

LafargeHolcim Acquires Metro Mix, LLC

LafargeHolcim acquired Metro Mix, LLC, a provider of ready mixed concrete in the Denver, CO, metropolitan area. Metro Mix operates two concrete plants and reported net sales of about \$30 million in 2017. The company has more than 50 employees and operates in one of the fastest-growing areas in the United States, where demand for building materials, driven by large construction projects, is expected to remain strong to meet the needs of the growing population.

World's Largest Outdoor Shake Table to Be Upgraded

Researchers at the University of California, San Diego, received a \$16.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to upgrade the world's largest outdoor earthquake simulator (shake table). The upgrades will enable the shake table to move in all directions (back and forth, up and down, left to right, yaw, pitch and roll), whereas until now, it has only been able to move back and forth in one direction. After the upgrade, the facility will be able to test the heaviest test specimens in the world, with a full range of ground motions that can occur during an earthquake. The first structure to undergo tests on the shake table after the upgrade will be a full-scale 10-story building made from cross-laminated timber. The goal of these tests is to gather critical fundamental data for the design of wood buildings as tall as 20 stories.

PERI USA Opens New Yard and Office in New Jersey

PERI, a formwork and scaffolding rental supplier, announced the opening of their Bridgewater, NJ, yard and office. A global company with roots in Germany, PERI celebrated the grand opening of the new facility in German fashion by throwing an Oktoberfest-style party, where employees and customers enjoyed authentic German food and beer. Attendees also had the opportunity to explore the latest formwork and scaffolding products in the new exhibition hall.

Charah Solutions Installs Fly Ash Beneficiation System at Its Sulphur, LA, Terminal

Charah® Solutions, Inc., a provider of environmental and maintenance services to the power generation industry, installed its proprietary fly ash beneficiation technology at the company's Sulphur, LA, terminal to increase the supply of fly ash for the concrete industry. Charah Solutions' new MP618™ Multi-Process technology reduces loss on ignition (LOI), ammonia, activated carbon, and moisture in fly ash. The MP618 thermal beneficiation technology provides concrete producers with a source of high-quality Class F fly ash to

meet a growing number of construction projects in the greater Lake Charles/Sulphur region. The new technology allows for beneficiation of both wet and dry fly ash and has an efficient footprint, with self-contained environmental controls that can be deployed in months versus years, as well as a modular design that can be scaled up or down to increase production based on market demand. The technology can be installed at both operating and nonoperating power plants, regardless of whether the fly ash is current production or legacy ash stored in ponds or landfills. The technology also allows for the processing of kiln dust to remove mercury for emissions regulations compliance.

Elcometer Expands into a New North American Headquarters and Training Center

Elcometer moved into their new North American headquarters in Warren, MI. Elcometer's 22,000 ft² (2050 m²) North American headquarters not only provides state-of-the-art office space for their sales and technical support teams but also accommodates their ISO 17025 Test Laboratory—providing fully accredited servicing and training support to the coatings, blasting, concrete, and ultrasonic nondestructive testing markets in the United States and Canada.

Finnish Companies to Design New Urban Area in Nepal

Finnish companies will collaborate to design a new urban area for more than half a million inhabitants of the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. Rapid population growth and environmental problems require that new solutions are developed for construction, transport, energy production, and water and waste management. Urbanization also enables Nepal to develop economically, and this project will steer the growth in a sustainable direction. The companies responsible for the development and planning of the new urban area are Helin & Co Architects and the Nepalese engineering firm JK Associates. VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland will draw up the project's technical and economic evaluation, which will serve as a basis for weighing the viability of the project and its impacts on the local economy and the standard of living of local people.

The target site of the new urban area lies on the northern side of Bhaktapur, the old capital of the country and a UNESCO world heritage site. The delicate nature of valuable monuments of both Hinduism and Buddhism make the design work particularly challenging. The Finnish planning is being made in accordance with the principles of sustainable development, considering both the local circumstances and the latest technology. The ways of life and the livelihoods

typical of the area will be maintained by preserving agricultural land and enabling small-scale urban farming in the built area.

The project offers solutions to the challenges caused by population growth and the environmental problems the developing world is facing. The results will benefit the inhabitants, the economy, and the environment of Nepal.

V2 Composites Celebrates 20 Years in Business

V2 Composites, Inc., celebrated 20 years in business in January, marking a milestone for the manufacturing company, which offers fiber-reinforced composite materials and structural reinforcement solutions for infrastructure repair. Initially, V2 began as a manufacturer of composite reinforcement solutions for use in the development of products such as boats, high-end yachts, and wind turbines and to repair or rehabilitate existing structures such as bridges, utility poles, cooling towers, and underground pipes. The company later expanded its product line to include patented V-Lock® no-fray stitching; patented CFRP T-Biscuits® for structural concrete repair; and ICC-ES certified concrete repair systems. V2 plans to mark the anniversary with a celebration for employees at its Auburn, AL, manufacturing facility.

Award for Excellence Presented to Volumetric Concrete Australia for Project Success on M1 Motorway Using Rapid Set

CTS Cement Manufacturing Corp., manufacturer of Rapid Set® professional-grade cement products, announced that the Australasian Concrete Repair Association (ACRA) presented its Award for Excellence in the Research, Design, and Innovation category to Volumetric Concrete Australia (VCA) Pty Ltd. for the slab replacement project on the M1 Motorway Queensland between Reedy Creek and Yatala, in Queensland, Australia. The biennial ACRA awards showcase members' outstanding work in the repair and protection of concrete structures across a wide range of industries and market sectors.

The scope of the project involved performing over 200 slab replacements on the M1 Motorway while minimizing lane closures and disruptions to drivers. Queensland Transport and Main Roads – Roadtek Division identified defective concrete sections on M1 that required immediate replacement to ensure continued driver safety and extend the service life of the pavement.

For the work, limits were set between 6 and 8 hours per nighttime shift so as not to disrupt drivers, as well as to minimize any negative economic impact upon the local community and business operators.

The project took place over 51 night shifts and saw the replacement of 207 slabs. About 1000 m³ (35,000 ft³) of CTS Rapid Set Base Mix Concrete and CTS Rapid Set Lean Mix Concrete were supplied and placed. M1 reopened to traffic with no delays to drivers, providing a safer motorway for the future.

Manafort Brothers Marks 100-Year Milestone

Founded in 1919, Manafort Brothers Incorporated is celebrating 100 years in business. Headquartered in Plainville, CT, the fourth-generation, family-owned company operates in the construction and demolition services industry. The firm is in the process of expanding its Plainville headquarters to accommodate its continued growth. The building will be complete this spring. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony is one of many special centennial celebrations that Manafort has planned throughout the year.



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