



Cement Association of Canada
Association Canadienne du Ciment

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WESTERN UPDATE – SPRING 2004

TRANSPORTATION

Concrete Wins 14.5 km Henday Paving Project with Low Bid

After a year of significant effort by both cement company representatives and association staff, this long sought after 14.5 km stretch of four lane highway near Edmonton was finally awarded as a concrete project. Kiewit Management Co. was the low bid at \$44,256,735. Of the six bids for this project, three were submitted in concrete. The alternate tender process used for Henday was only the second of its kind for Alberta, and the concrete win ends asphalt's decade's old monopoly of the roadway market in the Province. It demonstrates that concrete can win tenders if allowed to compete on an equivalent basis with asphalt. Congratulations to Jim Derkatch, Mike Ritch, Larry Baloun, Derek Townson and Gerry Roberts who all worked hard to ensure that the Tender included equivalent concrete/asphalt designs, and appropriate life cycle cost adjustment! Special thanks to Tim Smith and for the support received from the A.R.M.C.A.

Breakthrough in British Columbia

Following a productive meeting with the Hon. Kevin Falcon, Minister of Transportation, on Thursday, May 13th, the Association is pleased to report that he has agreed to our Industry's request that a steering committee be formed to set up an alternative bid process for major highway construction/reconstruction in British Columbia. The Minister fully understands the benefits of an alternative bid process

and he is well aware that it will lead to competitive bids and, if concrete wins, longer lasting highways with reduced maintenance requirements.

Congratulations to Derek Townson and Kimanda Jarzebiak, who led the lobbying and government relations campaign leading to this important step on the way to concrete roads in British Columbia.

Coquitlam Whitetopping Opens to Traffic

The last section of a whitetopping project in Coquitlam, B.C., was paved in early June. An adjacent section of roadway, also whitetopped, had been paved earlier and was already serving traffic along busy Pinetree Way in the City. The entire project is part of a joint effort by the City of Coquitlam and the Cement Association, to evaluate whitetopping as a pavement rehabilitation strategy for the lower mainland. Pinetree Way had been subject to severe rutting problems and early observations show the concrete performing well under heavy loading. This installation will be monitored over the coming years to measure performance, particularly against recently paved asphalt sections further along the same roadway. A project sheet is now being prepared for the purpose of highlighting this installation to other municipalities in the West.

Lethbridge Whitetopping Update

AB Transportation's first whitetopping was constructed in Lethbridge. The project occurred at the intersection of Highway #3 and 43rd Street where heavy trucks transporting goods from the United States

have caused severe rutting in the existing asphalt. The design was undertaken by EBA Engineering Ltd. and Volker Stevin Contracting Ltd. was the general contractor. AB Transportation Lethbridge Region's Operations Engineer said he is very excited to finally have a solution to the rutting issues experienced in that area and he looks forward to potentially using whitetopping elsewhere in his region.

In conjunction with the Lethbridge whitetopping project, AB Transportation requested that the CAC give a presentation on whitetopping technology. The presentation was attended by 11 AB Transportation staff, whose responsibilities varied from highway maintenance construction to main line highway construction

Whitetopping by Alberta Transportation
CAC recently met with Sharla Griffiths, Operations Engineer with AB Transportation on a prospective whitetopping project that could occur on Highway #1 through Strathmore. AB Transportation has expressed interest in the whitetopping technology due to the heavy rutting that has occurred in that area over the past few years. If this project goes forward it would be their second experience with the technology.

Transportation Committee of Manitoba
On April 21, 2004 the Transportation Committee of Manitoba (TCM) hosted their first formal concrete paving seminar on the Environmental, Economical, and Social Benefits of Concrete Pavements presented by Tim Smith (CAC). The audience of 35 attendees was made up of Manitoba Highways, Manitoba Environment, the City of Winnipeg, Manitoba Roadbuilders, local ready mixed producers, local consultants, universities and colleges.

The feedback from the participants was that they believed the topic of Environmental, Economical, and Social Benefits of Concrete Pavements was very appropriate

and they would like further seminars on design fundamentals, rehabilitation of concrete roadways, airfield pavement design, and whitetopping and ultra-thin whitetopping in the future. Special thanks to Rob Lali (Lafarge) and James Kaskiw (Lehigh) for their hard work and dedication in making this seminar a success.

