

NSSGA ANNOUNCES 2007 EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY RELATIONS AWARDS; 13 AGGREGATE PRODUCER SITES RECEIVE GOLD RECOGNITION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALEXANDRIA, Va., Sept. 13 - The National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA) today announced its Excellence in Community Relations award winners for 2007. The Gold Award winners will be honored on Mar. 12, 2008, during the CONEXPO-CON/AGG Show in Las Vegas at an Awards Breakfast in conjunction with NSSGA's Annual Convention.

The Gold Award goes to Blue Ridge Quarry, Boxley Materials Company, Blue Ridge, Va.; Caldwell Stone, Caldwell Stone Co., Inc., Danville, Ky.; Conco Quarries-Willard, Mo., Conco Quarries Inc.; Willard, Mo.; Bradshaw Plant, Granite Construction, Sacramento, Calif.; Grove Stone and Sand Company, Hedrick Industries, Swannanoa, N.C.; Caledon Pit, Lafarge, Caledon, Ontario; Cave-In-Rock Quarry, Lafarge, Cave-In-Rock, Ill.; Aberfoyle Main Pit, St Marys Cement Group Inc., Toronto, Ontario; Springfield Underground, Springfield Under-ground, Inc., Springfield, Mo.; Brigham City North, Staker & Parson Companies, Brigham City, Utah; 1604 Quarry, Vulcan Materials Company, San Antonio, Texas; Brownwood Quarry, Vulcan Materials Company, Brownwood, Texas; Helena Quarry, Vulcan Materials Company, Helena, Ala.

In addition to the 13 Gold Awards for Excellence in Community Relations, NSSGA will present 34 Silver Awards and 36 Bronze Awards. NSSGA will also award 32 Certificates of Achievement. The Silver and Bronze Awards and Certificate of Achievements will be mailed to recipients after NSSGA's Annual Convention in March.

The Community Relations Program began in 1989 to recognize aggregate producers whose community involvement and support activities have enhanced the public's perception of the aggregates industry in general and the public image of the individual producer's aggregate operation in particular.

Following the recommendations of an NSSGA Awards Task Force, the Communications and Community Relations (C&CR) Division restructured its two Community Relations and About Face awards programs to consolidate and simplify the entry process and make the program more appealing to a wider range of producer members.

The new criteria and programs were adopted starting with the 2007 award year. The About Face program for operation beautification and minimum environmental stewardship was rolled, in part, into the Community Relations awards and, in part, into the Environmental Excellence Awards. The one new award for the C&CR Division is now Excellence in Community Relations (with Gold, Silver, Bronze and Certificate of Achievement categories). There are six criteria:

- Community: participation, outreach and special events
- Monetary donations and community service
- Local and state government involvement
- Communications and media relations
- Education: both of employees and community
- Facility appearance

New electronic online entry forms were used and judges assigned points to the various criteria resulting in the award of a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. A Certificate of Achievement was given to operations that met at least one of the six criteria.

In a parallel structure, plant operations' competitions for The Environmental Excellence Awards (renamed from Environmental Eagle) with Gold, Silver, Bronze and Certificate of Achievement categories and the Safety Excellence Awards (verified by most recent MSHA data) in Gold, Silver, Bronze and Certificate of Achievement categories were also adopted. Company-wide achievements in safety will still earn the Sterling Safety Award. The winners of the 2007 program were announced in August 2007 and honored at the annual Environmental, Safety and Health Forum on Sept. 7.

Gold winners in the Community Relations, Environmental or Safety Excellence Awards will continue to receive a Star of Excellence. Plants can accumulate Stars over a five-year period, more than one gold award in Community Relations, Safety or Environment will receive a Stars of Excellence Award at NSSGA's Annual Convention. An announcement of those winners will be issued in October.

Based near the nation's capital, NSSGA is the world's largest mining association by product volume. Its member companies represent more than 92 percent of the crushed stone and 75 percent of the sand and gravel produced annually in the U.S. and approximately 118,000 working men and women in the aggregates industry. During 2006, a total of nearly three billion metric tons of crushed stone, sand and gravel, valued at \$21 billion, were produced and sold in the United States.

EDITOR'S NOTE: [Click here](#) for a complete list of the award winners.

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