



*You are invited
to our*

Holiday Christmas Reception

*Wednesday, December 5th
Niagara College Culinary Institute
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm*

*RSVP before November 28
Teresa Page 905.680.3731*

*Hosted by the Walker Industries
Public Liaison Committee*

Walker Brothers Quarry Update

According to Angelo Bevilacqua, superintendent, business has been a bit slower than normal this year at the Walker Brothers Quarry, largely as a result of a decreased demand for the stone produced by the quarry. Consequently, the quarry has been on a four day production schedule with processing shut down on Fridays for the maintenance and repair of equipment.

Over the summer, an older stacker used to stack aggregate into piles as it leaves the crushing plant, was replaced by an automated, telescopic stacker. This new stacker automatically remains within a few feet of the top of the stone pile as it grows or depletes. This meant that stone was often dropped from a greater than desirable height. The other problem with the old stacker was segregation of the stone; the fine stone



stayed in the centre of the pile and the larger material rolled down the outside of the piles. The new stacker moves from side to side in an arc of up to 180 degrees, so the segregation problem is eliminated.

In other news from the quarry, we hosted different groups of employees from the Niagara Fire Department to visit the quarry and the other operations at Walker's head office over the summer as part of a safety initiative. Angelo says the firefighters were invited to tour the Walker operations so that if a fire or accident occurred, they would know where to go to provide assistance at any particular facility.

Odour Reduction at the IMS Compost Site A Team Effort

In 2011, in response to odour issues at the IMS Compost site, an action plan was created by site management and the Environmental Performance Department. The plan focused on determining the causes of odour and assigning timelines for proposed solutions. In an effort to improve communications the plan was reviewed with the Ministry of the Environment, representatives from the City of Thorold and our partners at Niagara Region. As a first step, consultants specializing in Gore Cover composting systems were brought in to review operations. They determined there was a problem with feedstock preprocessing prior to composting. In response, representatives from management, operations and maintenance visited other compost operations in Canada and the US to review new types of equipment.

Beginning in early 2012 a slow speed shredder was rented on a yearlong trial to determine if it would provide significant improvements to operations. From our observations the changes have been dramatic. Oxygen levels, which are key to minimizing foul odours in composting, have been maintained at optimum levels throughout the year. In addition, management and site operators have worked closely together on creating protocols and procedures for tightening up other areas that could generate odours. As a result, the odour characteristics on the site have changed to a more pleasant, earthy type smell associated with a healthy soil like product. The compost created continues to be top quality and is 100% sold as a beneficial recycled product.

As changes and improvement continued throughout the year, communications with neighbors, the Ministry and our partners was ongoing. Their feedback and participation was essential in evaluating the effectiveness of our efforts. Many different people and groups contributed to success of 2012 and this type of collaborative effort will be necessary as we work towards continual improvement of the compost operation.

Walker Industries Purchases U.S. Emulsions Company

Walker Industries Inc. has purchased the assets of Associated Chemists Inc. (ACI), based in Portland, Oregon. The sale became effective at midnight May 1st, 2012 with ACI becoming part of Walker's Norjohn division. The operating entity will be known as Norjohn-ACI Inc., with manufacturing facilities in Portland, Oregon, and Palm Coast, Florida.

Located in Burlington, Norjohn manufactures wax and asphalt emulsions for municipalities and industries throughout Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. Norjohn also operates a research lab and quality assurance operation located at McMaster's Innovation Park in Hamilton.

ACI was founded in 1929 as a packager of consumer products. Over various ownership changes and shifts in manufacturing focus, it has evolved to the point where it now produces custom emulsion formulations for industrial and commercial applications.

"The purchase of ACI is part of our long-term strategic plan to expand and reach new markets throughout North America," says Archie Reynolds, Norjohn's vice-president. "ACI's culture and values are an excellent fit with our own, the company produces complementary products to those we manufacture, and we are both known for the quality of our operations and products."

Reynolds adds that through this acquisition, the company looks forward to serving new customers and offering a wider range of products to its existing ones.

ACI's employees will become part of the Walker Norjohn team.

New Member of Walker Aggregates Management



A new member has joined the management team at Walker Aggregates. Frank Kielbowich is the new operations manager responsible for all aggregate operations of Walker Aggregates, as well as the asphalt operations in Niagara. Frank has more than 16 years of progressive management experience in the steel industry, most recently with JMC Steel Group (formerly Lakeside Steel) in Welland.

Walker Buys Two Windsor Area Quarries

Walker Aggregates Inc. has purchased Amherst Quarries in Amherstburg, Ontario.

This acquisition gives Walker a footprint in the aggregates business in southwestern Ontario. We are looking to grow our aggregates division by acquiring new businesses and expanding our existing ones. We're interested in pursuing opportunities which allow us to expand geographically or replace depleting aggregate resources.

Amherst Quarries is a family business, and has been owned by three generations of the Smith family. Established in 1959, the company has two large quarries - one south of Windsor and another in the town of Amherstburg. These quarries supply stone products to customers in Essex County and southwestern Ontario. Approximately 25 employees work for the company.

While Walker will take over ownership of the company, it will remain operating as Amherst Quarries. This acquisition gives us 12 pits and quarries in Niagara, Simcoe, Grey and Essex Counties.

Walker Community Garden

As part of the 2011 Krazy Ideas Contest, a team from the Walker Environmental Group put forward the idea of a community vegetable garden at Head Office. With the help of Jane Hanlon from Climate Action Niagara, the group planned out and began planting a plot in the open field just north of head office.

