

Holcim Cement Customer Update

Issue 4, December 2015

Holcim (New Zealand) Ltd



Cement Supply

It is planned to close the Westport Cement Plant in the second quarter of 2016 once the Auckland cement terminal is operational. As previously communicated we have a long-term cement supply agreement from a strategic partner in Japan, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation (MMC).

Customer transition

All **bulk cement** customers have received and had input into, a cement transition plan. This is to ensure a seamless transition from the Westport manufactured cement to the newly sourced cement from Japan. Technical information relating to the new cement was sent out in October. Customers in the lower and eastern South Island will be transitioned to the new cement in February 2016. West Coast and Nelson / Marlborough customers will be transitioned around mid-2016 as will the North Island. More detailed information will be given to those customers closer to the time.

Bag cement customers in the lower and eastern South Island and lower North Island will be transitioned in February 2016 as well.

Ultracem (General Purpose Cement)

All Holcim's Ultracem cement including the Ultracem from MMC is manufactured to the highest standards and exceeds New Zealand's cement standard NZS 3122: 2009 Type GP, and all characteristics meet the demanding requirements of our environment. Extensive testing has been carried out to ensure it is a high quality product which meets all requirements.

Rapidcem (high early strength)

A suitable source of Rapidcem has been identified for the New Zealand market. All customers using high early strength cement will be contacted one to two months before the changeover to confirm details and timing.

Timaru commissioning

Construction of the Timaru cement terminal has been completed successfully on time. The first shipment of cement to be used for commissioning arrived on 8 December at Timaru Port. Commissioning is where all equipment and processes are checked, tested, and given trial runs to ensure everything is working as it should. Commissioning is expected to be completed by the end of December with the site being fully operational in January 2016. The next shipment of cement is scheduled to arrive in February 2016.





Auckland Terminal

The Auckland dome outer layer was put up successfully mid-August and the unloading equipment arrived in November 2015. Construction of the inner dome and other terminal infrastructure is running slightly ahead of schedule at the moment. The terminal is expected to be fully operational by the end of May 2016.



Infometric breakfasts a success

Once again Holcim hosted economic information breakfasts in major centres across the country. These events are run in partnership with Infometrics, a leading economic forecasting firm in NZ and provide customers with the opportunity to hear from them about the economic outlook for the following year. Some of the key points of interest: *the good news for the construction sector is that there is growth still to come in 2016 particularly in Auckland and the surrounding regions. Canterbury continues at a good level and there appears to be growth in the Wellington region although a number of other areas are impacted by the dairy sector downturn.*



Prime Minister visits Timaru Terminal

At the end of September this year the Prime Minister John Key and Jo Goodhew MP for Rangitata, visited the Holcim terminal site at Timaru. John Key seemed to take a real interest in the project, especially the new technology around the dome and its aeration floor. After the tour the PM and Jo Goodhew chatted with the 60-70 Downer contractors over afternoon tea.



Holcim donated cement arrives in Vanuatu

Earlier in the year Holcim donated a large number of pallets of bagged cement to our Vanuatu friends to help with the rebuild of Vanuatu infrastructure after the devastating hurricane. This has now all arrived safely and will be used mostly for community buildings such as the local medical centre.



Visit to Japan

Ken Cowie Capital Projects Manager and Murray Dickson National Sales Manager, recently visited various Mitsubishi (MMC) operations in Japan. They were also joined by Pablo Avila Carrillo from LafargeHolcim Trading Singapore, our key liaison person between MMC and Holcim New Zealand. They visited several precast concrete operations and held technical discussions with the Mitsubishi technical team.



New scholarships confirmed

Four new scholarships were announced over the last month for our sites at Westport, Kiwi Point Quarry (Wellington), Bombay Quarry, and Timaru. Each scholarship student is given \$2,000 a year for three years during their study. The most valuable part of the scholarship is the holiday work which is made available. Next year there will be six females and five males in total at our various sites. We are lucky that a number of the students end up working permanently with us after their degree is completed.



Best wishes to you and your family for a safe and happy Christmas.

If you have any questions please contact:

Ben Hussey
National Sales & Marketing Manager
Phone: 027 702 5855
Ben.hussey@holcim.com

Murray Dickson
National Sales Manager
Phone: 021 899 425
murray.dickson@holcim.com

www.holcim.com/nz