

# BEST PRACTICES FOR STEP CUTTING

- ☐ To prevent undercutting, know your full depth of cut required before beginning your cut.
- ☐ Step cutting is recommended in walk behind sawing for optimal blade and saw performance, to prevent premature blade wear and segment loss, and for higher quality, straighter cuts.
- ☐ Depending on the material and total depth of cut required step cutting depth may vary. 2"-4" passes are generally recommended in concrete.
- ☐ Taking less material per cut prevents overloading your saw and keeps it running within its most efficient RPM range.
- ☐ Taking on too much material (cutting at full depth) can create excessive blade wear and overheating due to friction, potential undercutting and segment loss. It also may bog down the saw and create excessive equipment wear and tear.
- ☐ Step cutting allows you to remove more material with a smaller blade and finish your cut with the largest blade. More cutting with a smaller blade means less wear on the larger, more expensive blades.
- ☐ While some saw & blade guard combinations are built to handle large blades, starting your step cuts with a smaller blade can produce straighter, nicer cuts as saws are generally easier to control with a smaller blade.
- ☐ Blade thickness should be taken into consideration during step cutting. All blades should be the same thickness, or the smaller

blades should be thicker than the largest blade. If smaller blades are thinner then excessive segment or core side wear may occur in the larger blades.

- ☐ Water should be used while step cutting to both provide proper dust control measures and prevent blade overheating. Overheating can cause damage to the blade and blade wobble. Adequate water flow and slurry both cool the blade and allow the blade and saw to perform optimally without requiring excessive force.
- ☐ Call Esch for cutting equipment, diamond blades, walk behind saw parts and service, and expert advice.



For Additional Information, Training, Troubleshooting & Questions,  
call **Esch Customer Service** at (800) 233-8655