They planted tomatoes, beans, pumpkins, lettuce, squash, zucchini, potatoes, onions, dill and beets, with the plan being to donate as much produce as possible to local food banks. Garden maintenance and harvesting have been ongoing throughout the summer.

126 pounds of fresh produce was donated to Community Care in August 2012! Weekly donations continued as the garden was harvested. Weekly weeding and some regular mulching have helped to maintain the garden, though more volunteers are always welcome!



Carbon Action Team (CAT) Honoured at Niagara Region Environmental Awards

On June 13, 2012, the Niagara Region recognized Niagara's top environmental contributors at the Niagara Region 23rd annual Environmental Awards which is the longest-running municipal award program in Ontario. Regional Chair Gary Burroughs awarded Walker Industries Holdings Limited (WIHL) the 2012 Green Business Award. The awards honour individuals, non-profits, businesses, schools and families who have made significant contributions to protecting and improving Niagara's natural resources.

The judges were impressed with WIHL's EARTH 1st Environmental Program which moves beyond environmental compliance to focus on environmental performance and actively seek ways to improve the environment around WIHL facilities while also empowering employees to make decisions that improve processes and operations through education and training.

Probably the most significant and exciting initiative that was recently rolled out was the introduction of the Carbon Action Team (CAT). CAT is a voluntary cross-disciplined group of young leaders within WIHL who stepped up to the challenge of developing an approach for calculating the WIHL carbon footprint, measuring the WIHL baseline carbon footprint by 2012 and developing a method for the annual calculation of the carbon footprint. CAT met these goals and has now morphed into the Carbon Action Advisory Team (CAAT). CAAT is in the process of brainstorming and recommending goals to reduce the carbon footprint in each division, providing education and engagement sessions and monitoring annual carbon footprint results.

Kirsten Groody and Kyle Monteith, significant contributors to CAT were on hand to accept the award on behalf of WIHL at the quaint ceremony held at Niagara Region Headquarters in Thorold.

Recent green initiatives at WIHL include:

- Renovating the WEG office building which should result in a GHG reduction for that building
- A \$500,000 donation to Woodend Living Campus to revitalize the campus for thousands of students from the Niagara Region to enjoy educational and environmental experiences
- Participation at an annual Children's Water Festival which provides Grade 3 and 4 students an opportunity to learn about the importance of water
- A partnership with the University of Guelph to reclaim Landfill for agriculture
- Optimizing blower time settings to reduce their use and save energy at the Walker Compost Facility
- Restoring the gravitational flow connection between upstream and downstream reaches of the Frenchman's Creek in the vicinity of the quarry which reduced the energy use for perpetual pumping of non-quarry water at Ridgemount Quarries
- The installation of high efficiency lighting along with insulation in the new control tower to R45 at Vineland Quarries
- Revision of the transportation of metal for recycling at our public drop-off. The scrap metal is shipped in one large trailer load rather than several smaller loads, reducing the fuel used for shipments
- A wetland treatment system for Twelve Mile Creek, in partnership with Niagara College
- A "Krazy Ideas" contest rolled out to employees to challenge them to come up with ideas for improving our environmental performance
- A tree planting team building event with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority



Regional Chair Gary Burroughs, Regional Councillor Barbara Greenwood and Thorold Mayor Ted Luciani flank Walker Industries employees Kyle Monteith and Kirsten Groody who accepted the Niagara Region Green Business Award on behalf of WIHL.

A Very Small Start for Alfred Beam Excavating

The little company that grew. That's the best way to describe one of Walker Aggregates' many long-time customers in the Niagara Peninsula, Alfred Beam Excavating Limited. When the company was established in 1976, president Alfred Beam had only one excavator, and a trailer

to move it around, and at that time only one employee. Work was concentrated on basement excavation and drainage for agriculture.

Now Alfred Beam Excavating has more than 35 pieces of earthmoving machinery, a fleet of 28 vehicles, and 50 full-time and seasonal employees. Its projects include the installation of water and sewer services, road construction and reconstruction, municipal infrastructure, subdivisions and other commercial excavating projects. Customers have included every municipality in Niagara, the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority, Niagara Parks Commission, the former Hamilton Harbour Commission and private developers planning subdivisions of up to 300 homes. Alfred Beam Excavating has been an integral partner of Walker Industries Holding's including Niagara Waste, Norjohn Contracting as well as Walker Aggregates.

From the beginning, Walker Aggregates has been a supplier to Alfred Beam Excavating. "They understand contractors and the pressures we are under," says Tom Stack, the company's vice-president of Finance and Administration. "They are excellent to deal with," he adds, noting that Walkers continues to accommodate last minute requests in order for both small and large scale projects to remain on schedule.

Alfred Beam Excavating is planning even more growth and expansion in the years ahead with increasingly complex infrastructure projects in Niagara and beyond.



One of the Alfred Beam excavating crews is working on servicing a new subdivision in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Pictured from left are James Poirier, Pat Murphy, Jeffrey Bateman and foreman Shawn Schertzing.

Scout Hut Gets Spruce Up

The Vineland Scout Hut, owned by Walker Aggregates Inc. and used for meetings by the First Vineland Scout Troop, was given a facelift in October, thanks to Walker and its employees.

The project was the first for the company's new Together We (Walker Employees) Can (Care About Neighbours) program. Under the program, the company encourages employees to help and assist on community projects.

A total of 20 Walker employees worked on the scout hut refurbishment over two days, including installing new eaves troughs and fascia, repainting the outside of the hut, and cleaning up the exterior grounds and planting gardens.

The hut is located at 3790 Moyer Road and is occasionally used by other scout troops. Walker has owned the building and the scouts have used it since 1967.



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