Shea Concrete Case Study

About Shea Concrete

What began as a vision 75 years ago has grown to become one of New England's largest and most reputable precast concrete manufacturers, specializing in everything from septic tanks, to manholes and drainage structures, to bulkheads, curbing, residential steps, retaining wall systems and precast concrete buildings.

Customer testimonials

"It's all for quality control purposes," said Mark Burns, QC Inspector at Shea Concrete Products. "It's definitely helped us out and you know exactly what you're getting for a product. There's no second guessing with this inventory practice. I love technology. Whatever we can do to make things faster and more efficient, I'm all about it."

Idencia provides tools needed for Shea's quality control focus

As an NPCA certified company, Shea Concrete Products is an early adopter of electronic tracking and a longstanding Idencia OneSource™ customer. Their company focuses include:

- Ensuring top-notch quality control

- Producing the highest-quality precast products

- Being an innovative, forward-thinking company

Leading the industry towards digital

"Impossible" is the word Quality Control Inspector Mark Burns used when describing the chances of Shea making a return to pen and paper to record its expansive inventory. "You'd never get done logging everything with how big we've gotten," he said. "I couldn't imagine going back to paper, absolutely not."

And for good reason. Burns and the rest of Shea Concrete Products has a leg up on the precast concrete industry thanks to Idencia OneSource and its innovative QC tracking system.

SHEA
CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Product tracking through RFID tags and Idencia OneSource

The system tracks quality control through the use of scanners and Idencia's Cast-A-Code™ radio frequency identification tags (RFID). These RFID tags were built in 2006-07 to electronically store information with the intent of being embedded into a product. The data is transferred via the scanner and associated to that particular product within Idencia OneSource. This results in the data being automatically identified and the product is tracked throughout its journey. RFID tags are more durable in comparison to barcodes and are designed to sustain heavy duty environments—perfect for the precast industry.

Since 2009, Shea has utilized RFID tags to track each of its precast concrete products before and after the pouring process. The wireless system has done what it was intended to—reduce labor costs and increase production efficiency. As Shea saw the value of utilizing RFID tags for product tracking, they began to implement tags to keep track of other elements within the plant, including molds.

An example of an Idencia RFID tag on a mold at Shea Concrete.

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Idencia, Inc. is based in New Hampshire and regularly works with Shea to test new products as it continues to build a global presence. Idencia company CEO Jeff Pollock believes Shea's high ranking in QC is partly due to its electronic inventory practice.

"We've known the Shea crew for quite a while. [President and Operations Manager] Greg Stratis is a forward-thinking guy and gets how to leverage the business," Pollock said. "As a software developer, it's our job to offer a value proposition to the precaster."

"If we still logged everything through paper, we would lose space and risk documents getting misplaced. With RFID technology, we have everything we need when we need it," said Burns. "So no, I don't think we are switching to paper any time soon."

What is Idencia OneSource?

Idencia OneSource is our software solution for the precast and prestressed concrete industries, featuring two tools: OneSource Gateway™ for web-based plant management and OneSource Connect™ for mobile data collection. The key to the system are tags on each product with a unique serial number using RFID tags, barcodes, or QR codes to ensure accurate data tracking. If you would like to learn more about everything that OneSource can do, visit our website www.idencia.com or reach out to our sales team at sales@idencia.com.