

UEPG Sustainable Development Awards 2010

Company: BD Flood Ltd

Location: County Westmeath, Ireland

Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath, Ireland

Nominated in the category Operational Best Practice





Union Européenne des Producteurs de Granulats
Europäischer Gesteinsverband
European Aggregates Association

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In Summary Crookedwood Quarry is operated with industry best practice and safety and environment always the priority. The quarry was entered into the Irish Concrete Federation 'Quarry of the Year Awards' 2007 and received a four star award for outstanding achievement in environmental management especially with regard to overall sustainability and visual impact mitigation. Winning this award helped BD Floods to understand the importance of working to a high standard with regard to quarry operations, environment and safety and how best practice in the long term will save the company money. Also how a limestone rock quarry can exist in harmony within a community and landscape without being a nuisance or having significant impacts. The changes to the crushing plant has allowed for periodic blasting and crushing which has its benefits as outlined throughout this report for our neighbours and the environment. The changes in the crushing plant have allowed the company to create more employment, meet the needs of all our customers and reduce the cost of production by ~40%. Changes to quarry blasting have reduced the cost per ton by ~30%, with many advantages as detailed within this report. The operational cost savings achieved allows for the introduction of modern ways of carrying out the work in a typical 300,000 ton/yr limestone quarry and these changes will ensure the quarry is sustainable and environmentally friendly going forward. This has being a great project to manage and see unfold with positive results for the profits of the company alongside the benefits to the environment and local community. Currently the construction industry is greatly reduced in activity and our market has reduced accordingly, but the rewards of upgrading our crushing operation are still good as we can still crush large volumes of product in short periods of time and still ensure our cost of production is at a minimum.