

UEPG Sustainable Development Awards 2007

Company: Cementos Portland alderivas – ARIPRESA

Location: Madrid, Spain

“Planta Andujar” workplace Project.

Social Award of Excellence & Award for Health & Safety Best Practice



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ÁRIDOS Y PREMEZCLADOS, S.A.U. (referred to henceforth as ARIPRESA), is part of the GRUPO CEMENTOS PORTLAND VALDERRIVAS business group, which specializes in the operation of gravel pits quarries, mining, treatment and supply of aggregate for construction and public works. The company's registered offices are at Calle José Abascal nº 59, Madrid, Spain. ARIPRESA submits its Planta Andujar workplace, located in the province of Jaén, Spain, as a candidate for the 2007 UEPG Sustainable Development Award for Quarry and Gravel-Pit Safety in the Big Business category. The comprehensive overhaul the treatment plant underwent between December 2005 and May 2006 made this facility a pacesetter in occupational risk prevention in the aggregate sector. The workplace's primary activity is the extraction of sand and gravel from the Guadalquivir River valley to supply the aggregate-crushing and classification plant. ARIPRESA took a giant step in the management of occupational risk prevention in 2006 by earning Occupational Health and Safety Management System certification pursuant to OHSAS 18001:1999 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems. ARIPRESA was the first company in its sector to be so certified by AENOR in Spain. ARIPRESA's commitment to integrating prevention into its organisation showed in 2006 in the creation of an in-house prevention service and the implementation of an ambitious preventive training plan for workers. ARIPRESA has a workforce of 174 employees at 21 workplaces. The Andujar workplace has six full-time employees who work in the organisation, administration and management of the treatment plant and five workers employed by a contractor, who perform the operations involved in clearing, extraction, loading and transportation of raw materials to the treatment plant. Here are the five reasons on which our candidacy is grounded:

- Prevention at source. An engineering design aimed at achieving top production under excellent safety conditions, with special consideration for: strain minimisation in manual load handling; the importance of the human factor in the design of accesses to the plant's control points; total protection against the risks of falling, entrapment in moving parts, and flying processed material; facility reliability in terms of the electrical risk; and control over the hygiene risks of exposure to noise and dust.
- Integration of prevention. Creation of ARIPRESA's own In-House Prevention Service and appointment of preventive resources at each workplace, with distribution of preventive management functions among all jobs in the organisation.
- First company in its sector in Spain to earn Occupational Health and Safety Management System Certification pursuant to the requirements of OHSAS 18001:1999.
- Implementation of an ambitious preventive training plan for workers.
- Excellent auxiliary facilities at the workplace, such as restrooms, dining room, dressing room, parking, workshops, storehouse and laboratory