VyRal

A LeakReceipts Field Guide

LeakReceipts for Concrete, Masonry & Paving

The Field Guide: where the money leaks, how to prove it, and how to close it

For: Concrete, Masonry and Paving — Field Variance

by VyRal Dynasty

LeakReceipts for Concrete, Masonry & Paving The Field Guide: where the money leaks, how to prove it, and how to close it

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How every number in this book is labeled.

- **VERIFIED** means the figure comes from a named, dated source, and the source is printed next to it.
- **CALCULATED** means it is arithmetic on verified numbers or on your own numbers, and the math is shown.
- **ESTIMATE** means a reasoned range, and it is always called one.
- **STRUCTURAL** marks a standing rule of the trade (a law, a contract term, how the paperwork works), not a market figure.
- **STILL BEING MEASURED** means VyRal has not verified a figure yet, so no number is printed.

If a number is not labeled, it is a blank for you to fill from your own paper.

What this book is not. This is education, not legal, tax, accounting or financial advice. Where a fix says a professional decides, a professional decides. Nothing here says that any company, customer or person did anything wrong. The fixes show you how to check your own paper and ask in writing.

About how this book was made. This book was assembled with AI from VyRal's sourced research on this trade and checked against those sources. AI can make mistakes. Before you act on a figure, check it against the source printed beside it. Rules and rates change, and every figure carries its date for that reason.

Before you share any document with anyone, Vera included, black out account numbers, Social Security numbers and anything else you would not hand a stranger.

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The short answer for your trade

No single concrete, masonry, or paving contractor owns this trade nationally — it's a bid-and-build subcontracting business run job by job on local geology, local general contractors, and a ready-mix supplier relationship, not a brand a GC picks off a shortlist. What separates the contractor who gets paid for a documented field variance from the one who quietly eats it isn't the size of the fleet — it's whether the batch ticket, the pump log, and the weather record ever made it into a change order before the pour got covered up or the crew moved to the next job.

Your leak map

Every leak this book covers, biggest first. The size grade is VyRal's research grade for how much money a leak tends to move in this trade. It is a grade, not a dollar figure. Your own paper sets the dollars.

#	Leak	Size grade	Evidence	Fixes
1	Added Yardage vs. Takeoff — Batch Ticket & Yield Reconciliation	Significant	VERIFIED	1
2	Material Price Escalation Index — Cement, Ready-Mix & Asphalt	Significant	VERIFIED	1
3	Weather-Delay Substantiation — ACI Practice & NOAA Record	Moderate	VERIFIED	1
4	Self-Employment Tax Boundary	Moderate	STRUCTURAL	1
5	Pride Economy: The Trucks, Pumps, Forms and Finishing Tools	Small but common	STRUCTURAL	1
6	State Escalation-Clause & Change/Claim Notice Deadlines	Major	STILL BEING MEASURED	1
7	ASTM C94/C94M Discharge-Time & Jobsite-Water Rule — What Makes the Ticket Count	Moderate	STILL BEING MEASURED	1
8	Truck Standby, Demurrage & Short-Load Fee	Moderate	STILL BEING MEASURED	1

Then there are 4 more leaks to check, each with its own fixes, in the chapter called More leaks to check.

What people in your trade say hurts

Before we built a single fix, we went and read what people in this trade say out loud: forums, trade press, regulators' complaint files and court records. These are the pains that kept coming up, the ones with the most sources first. If one of them is yours, you're not imagining it.

Bid months ago at old diesel; now the equipment and hauling fuel is mine to eat

I priced the job in spring. By the time we pour, diesel for the skid steer, the pump and every delivery costs way more. My bid didn't move, so the difference comes out of my profit.

Found in 4 public sources; newest dated 2026-10-26. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Ready-mix bill carries fuel surcharges and short-load fees my bid didn't include

The plant adds a fuel charge per yard that changes every week, plus fees for small loads and Saturday pours. I bid the concrete at the yard price, so those extras come out of my end.

Found in 3 public sources; newest dated 2026-10-29. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Rebar and mesh went up with the steel tariffs after I quoted the job

Steel for rebar and wire mesh keeps climbing because of the tariffs. My quote held, the supplier's didn't.

Found in 3 public sources; newest dated 2026-10-15. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Can't find finishers, so pours slip and labor costs more than I bid

Good finishers are hard to find and harder to keep. When I'm short, the pour gets pushed or I pay more to get help, and the bid never had that in it.

Found in 2 public sources; newest dated 2026-10-27. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Lien deadline passes while I'm still waiting to be paid

I keep waiting and calling about the money, and by the time I think about a lien, the deadline to file has already passed. Now I have no leverage.

Found in 1 public source; newest dated 2026-08-13. VERIFIED count from VyRal's public research log; the sources are listed at the back.

