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**Reli-a-Fill**
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The Smarter Way to Backfill

**Flowable Fill** is the most economical option for backfill when you need a job done right (and quickly) the first time.
Cut Costs
Because it flows into place, flowable fill reduces the cost of manpower and equipment. While traditional compacted fill requires two laborers for placement and two laborers for compaction, flowable fill requires only one laborer for placement and no compaction (Figure 3). Using flowable fill also eliminates the need for conventional backfilling equipment such as compactors and backhoes (Figure 2).

Simplify Construction
In addition to cutting costs, flowable fill will help you avoid the headaches caused by traditional backfill materials while speeding up construction:
- Because it flows into place, flowable fill eliminates the difficulty of properly compacting material under and around pipes (Figure 2).
- Flowable fill has controllable set times and allows the job to be completed faster.
- Flowable fill can be placed underwater, so in some cases trenches that contain water or moisture may not have to be pumped before flowable fill is installed.
- Flowable fill eliminates the site crowding that comes with storing backfill materials on-site.
- It can be color-coded for utility identification.
- When the time comes to remove entrenched pipes or utility lines, some flowable fill mixes can be excavated with a shovel or pick.
- It is easily conveyed by pump, chutes or buckets.

Guarantee Backfill Densities
The most common complaint from public works directors is improper backfilling. Frequently, contractors are called back to repair settlement problems. Flowable fill ensures that backfilling will only need to be done once. Even lower strength flowable fill mixes offer twice as much strength as traditional backfill, and some flowable fill mixes can have as much as 10 times the strength of traditional backfill. Strengths are typically specified in a range from 100 psi to 1,000 psi, depending on project needs. Lower strengths are typical for utility work, which may need to be excavated in the future.

Prepare Surfaces for Concrete Overlays
Before a concrete overlay (called whitetopping) is poured, cracks in the existing asphalt should be filled with flowable fill that easily flows into cracks and crevices. This is an inexpensive way to avoid mirror cracking, which occurs when cracks form in the whitetopping in the same places where there are cracks in the asphalt.

FAQs
How is Flowable Fill slump measured?
Because flowable fill is such a fluid substance, it is measured by spread instead of slump: a cylinder is filled with flowable fill, then lifted vertically, allowing the flowable fill to spread across a level surface. A mix with good flowability should spread more than 8 inches. Be sure to follow ASTM standards when testing flowable fill.

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Color Coding for Safety
Using integral color, Reli-a-Fill can be color coded to match the American Public Works Association’s Uniform Color Code (Figure 1). This clearly alerts those digging in the future that they are near utilities and what type of utilities they are.

Flowable Fill can:
- Pour and Go
- Prepare Surfaces for Concrete Overlays
- Simplify Construction
- Cut Costs
- Guarantee Backfill Densities

Sample Labor Cost Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Granular Fill</th>
<th>Flowable Fill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Placement (2 Laborers @ 35.09/HR)</td>
<td>$70.18</td>
<td>$35.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compaction (2 Laborers @ 35.09/HR)</td>
<td>$70.18</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy Equipment Operator</td>
<td>$45.82*</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand Compactor</td>
<td>$15.00*</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backhoe</td>
<td>$25.00*</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total labor/hour for granular fill</td>
<td>$226.18</td>
<td>$35.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total labor/hour for special fill</td>
<td>$226.18</td>
<td>$35.09</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* National Industry Average including overhead costs

84% labor cost savings
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Flowable Fill can:

Pour and Go

Flowable Fill can:

Each layer requires compaction

Typical Marking

Large Pipe Diameter

Small Pipe Diameter

Pour and Go

Granular Fill

Flowable Fill

84% labor cost savings

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Sample Labor Cost Comparison

Granular Fill Flowable Fill

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- Self-Consolidating Concrete
- Whitetopping (Concrete Overlays)
- Roller Compacted Concrete

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