

# Industry honors Mojave cement plant

By/TINA FORDE  
Valley Press Business Editor

**MOJAVE** — Employees of the California Portland Cement Company's Mojave plant recently celebrated their recognition as the most energy efficient Portland cement plant in the country for 2005, an honor bestowed yearly by the industry's Skokie, Ill.-based national association.

As plant workers wearing hard hats enjoyed a hearty Mexican-style meal Friday in the soaring shop building, Thomas Carter, staff vice president for environment, health and safety

for the Portland Cement Association, praised the energy-saving programs being carried out in the plant.

"These ideas need to be carried out. It's the people in the room who carried out the ideas," he said.

Carter noted that the California Portland Cement Company, headquartered in Glendora, has won the Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Partner award two years in a row and "the company thinks in terms of sustainability."

Safety, he said, "is also part of it. This plant this year has a perfect safety record."

Carter said, "The reason Cal Portland is so successful in these awards" is because of their vision.

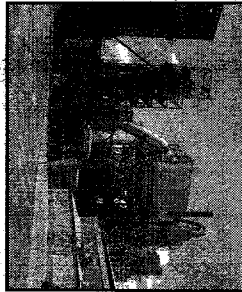
"They plan ahead. They hire smart people. It's a lesson for other companies. It goes beyond saving energy costs. They find grants and subsidies. They use energy efficient materials.

"You are reducing emissions," Carter said to the employees. "You are helping to reduce greenhouse

gases. It's a win-win on all sides." Cal Portland President and CEO James Repman said although the cement business "doesn't have the pizzazz other companies do," it's time to step out as environmental leaders.

"We need to do it right and tell people we're doing it right," Repman said. "Our goal is to be the industry leader in setting environmental stewardship. We share our knowledge with the competition. We have to keep going farther and faster."

"Safety and environmental stewardship — get those two things right."

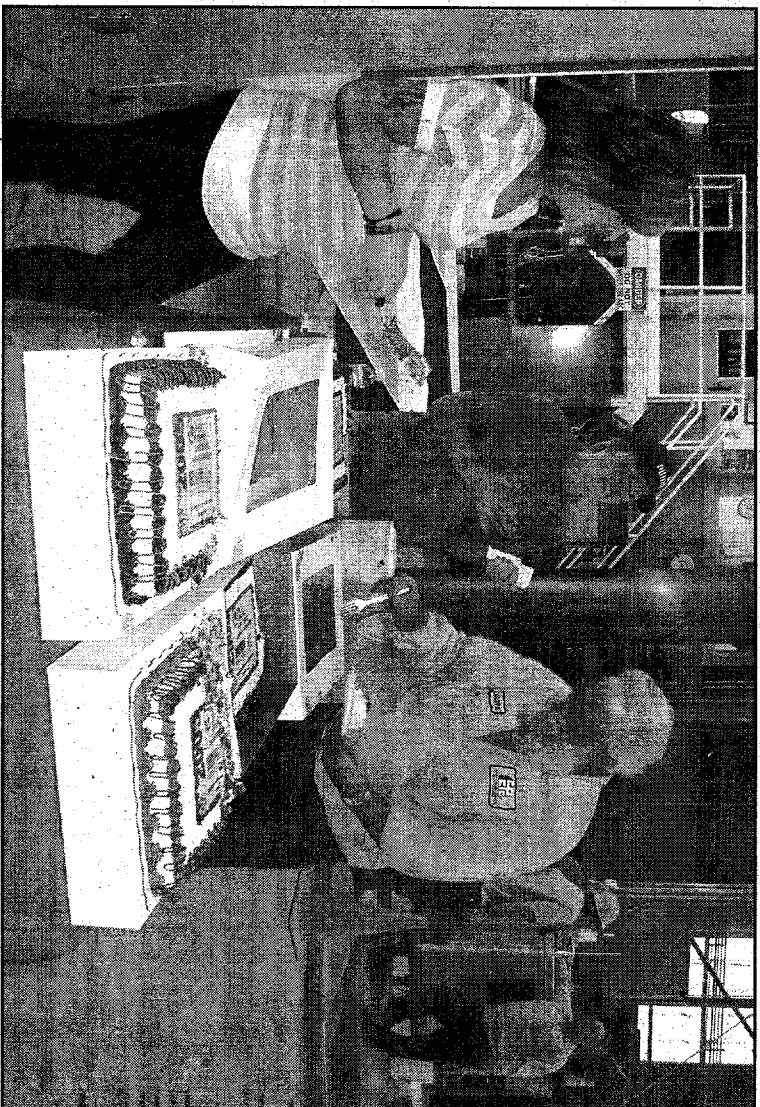


In keeping with the focus on sustainability, Mojave plant manager Bruce Shafer said that the cement plant, which utilizes the bounty of the earth, soon will take advantage of another gift of nature — the wind.

"The plant has been here since 1955, with the wind blowing over the top of us," Shafer said. "We are working with Oak Creek Energy. What we are working for is harnessing the wind. Generating on our site can create up to 40% of the electrical load and will help take the strain off the electrical load in Southern California."

Shafer said the plant encompasses "thousands" of acres. The property is adjacent to some of the largest wind farms in the world, but so far, no wind turbines are on company property. The wind turbines the company will build, he said, will be big — "the latest and greatest."

The new wind turbines, he said, will generate 75 million kilowatts per hour per year. Mojave plant administrative

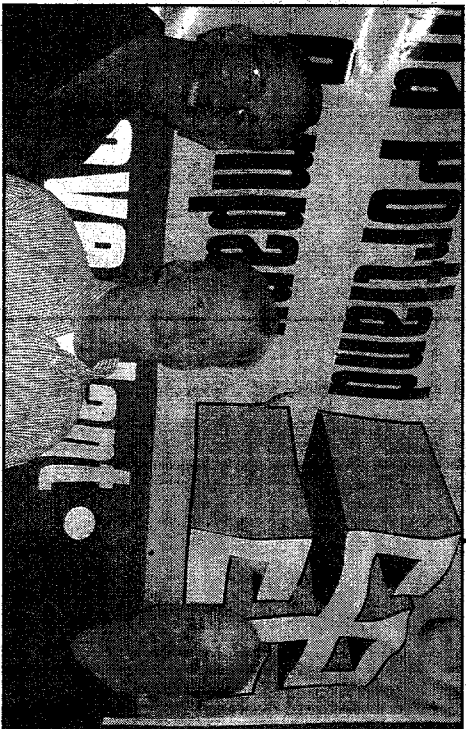


## CEMENT CELEBRATION

Above, Erin Martinez, 18, and Meagan Booth, 20, both of Tehachapi, serve cake to mechanic Larry Wiggins at the Mojave plant's environmental award recognition banquet.

At left, from left, are James Repman, company president and CEO; Thomas Carter, staff vice president for environment, health and safety; and Mojave plant manager Bruce Shafer.

**TINA FORDE**  
Valley Press photos



manager Bart York said the company owns three cement plants, four sea terminals, 12 rail terminals and 47

batch plants in Arizona, California, Oregon and Washington. It employs 2,000 people and generates a billion

dollars in sales a year, he said.

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