Get your paper together

Every fix in this book starts with paper, not memory. Memory rounds in the other side's favor. Paper doesn't.

Pull the last 90 days. Put it all in one folder, paper or phone, and label each piece with its date. Black out account numbers and Social Security numbers before you share anything with anyone.

The paper that proves each leak:

- Your contracts, invoices, statements, pay records and the messages around them.

The records this trade runs on: Subcontract with pricing basis and escalation clause, Takeoff, Batch/delivery tickets, Pump logs, Supplier invoices, Daily logs, Weather records, Test reports, Pay applications, Change orders, Payment and retainage records, Notices and lien waivers

My folder checklist

Last 90 days of statements or pay records _____

Every contract or agreement I work under _____

Every invoice, ticket or settlement for the same 90 days _____

The messages that changed a price, a scope or a date _____

Leak 1: Added Yardage vs. Takeoff — Batch Ticket & Yield Reconciliation

Size grade: Significant · Evidence: VERIFIED

What it is. Every ready-mix delivery generates a batch/delivery ticket governed by ASTM C94/C94M (yards ordered, mix design, batch/arrival/discharge times); ASTM C138/C138M lets the actual placed volume (yield) be measured and compared against the bid takeoff.

Why it leaks. A subgrade that's over-dug, forms that spread under load, or a slab that runs thicker than specified all show up as extra delivered yardage on tickets the crew already has in hand — form spread is normally the crew's own cost, but if nobody reconciles ticket-yards against the takeoff, overage caused by others or by a directed change just gets absorbed into the job cost instead of billed as a change order.

The number to hold it against. ASTM C94/C94M-26c is the current national standard for ready-mix concrete delivery tickets and discharge; ASTM C138/C138M governs yield measurement. Neither sets a dollar figure. Source: ASTM International, C94/C94M-26c; ASTM C138/C138M.
VERIFIED · Primary — the organisation's own figure

> **Ask yourself:** On your last pour, did you total the batch-ticket yards against your takeoff — or did you only find out you'd poured more than bid when the invoice from the ready-mix plant came in higher than expected?

1. Extra concrete yardage over takeoff absorbed instead of billed

Fix approved · leak evidence: Verified

Fix 1 — Do it yourself (free).

1. After every pour, add up the yards on your batch tickets and compare to your takeoff for that placement.
2. If you poured more, find why: subgrade over-dug or soft by others, thicker section ordered, plan change — those may be billable. Your own forms spreading or waste are your cost, not the GC's.
3. For billable causes, gather proof the same day: photos with a tape, grade shots, the inspector's or super's direction, the tickets.
4. Send a change order request with the ticket total, the takeoff number and the cause. Check your contract's notice deadline first.

5. Next pour: measure subgrade and forms before you order, and get the GC to sign off on grade.

Fix 2 — The words to send, under your own name. Fill in the brackets, keep a copy, and send it from your own email or by mail. Nobody sends it for you.

> Subject: Change Order Request — Added Concrete, [PROJECT NAME], [POUR LOCATION]
>
> To: [GC NAME]
> Date: [DATE]
>
> On [POUR DATE] at [LOCATION], my takeoff for this placement was [TAKEOFF YARDS] yd³. Batch tickets total [TICKET YARDS] yd³ (tickets attached).
>
> The added yardage was caused by [CAUSE — e.g. subgrade below design grade by others / thickened section directed by NAME on DATE]. Photos and grade records are attached.
>
> I request a change order for the added material and placement: [AMOUNT or 'pricing attached'].
>
> Please let me know in writing by [DATE] if you need anything else.
>
> [YOUR NAME]
> [YOUR COMPANY] — [PHONE]

Fix 3 — Done for you. LeakReceipts · Billing Capture

WE DO: total your batch tickets against your takeoff after each pour, flag overages, organize the photos and tickets by cause, and draft the change order request. YOU DO: decide whether the cause is billable, and send the request yourself.

Keep it closed. Reconcile tickets to takeoff the same day as the pour. Get grade signed off in writing before you order concrete.

What this fix can't decide for you. Whether overage is billable depends on the cause and the contract. We never say the GC owes a set amount. Overage from his own forms or waste is his cost and is not presented as a claim.

My receipt for this leak			
Owed by my paper	Paid or billed	Gap (CALCULATED: owed − paid)	Fix 2 sent · answer

FREE FIRST CHAPTER

That's Leak 1 of 8.

The full Field Guide for Concrete, Masonry & Paving walks through every leak on the map you just read: why it happens, the paper that proves it, and three fixes for each one — one you do yourself for free, the words to send under your own name, and what LeakReceipts can do for you while the decision stays yours.

Get the full guide:
leakreceipts.com/ebooks/concrete-masonry-and-paving

Run it on your own numbers:
leakreceipts.com

WE WALK BY FAITH NOT BY SIGHT — 2 Corinthians 5:7