Concrete Paving Seminar Held in Edmonton

In response to requests from a number of consultants, and Alberta Ministry of Transportation officials, the Cement Association hosted a special paving seminar/workshop in Edmonton on July 7th. The pending construction of the Henday roadway in Alberta, along with the proposed P3 projects, has created a heightened interest among paving professionals in learning more about concrete construction techniques. Tim Smith of CAC, and Dave Robson of EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd, did a great job in reviewing construction practises, and in responding to questions from the audience. Ed Kalis, of the A.R.M.C.A., was also on hand to assist with the seminar. The fact that the Association was approached to facilitate this workshop is a further indication that concrete paving has become a recognized paving alternative in the West.

MULTI-FAMILY

CAC Sponsors Urban Development Institute Luncheon

CAC-Western Region sponsored the March UDI luncheon as part of its plans to roll out the consumer survey results. The luncheon provided excellent exposure for the CAC and its multi-family initiative. As well, over 800 copies of the latest brochure summarizing the positive results of the winter, 2003/4 consumer survey were direct mailed to all UDI members. There are many indications that concrete low and mid rise buildings are more prevalent now than a few years ago, as developers continue to

explore options to the typical four-storey wood frame product. While the urgency is not the same, progress is also being noted in the Calgary and Edmonton multi-family markets for low and mid rise concrete condominiums.

Concrete Gaining Market Share

The latest numbers show that concrete is gaining market share, exceeding the targets set two years ago. However, steel remains a threat with some major projects in B.C. and Alberta. The wood industry, long distracted by the U.S. trade action on softwood lumber, is showing signs of re-engaging to win back lost market share. The Western Region is committed to market and consumer research, builder-developer information and promotion, environmental research and promotion (sustainable development, LEED) and technical support to ensure that gains are consolidated and built upon. Also, work is underway to lever the 2010 Olympics building program for the benefit of the cement and concrete industry.

Concrete Option Promoted for Low and Mid-Rise Condos

CAC-Western Region is continuing to promote the concrete option for low and mid-rise condos in both B.C. and Alberta. As the WRPC was informed on May 12th at its meeting in Edmonton, there are many indications that concrete buildings are more prevalent now than a few years ago, as developers continue to explore options to the typical four-storey wood frame product. The latest (and best, so far) numbers on market share from the Greater Vancouver areas show clearly that concrete is gaining market share; and that this share exceeds the expectation set two years ago. At the same time, the WRPC was warned that the steel industry remains a threat with the occasional major project, and that the wood industry can be expected to ramp up its marketing efforts to regain lost market share once the current trade dispute with the U.S. is finally settled.

AGRICULTURE

Alberta Pork Congress

The APC's booth at the Alberta Pork Congress in Red Deer, March 16-19, was a success. Rudy Sirke (Lehigh SK) and members of ARMCA spoke to hog producers, regulators and others about the benefits of concrete solutions on the farm, and distributed CAC's brochures and information pieces. The wrap-up meeting for the Banff Pork Seminar was held in conjunction with the Pork Congress, and Rudy was able to speak to Dr. Ball, the principal organizer, about the APC's proposed seminars for BPC 2005. The Spring APC meeting is being firmed up for April 20th, in Manitoba. The APC will tour the latest biogas facility it is supporting while in Manitoba. The APC is looking forward to the contributions of its new co-chair, Brent Smith (Lafarge – MB), who will work with co-chair Shawn McMillan (Lehigh – MB).

Banff Pork Seminar 2005

The organizers of the Banff Pork Seminar have accepted the APC's proposed seminars for BPC 2005, the result of some significant effort by the APC. Roger Kennedy (Lehigh – Alberta) is coordinating this effort on behalf of the APC. The Spring APC meeting was held on May 20th, in Manitoba. In conjunction with the meeting, the APC toured the latest biogas facility it is supporting, a facility designed and built by DGH Engineering near Tuelon, Manitoba. The APC welcomed its new co-chair, Brent Smith (Lafarge – Manitoba), who will work with co-chair Shawn McMillan (Lehigh – Manitoba). The meeting was very productive and confirmed the directions for 2004. The agriculture sector on the prairies is suffering some severe setbacks due to BSE, restrictive trade practices by the U.S., continuing fears about drought and the run-up of the Canadian dollar (that has made many Canadian agriculture products uncompetitive and unprofitable). The APC's consensus is that the sector will recover soon and that the hog sector will

continue to have the best potential for growth and use of concrete products going forward.

