

# Industry FOCUS

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPED TO ESTIMATE CONCRETE COSTS

The Ready Mixed Concrete Association of Ontario and the Cement Association of Canada have launched CANPav™. Designed after extensive consultations with major road builders, CANPav is an online software modeling tool that quickly determines the cost advantages of using concrete for municipal streets and commercial parking lots. The user has complete control over the concrete and asphalt cross sections and the material cost inputs that will be used to construct the estimates. The program saves cost estimates and material cost inputs and applies them to all designated projects. It also considers the cost effects of future maintenance activities when creating estimates. Created for use throughout Canada, the software also offers online access to the StreetPave software program for concrete roads. The program can be accessed at [www.canpav.com](http://www.canpav.com).

## PLANT EXPANSION ADDS CAPACITY, JOBS

Bonsal American, a producer of packaged building materials, recently expanded its manufacturing facility in Cincinnati, OH. The Cincinnati plant was the original production facility for the Sakrete brand, which was introduced in 1936. The expansion, including a renovation, has added a substantial amount of capacity and efficiency to the plant, replacing 1940s-era equipment with state-of-the-art technology. This new, larger facility will also create several new jobs.

## AAR RESEARCH CENTER FOUNDED

The International Centre of Research and Applied Technology for Alkali Aggregate Reactions (AAR) has been established at the laboratory of Mannvit Engineering in Iceland. The Centre provides services to mitigate AAR in new concrete to clients worldwide. It will also promote collaboration and networking to maximize the benefits of the research and development efforts of team members, as well as participate in international standardization committees to improve the universality of new test methods. Børge Johannes Wigum, the Centre's founder, has been engaged in research and consultation regarding AAR for the past two decades. The laboratory employs a staff of highly skilled experts in the fields of concrete, aggregate, and geological and geotechnical engineering. The Centre operates in close cooperation with a group of international AAR experts representing universities; research organizations; and companies in North America, Europe, and Asia.

## MANUFACTURING FACILITY WILL MEET CURRENT, FUTURE DEMANDS

Quadrozzi Concrete has selected Plant Architects to co-design the Quadro-e4 SuperPlant, a new state-of-the-art eco-concrete manufacturing facility to meet the requirements of the Freedom Tower, Transportation Hub facility, and other Ground Zero projects in New York City. These and other area projects—including Atlantic Yards and Frank Gehry's Beekman Tower—require temperature-controlled, ultra-high-performance concrete and self-consolidating concrete. The new plant is designed for the future, exceeding the latest high-performance requirements of these key New York City projects.

## PARTNERSHIP LEADS TO NEW FLOORING SYSTEM

PremierGarage, a leading company in garage enhancement, will partner with Sika Corporation for a range of advanced flooring solutions. Sika will provide PremierGarage and its franchisees an exclusive modular resinous flooring system called Premier NX. The system comprises three compatible materials that can be used in various combinations, producing nine flooring solutions of increasingly higher performance attributes and aesthetics.

## GROUP TACKLES INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Grace Construction Products has introduced an International Project Solutions group to address the increasingly common practice of specifying projects across geographical boundaries. Grace's technical experts work directly with members of the design team to recommend the optimal building envelope solution for the particular project locations. The technical experts continue to work with the project team throughout the construction process, providing job site expertise and support.

## ACQUISITION ALLOWS NORTH AMERICAN GROWTH

Hilti Corporation has purchased Diamond B, Inc., a diamond consumables manufacturer based in Los Angeles, CA. This strategic acquisition combines Diamond B's excellent consumable products with Hilti's innovative equipment, and Diamond B's experienced sales force accelerates Hilti's entry into the North American diamond service contractor market through an established customer base. Webb Burnett, the former Owner and President of Diamond B, will retire once the transition is complete. Andrew Hunt, previously the Head of Hilti's Singapore market organization, will manage the new subsidiary.