54 to mould pipes. They sprayed Repel over their trucks, concrete transfer points, and ancillary equipment to stop drying concrete overspray sticking to everything. The reason they were enthusiastic about using **Repel** was that their washwaters could be reused for making concrete.

Petroleum-based mould releases used as anti-adhesives –

- **pollute wash waters so they cannot be reused in-house to make concrete, and**
- **increase waste water disposal costs because of oil contamination.**

Concrete trucks are much more visible to the public than pipe spinning plants, so we gave some samples to **Readymix** to try. They found that Repel 54 left a sticky surface on duco and paintwork which quickly became obvious by its attraction for dust. I made a downgraded, non-sticky version which worked well, but it left a white hazy film.

In 2007 Berryessa was asked to supply, without trials, 4000 litres of anti-adhesive coating into a Western Australian mine whose underground concrete plant had suffered a fire in which its petroleum mould release agent had caught alight. This was just at the time that I was becoming satisfied with long-running tests for a new type of Repel which could be reliably used for precast applications. We made 4000 litres of **Repel 52**, sent it to the west without any questions, and were rewarded with on-going orders.



We have returned to **Readymix** who are trialling **Repel 52** on their trucks. With **Repel 52** anti-adhesive, they should be able to travel all day before washing down, giving more productive time on the road. **Repel 52** will not wash off in light rain, but a high pressure hose will blow it all off, and the wash waters can be recycled into concrete production.

Repel 52 should also be good for protecting earthmoving equipment, both large and small. Mud and clay

tend to stick well to everything they touch. Cleaning big equipment is a specialized business which is needed from time to time for efficient operation of plant, but the cost in downtime and the cleaning process is very high. Regular cycles of hosing and applications of **Repel 52** should make on-site maintenance easier and, perhaps, do away with sending equipment away to the cleaners.