First step in measuring nozzle yield is to determine the gallons of water per bag.

For batch mixers use the charts below. For continuous mixers, instructions are provided to the right.

**BATCH MIXER / Timed Sump Pump**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water drop in inches</th>
<th>Gallons per batch</th>
<th>Gallons per bag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 3/4</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 3/4</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>29.75</td>
<td>9.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is valid for 55 gallon drum with a 22.5 in diameter and for 3 bag batches. To determine water used measure the water drop in inches and multiply by 1.72.

**CONTINUOUS MIXER / Inline Digital Flow Meter**

1. Fill the continuous mixer hopper level to the top with dry material.
2. Zero the flow meter by depressing the on button for 3 seconds.
3. Start the continuous mixer and count the number of bags emptied into the mix hopper.
4. Run the mixer until 5 or more bags have been mixed. Start and stop operations are OK.
5. Stop the mixer level with the top as in step 1.
6. Once level, now read the number of gallons on the flow meter.
7. Divide the number of gallons by the number of bags mixed.

EX: 68 gallons divided by 8 bags = 8.5 gallons per bag.

Once the water has been determined use the yield chart to find your target cup weight.

**NOZZLE YIELD FOR 15 PCF Density & 430 PSF Bond Strength (b)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yield (a)</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>7.5 U.S. gal</th>
<th>8.0 U.S. gal</th>
<th>8.5 U.S. gal</th>
<th>9.0 U.S. gal</th>
<th>Dry Density (PCF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.72 m²</td>
<td>40 BF</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.90 m²</td>
<td>42 BF</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>16.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.09 m²</td>
<td>44 BF</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.25 m²</td>
<td>45.7 BF</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOZZLE YIELD FOR 18 PCF Density & 1,000 PSF Bond Strength (b)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.25 m²</td>
<td>35 BF</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.35 m²</td>
<td>36 BF</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.44 m²</td>
<td>37 BF</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.53 m²</td>
<td>38 BF</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) Yield based on 1 inch (25.4 mm) thickness
b) Cup weights are based on an actual 980 ml cup. Cup weights in table are in grams.

**Warnings**

Yields in excess of 45.7 lb per bag will result in dry densities below the 15pcf minimum published density in the Underwriters Laboratories Fire Resistance Directory.

A minimum density of 18.0 pcf is required to meet 1,000 psf bond strength.

NOTE: Nozzle yields should be taken 3 times a day; more frequently if changes occur in the mixing or conveying process.

Allow enough time for changes in mix time, water ratio, pump speed, and new accelerator mixes to reach the nozzle before taking the cups.
**Calculating bags per hour with a continuous mixer**

- Fill the continuous mixer to the top with dry material.
- Let the pump hopper run down until all most empty (do not draw air).
- Note the level of material remaining in the pump hopper.
- With the pump pumping, start the mixer and stop watch.
- Continuous pumping is best. If the pumps stops and starts, then stop and start the stop watch as well.
- Continue to mix and convey at least 3 bags and make sure the dry mixer hopper is filled to the top as in step 1.
- Allow the 3 bags to run down until the pump hopper is at the same level noted.
- Once 3 bags have run down, stop the watch and record the time and calculate using the example below.

**CALCULATION EXAMPLE:** 5 minutes 45 seconds for 3 bag mix

\[
\begin{align*}
5 \text{ minutes} & \times 60 \text{ sec per minute} = 300 \text{ sec} \\
\text{Remaining 45 seconds} & = 45 \text{ sec} \\
\text{Total seconds to pump:} & = 345 \text{ sec} \\
\text{Divided by the 3 bags} & = 115 \text{ sec/bag} \\
\text{Divide the 115 seconds for 1 bag into: 3600 sec per hour} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\text{Equals 31.3 bags per hour}
\]

**BAGS PER DAY**

**Pumping Rates**

- 15 – 20 bags per hour = 90 – 120 bags per day\(^{(a)}\)
- 20 – 30 bags per hour = 120 – 180 bags per day\(^{(a)}\)
- 30 - 40 bags per hour = 180 – 240 bags per day\(^{(a)}\)

\(^{(a)}\) assumes 6 hours of application time.
BONDING AGENT REQUIREMENT
Prior to application of Retro-Guard RG, a bonding agent, approved by the fireproofing manufacturer, shall be applied to all concrete substrates to receive Retro-Guard RG. In advance of the application of the fireproofing, a bond test shall be conducted on all painted/primed steel surfaces or steel that has been covered with a lock down agent to determine if the paint or lock down agent will impair the ambient bond of the fireproofing.

