COUNTRY NEWS > WESTERN MIX



New San Francisco batch plant provides a state of the art facility with efficient storage and import capabilities for a growing market.

After a six-year permitting and planning process and two years construction, the new Bay Area batch plant stands ready to serve the San Francisco market. Its location at Pier 92 provides an important shipping advantage over the former inland location. With both rail and shipping access, the plant can now receive shipments of cement and aggregates from around the globe as well as across the country.

"We are extremely fortunate to find this location," said **Bill Blake**, Bay Area General Manager. "There's not much available in the San Francisco Area for industrial facilities."

The new plant features an Erie batch plant with an Inventure reversing drum capable of batching 300 cubic yards per hour on the wet side and 150 cubic yards per hour on the dry side. Holding hoppers on the dry side allow the batch man to continue batching through the wet side while trucks position on the dry side. The dry side can be used for special mixes and clean-ups at the end of the day, allowing plant operators to perform maintenance and cleaning of the mixer.

"In designing the plant we wanted to showcase concrete products in every way possible," said Blake. SCC (self-compacting concrete) formed the pile caps and foundation for the plant's five 200-ton and six 100-ton concrete storage bunkers. Two of the 200-ton bunkers store different types of sand. The remaining three hold basic rock used in most concrete mixes. The 100-ton bunkers store various aggregates.

Using concrete for the storage



From left to right :Salam Aziz, Jim Rochotte, Alan Rathjen, Jim Montgomery, Bill Blake, Ricardo Mendez

bunkers instead of steel in a marine environment reduces long-term maintenance costs. White topping paved the wharf area for truck parking. The shop was constructed using Insulated Concrete Forms to maximize the seismic benefits and to meet environmental and energy saving building standards.

"With the growth in redevelopment projects, the emerging biotech industry and a host of new high-rise residential, the new plant is well positioned to meet increased demand, and it provides CEMEX an edge on the competition," said Blake.