

Holcim Holds

firm to innovative solutions

On the grayish-landscaped outskirts of Baku, the capital city, stands the former "Garadagh Cement", a cement production plant. The cement facility has undergone a 300 million euro modernization and expansion thereby becoming the largest non-oil sector investment in the country. The facility is the most valuable Swiss business asset in Azerbaijan.

On April 26, 2012 "Garadagh Cement" experienced a historic renaming to Holcim (Azerbaijan) OJSC. That step is part of the global network of operations.

Founded 1912 in Switzerland, the Holcim has grown into a leading global cement and aggregates player in more than 70 countries. Since 1999 the investment projects of Holcim in Azerbaijan have always been directed towards sustainable construction, environmental and social standards. This strategy makes Holcim an important 'building block' for future development of the country's economy.

In acknowledgement of that strategy the company decided to build a new, state-of-the-art dry kiln line at the current cement plant. The New Kiln project received approval from the Holcim Board of Directors in January 2008. Several months later, in May, 2008, the cement production facility was visited by the President of Switzerland, Pascal Couchepin, during his official visit to Azerbaijan. Following this visit on April 14, 2009, President of Azerbaijan Republic, Ilham Aliyev and Markus

Akermann, CEO of Holcim Group, took part in the ground-breaking ceremony of the New Kiln Project.

The country's first new dry kiln is the core of the cement production process with very efficient energy consumption. Such investment is the best proof of the importance of the Azerbaijani market for Holcim.

Holcim believes in its mission and remains committed to supplying innovative cement products, solutions for infrastructure, commercial buildings and housing, as well as securing better working and social conditions for its employees. With more than 500 employees, Holcim continuously created opportunities for improving the employees' welfare, work conditions and professional development. In addition to specialized and profile training courses, the employees are provided with a series of opportunities to attend introductory training courses that include occupational health and safety standards, code of conduct and corporate induction.

Holcim (Azerbaijan) is one of the pioneers of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity in the Azerbaijan business environment. The company's CSR program is aimed at bringing benefits to the sustainable development of the country and cementing the foundations for future development of its people. To date Holcim has implemented about 370 short and long-term projects in this respect with the focus on supporting the employees, their families

and community. The company carries out charity activities, support to the sports as well as repair and refurbishment of public buildings.

Meanwhile, Holcim (Azerbaijan) continually explores the opportunities to provide the highest standards of customer satisfaction in the cement and construction industry.

For 100 years Holcim has worked toward achieving its principle mission. This has been accomplished through locally-sourced raw materials, high-quality product portfolio and continual innovation in technology.

Local high potential of raw materials, high-quality portfolio of products, a centennial experience and innovative technological achievements of the Holcim are seen the only way to achieve the principal mission on the agenda. The Holcim objective is to be the most respected and attractive company in the industry and a leading component of strategy in the Caucasus and Caspian region.

Holcim – World Experience in Construction!

Holcim is one of the world's leading suppliers of cement and aggregates as well as further activities such as ready-mix concrete and asphalt including service. The Group holds majority and minority interest in over 70 countries on all continents and employees a workforce of more than 80 000 employees.