State Trunk Highway 83 Reconstruction in Waukesha County Wins National Award for Excellence in Concrete Pavements

Madison, WI. (December 4, 2012) – The American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) has named the recipients of its 23rd Annual “Excellence in Concrete Pavements” Awards, which recognize quality concrete pavements constructed in the United States and Canada.

The awards program encourages high-quality workmanship in concrete pavement projects, and serves as a way to share information about challenging and highly successful projects. Projects are evaluated and voted on by judges from across the country and represent various stakeholder groups in the transportation-construction community. The program recognizes contractors, engineers, and project owners who completed outstanding projects.

The awards fall into 14 categories applicable to construction and preservation of highways, roadways, airports, and industrial pavement facilities. The program requires projects to be completed in the calendar year prior to judging (2011).

The reconstruction of State Trunk Highway 83 in Waukesha County won the Gold Award in the State Roads Category. “This project is as difficult of a paving project as we have seen in Wisconsin with the construction of 12 different types of roadway sections. The planning required by the Zignego Company, James Peterson and Sons, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and exp. was excellent and the result is the top state trunk highway paving project in the nation”, said McMullen. “We look forward to honoring the Wisconsin DOT and exp. engineering staff as soon as it can be arranged”, he further added.
The project involves the reconstruction of State Trunk Highway (STH) 83 in Waukesha County, Wisc. It begins at the north city limits of the City of Mukwonago, goes north through the Village of Genesee, and ends at the intersection of State Trunk Highway 59 west of the City of Waukesha. STH83 is a direct north-south link between Interstate 43 and Interstate 94 west of Milwaukee. This was a very complex paving project that reconstructed 6 miles of an existing two-lane rural road to a 2-lane and 4-lane divided highway including 12 intersections and three roundabouts.

Significant planning was required to pave a range of sections varying from a four-lane divided urban roadway to a two-lane rural undivided road. There were a total of 12 different typical sections, as well as bicycle lanes on both sides for the full length of the project.

The Zignego Company was awarded this Wisconsin DOT contract with a low bid of $19.65 million. This included 710,000 CY of excavation subcontracted to James Peterson and Sons of Medford, Wisc. The two companies worked together to accomplish the grading and the paving of 254,120 SY of concrete pavement. Wisconsin DOT originally designed the project to be a two-year project with the roadway open to traffic.

After the Wisconsin DOT public information process, it was decided to close the roadway and complete the project in one year. The grading was a success, and the DOT’s SE Region nominated James Peterson and Sons for their 2011 annual Outstanding Highway Construction Award for Grading. The goal was to minimize the impacts to the City of Mukwonago and businesses. With the grading and base work completed, the concrete paving began on April 28, 2011. By Memorial Day all construction was completed within the city limits.

The intersection of STH83 and STH59 is very busy with large volumes of commuter traffic daily. The contract required that all construction on the roundabout had to be completed within a 10 day period. This included the grading, base, paving and ancillary concrete. The full closure of the intersection began after Labor Day and was achieved. The public relations challenge on this project was to provide
full access to all of the businesses and homes during the grading and paving. Also, emergency services had to be able to navigate through the project at all times. WisDOT applauded the efforts of the contractors as there were no complaints from homeowners.

The Zignego quality control was excellent. Meeting or exceeding the combination of quality specifications for strength, air, ride, and thickness resulted in the contractor receiving a net bonus of more than $66,000 for the project.

The new roadway completely transformed an old roadway that was functionally obsolete, unsafe, and whose pavement was in poor condition to one that is safe, bright, attractive, and modern. A ribbon cutting at the completion of the project was very well attended by the residents, who celebrated their new road.

**About the ACPA and WCPA**

The ACPA is the national trade association for the concrete pavement industry. The Wisconsin Concrete Pavement Association (WCPA) is ACPA’s local affiliated organization. ACPA and WCPA represent members in marketing/promotion, government affairs, and research/technical support associated with concrete pavements used for highways, airports, streets, and roads.

ACPA’s and WCPA’s members include paving contractors, cement companies, equipment manufacturers, material and service suppliers, ready-mixed concrete producers, allied associations/organizations, bonding and insurance companies, consulting firms, and other allied organizations and individuals.


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High resolution photos of award winners and projects are available on request. Please indicate your choice, as well as whether you can accommodate batches up to 15 MB in size.