

impact

AZERBAIJAN



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Holcim: New Era in Cement Industry

Holcim operates in more than 70 countries and employs more than 80,000 people. It is a global supplier of cement, aggregates (crushed stone, gravel and sand) and ready mix concrete and asphalt. This year Holcim Group Companies are celebrating 100 years of experience, know-how and innovative technology!

For Holcim (Azerbaijan), 2012 was an important year, marking the start of a new chapter in company history. The Company was re-branded from "Garadagh Cement" to Holcim (Azerbaijan), meaning full integration to the chain of global Holcim family. In light of the economic growth represented by the Azerbaijani market, in 2008, Holcim Board of Directors decided to renew the existing plant, which would promote environmentally friendly and more efficient use of resources. On July 10, 2012, the President of Azerbaijan Republic, H.E. Ilham Aliyev, and the CEO of Holcim Ltd, Bernard Fontana, took part in an inauguration ceremony of the new kiln line of Holcim (Azerbaijan). This is a shining example of our commitment to the sustainable development of the Azerbaijani economy.

The current state-of-the art dry kiln line is the starting point of a new era for the cement industry in the South Caucasus. The 300 million Euro investment is the largest within the non-oil sector of Azerbaijan, and will contribute to further development by producing local products. The plant facility has been completely modernized and wet production has been replaced with the new dry kiln line. The renovation covered the construction of a train unloading station, storage halls, silos, workshops, warehouse and technical building, the upgrading of three existing cement mills with high efficiency separators, and the opening of the "Shakhgaya" West Limestone Quarry.

The implementation of this technology will increase cement production capacity by 30%, to 1.7 million tons annually. At the same time, this technology requires 50% less energy than the previous kilns, emits 50 times less dust and decreases water consumption by 500,000 m³ annually. New technology will allow



us to utilize 750,000 tons of oil sludge (an oil industry waste product) in an environmentally friendly way. Holcim is proud to contribute to the protection of the environment in Azerbaijan; it is part of Holcim's "best in class" principle, which constantly improves sustainability performance.

Holcim (Azerbaijan) is a true partner for its customers. We understand their needs, offer continuous support, and provide specialized feedback. We at Holcim strive to enhance support services in customers' interests and to distinguish ourselves from the competitors by creating better value for customers. Our cement products are constantly checked in our modern lab, which is the most advanced among the CIS countries and enables full compliance with the production process based on local and international standards and total quality control.

Holcim (Azerbaijan) is successful thanks to committed employees. Aiming to be the employer of choice, we create a safe working environment, devote ourselves to career development and provide a sufficient balance between professional and personal has been invested in the professional development of our employees. The production cycle of Holcim (Azerbaijan) creates job places for more than 2000 people throughout the value chain.

Holcim is a member of the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and was recognized at 2008 World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos for its excellent performance in sustainability. We share national commitments to economic growth, ecological balance and social progress, and aim to be the most respected company in this industry. ■

Formula 1 Bolide

On 16th June 2012, JW Marriott Absheron Baku hosted an event to celebrate the Red Bull show run in Baku. On the open terrace of the hotel, guests could have their picture taken with the Formula 1 sports car and enjoy delicious food prepared by the hotel's executive chef, Alessandro Montedoro. The night culminated with an appearance by the famous Formula 1 racer David Coulthard. ■

