

New CEMEX Headquarters



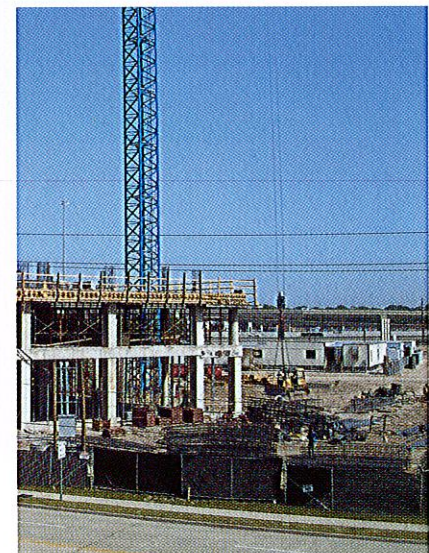
Taking the Next Green Step in Houston

By Frank Cavaliere, Communications Manager, NRMCA



would otherwise be landfilled. Fly ash actually improves the workability of the concrete, reducing the amount of water required in the mix, according to CEMEX. According to the U.S. Green Building Council's Houston chapter, there are currently less than 15 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified buildings in the area. Green buildings often incorporate the most efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, use state-of-the-art lighting and optimize daylight, use recycled content for outside and interior construction, conserve energy and water, reduce waste sent to landfills and are designed to be healthy work environments for their occupants. The average LEED certified building uses 32% less electricity and saves 350 metric tons of CO₂ emissions annually.

CEMEX USA's network consists of 14 cement manufacturing facilities, more than 370 ready mix concrete plants, more than 115 aggregate quarries and approximately 30 fly ash, 60 block and 50 concrete pipe plants.



One of the largest ready mixed concrete producers in the United States and no stranger to the growing movement of sustainable development and green building, Houston-based CEMEX has taken the logical next step by choosing to move into a new headquarters building constructed to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards. The building materials company and NRMCA producer member recently executed a new lease agreement to occupy slightly more than half of a 325,000 square-foot building in west Houston. Completion is scheduled for early 2009.

News releases state that CEMEX plans to supply a reflective concrete to build the headquarters, a material that absorbs and radiates less heat, thereby reducing the urban heat island effect, as it decreases the building's energy usage and the demand on

air conditioning systems. CEMEX said the building will be the largest green building of its kind in Houston.

In an industry not traditionally synonymous in the public's eye with environmental concerns, CEMEX typifies the industry's commitment to sustainable building, both in where it conducts its business and in supplying the building materials for its customer base.

"Clean air, water and sound environmental management applications such as green building practices are fundamentals to our success as a company," said Gilberto Perez, president of CEMEX USA.

"CEMEX continuously looks for ways to reduce its footprint and produce environmentally friendly products," said Andy Miller, CEMEX USA's executive vice president of human resources.

The company's concrete mixes include recycled materials such as fly ash, which