FIREBOND™ APPLICATION
Coverage:
Full concentrated strength—up to 1000 ft²/gal
Diluted 1:1 (with water)—up to 500 ft²/gal
Container size 5 gallon bucket or 55 gallon drum.
GCP recommends using an airless pump for
Firebond™ application.

Target Weight - Mixer Density
720-775 grams
1. Mix Retro-Guard RG as directed.
2. Place an empty GCP 980 ml container on the scale and press on/tare to tare the container.
3. Fill the container with Retro-Guard RG, tapping lightly to remove air voids.
4. Place the container filled with Retro-Guard RG on the scale and record the net weight.

If the weight is above 795 grams, mix longer or speed up the mixing blades.

If the weight is below 640 grams, mix for a shorter time or slow the mixer blades.

Target Weight - Nozzle Density
For 15 PCF/430 PSF - 480 to 535 grams
For 18 PCF/1,000 PSF - 605 to 670 grams
1. Set the accelerator flow rate to a “fast trickle”.
2. Start spraying and spray for about one minute until the system stabilizes.
3. After about one minute spray Retro-Guard RG directly into the GCP 980 ml container. Position the nozzle above the container so that there is no overspray outside the container. Overfill the container.
4. Cut the Retro-Guard RG level with the top of the container. Wait approximately one minute or until no further swelling is apparent. Again cut the Retro-Guard RG flush with the top of the container.
5. For accurate readings cut to a smooth surface before the RG begins to set.

6. Place an empty container on the scale and press “on/tare”.
7. Replace the tared container with the identical container filled with Retro-Guard RG and record the net weight.

Check the charts on page 1 to determine yield and adjust the injection rate to yield 45.7 board feet per bag.
RETRO-GUARD® RG®

DELIVERY SYSTEM

- **PUMPS**: Piston, Hydraulic, rotor stator, squeeze pumps.
- **HOSES**: 800 psi plaster grout to 1500 psi Goodyear Gauntlet ¾” whip hose.
- **WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS**: Timed sump pumps, Digital in-line meters, and Fil-Rite water meters.

APPLICATION

- **Orifice Selection**: The orifice should be as large as possible while still maintaining a proper spray pattern. The faster the pumping rate the larger the orifice size needs to be.
- **Orifice Shield**: The use of an orifice shield is highly recommended. The orifice shield decreases the size of the spray pattern and provides a well-defined spray pattern.
- **Nozzle Air Pressure**: The nozzle air should be set as low as possible (approx. 15-20 psi) while still maintaining a well-defined spray pattern. The air pressure should make a dull buzzing noise rather than a high pitched whine.

Injected Application Thicknesses:
- 1st pass: 3/8" to 3/4"
- 2nd pass: 3/8" to 7/8"

Uninjected Application Thicknesses:
- 1st pass: 3/8" to 5/8"
- 2nd pass: 3/8" to 5/8"

Product Change Over

GCP recommends the use of 5 ounces of retarder per 3 bag mix, with Retro-Guard RG on the first three batches when switching EITHER TO or FROM cement based Monokote products to gypsum based Monokote products.

Set Times

Set times vary due to job site conditions
- With Injection: 5-10 minutes, longer in colder temperatures.
- Without Injection: 3-4 hours before reapplication.

ADVANTAGES

- Designed to meet all IBC Bond Strength Requirements
- Proven in-place performance
- Achieve multiple passes in the same day.
- Fast, efficient application
- Low pumping pressures
- Dries to a light blue color for easy identification