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**Cement Industry Honors Salt River Materials Group's Phoenix Cement Plant  
for Energy Efficient Operations**

SKOKIE, Ill. – The Portland Cement Association (PCA) and *Cement Americas* magazine acknowledged the Salt River Materials Group's Phoenix Cement Plant in Clarkdale, Ariz., as part of the 2010 Cement Industry Energy & Environmental Awards, honoring sustainable manufacturing practices.

The plant was a finalist in the Award's Energy Efficiency category that recognizes energy planning, applications of efficiency technologies and practices, and climate change mitigation efforts. This the second straight year the plant has been honored in this category.

In 2009, Salt River completed an energy audit at its Clarkdale administration building and an air leak audit for the plant. This was followed by the completion of an energy monitoring system and the installation of a VFD on the clinker dome feed belt conveyor. The plant also changed electric rate plans for its aggregates operations.

Midyear in 2009 Salt River Materials Group completed two multimillion dollar projects to improve quality and energy efficiency, targeting the raw meal feed for the kiln system. Throughout the year, numerous lighting changes have taken place at the Clarkdale plant. Replacement of bulbs and the installation of motion sensors have resulted in a 379Kwh savings per day. In addition, in August the company installed a solar power system at its Lower Buckeye Transfer Terminal in Phoenix and plans

additional solar installations. As a result of these efforts and others, the plant has been awarded the U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR® label for three consecutive years and is working with the program to include aggregate, concrete, and asphalt plants.

“Finding ways to reduce both energy needs and reliance on fossil fuels is a top priority for cement companies,” said Brian McCarthy, PCA president and CEO. “By doing so, plants decrease emissions and the amount of raw materials used, while lowering operational costs and keeping the company a viable community employer.”

The Energy & Environmental Awards honor individual cement facilities that exemplify the spirit of continuous environmental improvement and support this spirit with action. These plants go beyond government regulations and local laws to ensure that their processes contributed to making their communities better places to live and work. Five categories are recognized: Outreach, Environmental Performance, Land Stewardship, Innovation, and Energy Efficiency. Additionally, PCA presents a special honor to a plant demonstrating excellence in multiple categories.

The awards program was created in 2000 by the Portland Cement Association as part of its renewed environment and energy strategic plan for the U.S. cement industry. The awards honor activities conducted during the previous calendar year, and the program is open to any cement manufacturing plant in North America. Judges for the awards represent independent groups such as National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, U.S. EPA-ENERGY STAR, U.S. EPA-Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation, Cement Association of Canada, *Cement Americas* magazine, U.S. Geological Survey, World Resources Institute and the World Wildlife Fund.

## **About PCA**

Based in Skokie, Ill., the Portland Cement Association represents cement companies in the United States and Canada. It conducts market development, engineering, research, education, and public affairs programs.

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