Agriculture Promotion Committee Update

The battered agriculture sector on the prairies is recovering; moreover, the hog sector did not downsize and still has the best potential for growth and use of concrete products going forward. For new hog operations in the pipeline, the major hold-up is environmental issues, not markets for pork. The APC's three-year program of support for biogas may well pay off – two APC-supported biogas projects (MB & SK) are now being monitored, and an assessment is expected as early as this winter.

ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable Design - Update

The sustainable design tool document is now being finalized. The highlight of the tool is the energy section based on the study done by Keen Engineering. The study clearly shows the benefits of thermal mass from concrete construction, including lower life cycle energy consumption, lower equipment capital cost and additional points attainable under LEED. The document will now be sent out for review by the external reviewers as well as the industry.

A presentation on sustainable design was made by CAC staff at a major Sustainability and Design forum organized by Emily Carr Institute in Vancouver.

Fall Sustainable Design Workshops

Preparation is underway on four sustainable design workshops to be held in the Region this fall. The planned locations and dates are:

October 14 - Vancouver
October 19 - Edmonton
October 20 - Calgary

October 26 - Winnipeg

The program will include a key note speaker from local government, introduction of the designer tool and examples of sustainable design projects. Local organizing of the workshop is relying heavily on allied industry personnel to promote the events in their respective communities.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Steel Industry Attempts to win High Rise Projects

Staff are combating attempts by the steel industry to win over some high rise projects designed in concrete framing. The recent spikes in the cost of labor and forming have caused frustration in the Vancouver development community prompting a search for alternate methods of construction on several projects.

SOLIDIFICATION/STABILIZATION

Globe 2004

The S/S working group in British Columbia participated in the Globe 2004 where more than 1800 conference delegates from around the world involved in the business of the environment convened to discuss major developments in corporate sustainability, energy policy, climate change and building sustainable cities. The trade fair at Globe 2004 enabled the CAC S/S working group to meet with and discuss our technology with over 300 people and in addition we reached every full delegate (1800 people) by providing a solidification/stabilization informational cd-rom in their delegate packages. The S/S group will now have to work together to follow up with the many leads generated by this show. Special thanks go to Brad Pope (Lehigh), Linda McKinley (Lehigh), Bert Almeida (Lafarge) and Sharon Daly (CAC) for helping make

this event happen and their long hours working the trade show booth.

The group is now working on developing an overall S/S marketing strategy for B.C. which includes influencing further legislation changes, active participation in the Licensed Environmental Professionals Stakeholders Advisory Group, establishing communication channels between CAC and the provincial government, attending seminars on the evolving environmental legislation process and monitoring and influencing numeric standards for the site remediation processes.

Licensed Environmental Professionals Stakeholders Advisory Group

The Licensed Environmental Professionals Stakeholders Advisory Group, which CAC are members of, will be reviewing a market analysis that will identify the number of contaminated sites in BC which require remediation. This market analysis will be an important tool to help develop our S/S strategy. In addition it will be used to help target specific sites where solidification and stabilization make the best fit.

CAC to participate on B.C. Contaminated Sites Regulation Committee

CAC has been invited by the B.C. Environment Industry Association (BCEIA) to participate on their Contaminated Sites Regulation Committee. This has come about through the contacts made by the S/S working group's participation in LEPSAG, Globe 2004 and the various environmental seminars attended. The BCEIA Contaminated Site Regulation Committee was set up to review, monitor and influence the evolving environmental legislation changes that B.C. is currently going through. This committee has a representative on LEPSAG (BCEIA President, Bob Symington). The BCEIA committee's scope has included commenting on the new procedures for the calculation of contaminated sites fees, advising the Roster Steering committee on selective distribution of contaminated sites

updates and advising the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection major Protocol changes. Participation in the committee should help further S/S goals and this could become an important part of the CAC strategic plan.

Cement Treated Base (CTB) at YVR

For the past year CAC has been working with the Vancouver Airport Authority on a 20,000 m³ cement treated soil project. CTB construction began on June 7th and the B.C. CTB working group visited the construction site in mid June. This project is a great example of large scale cement treated base construction and will help leverage marketing efforts in the Lower Mainland.