#### Capital Quarries Company, Inc Value Mapping Project

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Improving Processes. Instilling Expertise.







#### **Focus of Project**

- Reduction of total costs to convert insitu rock reserves to saleable product.
- Validate that extra dollars spent in drilling and blasting can lower total production cost.





02 - Sandvik Mtng 1-26-08 Clip2 - Expectations - 1-27.wmv

#### Capital Quarries Company, Inc Value Mapping Project

- Sept 2006 to April 2007
- Capital Quarries Company Inc.
  - ✓ Holt Summit MO.
    - 500,000 saleable tons/yr
    - 700,000 ton/yr blasted.





#### Missouri Quarry Productivity Improvement - Casework

- Baselining
- Identification and implementation of metrics
- "Lean Thinking" Analysis
- Use of blasting fragmentation and process equipment models.
- Field validation of process improvement solutions



#### **The Quarry**











Crush and Screen prior to project.







#### **Diesel Powered Mobile Crushing Plant**



Primary - 44 x 34 Jaw



Secondary – Horizontal Impact Crusher



Tertiary - Cone Crusher



Three (3) Triple Deck Screen Units



## **Quarry Process**



#### Products

- 2 inch x 4 inch stone
- 1 inch x 2 inch stone
- ✓ 9/16 inch x 1 inch road base
- ✓ 3/8 inch x 1 inch concrete rock
- ✓ 5/16 inch x 3/8 inch stone

#### Waste

>0 inch to 5/16 inch fines







## Drilling

- Top hammer mid-range class track drill
  - ✓ 1 <sup>3</sup>⁄₄ inch diameter T45 rod
  - ✓ 4 inch bits
- Burlington Formation
  - ✓ 10 ft x 14 ft x 33 ft
  - ✓ 4 to 5 rows
- Cedar Valley Formation
  - ✓ 10 ft x 14 ft x 60 ft
  - 2 to 3 rows
- Subdrill 2 ft





## **Blasting**

- Dyno Nobel Titan<sup>®</sup> 1000 SD
  - Bulk repumpable blasting agent emulsion
- Trojan<sup>®</sup> 35 & 45 Cast Boosters
- Nonel<sup>®</sup> Initiation System
  - ✓ 25 ms between holes
  - ✓ 67 ms between rows
- Stem 7 ft
- Powder Factor
  - ✓ Burlington 0.95 lb/cu yd
  - ✓ Cedar Valley 1.14 lb/cu yd
- Approx. 20,000 ton blasts





## Baselining

- Period July 10 to August 15, 2006
- Evaluated each process step
  - Standard operating procedure
  - Costs
- Historical records back to May 1, 2006
- Benches surveyed; drill holes surveyed; blasting & operator logs reviewed; muck pile fragmentation analyzed; primary crusher throughput, finished products and waste tonnages were monitored.



## Identification and Implementation of Metrics

- 3D Bench survey; drill holes survey blast load sheets; seismograph reports; drill cycle time; in-pit muck pile photo fragmentation analysis; loader cycle time & bucket weight monitoring; oversize count; hydraulic hammer time (in-pit and at primary); crusher feed rate; daily operator logs; haul truck counts.
- Non standard highlighted above in blue.



## "Lean Thinking" Analysis



- Examined productivity, operational effectiveness, operational efficiency; waste and profitability.
- Identified best practices that could be adapted or extended to enhance operational effectiveness.
- "Ways to work smarter not harder!"

(Eric Strope - President CQCI)



#### **Improvement Areas**

- Quarrying benches separately
- Drilling precision and accuracy
- Explosive Energy Distribution throughout rock mass
- Excavation & crushing of muckpile. (tight muck, oversize, reduced throughput)
- Fines/Waste
- Process water (wash plant, settlement ponds etc.)





## Modeling

• Fragmentation and process equipment simulators were used to select alternatives with best chance of creating positive change.

#### Fragmentation

• Kuz-Ram & Modified Kuz-Ram

#### Process Equipment

- Metso Bruno®
- Sandvik Plant Designer®



#### Field Validation of Process Improvements

- Cedar Valley Bench Only.
- Blast sizes 15,000 to 20,000 tons
- Four (4) Validation Blasts
- One (1) additional Baseline Blast
- All blasts were 3 rows.
- Blast Design
  - ✓ 12 ft x 10 ft x 60 ft (Row 1)
  - ✓ 10 ft x 12 ft x 60 ft (Row 2 & 3)



#### Validation / Performance Improvement Testing



## **Drilling & Blasting**

#### Drilling

- No change to equipment
- Blasting
  - Grade of repumpable blasting agent emulsion and type/size cast boosters remained unchanged.
  - ✓ Electronic Detonators replaced Nonel.
    - remove any variability of individual blast hole firing times;
    - assure absolute control of blast hole sequencing; and
    - to allow non-conventional timing choices to be implemented.
  - ✓ Amount of stemming 7 ft.
  - ✓ Powder Factor increased to 1.33 lb/cu yd.



## **Drilling & Blasting**

#### Blasthole Timing

 All validation blasts were consistent with 10 ms between holes in row 1.

✓ Blast 1

- 17 ms between holes (row 2 and 3)
- 67 ms between rows

#### Blast 2

- 16 ms between holes (row 2 and 3)
- 75 ms and 82 ms between rows



## **Drilling & Blasting**

#### Blasthole Timing

 All validation blasts consistent with 10 ms between holes in row 1.

✓ Blast 3

- 12 ms between holes (row 2 and 3)
- 118 ms between rows

#### ✓ Blast 4

- 17 ms between holes (row 2 and 3)
- 118 ms between rows



#### Validation Blast # 3







- Capital Quarries was ideal candidate for testing.
  - Not new to continuous improvement process
  - Utilized "Lean Thinking" principles.
  - Empoyees change oriented.
  - ✓ Key Factor
    - Use of portable and mobile in-pit crushing/screening plant.
    - Operational setup compressed entire rock crushing and sizing process and cost model to 1,500 ft radius.



"Blast to 1 inch Minus" Process Model"



- Changes to blast design were made to reduce top size to less than 37 inches or 85% of size of feed box for the 44" x 34" jaw crusher.
  - Factory targeted capacity of 340

     470 tons per hr @ 6 inch closed side setting;
  - Eliminate hard toe;
  - Facilitate digging for front end loader;
  - ✓ Eliminate sorting of oversize





#### Blast Layout and Drilling

- ✓ Baseline
  - Planned vs "As Built" 2.5 10.5% variance B & S
- ✓ Validation
  - Planned vs "As Built" 2 7% variance B & S







- At best 50% of holes within 1.5 ft deviation. (17% worst, 39% Average)
- 18% Accumulated variance for average face row burdens.







- Blast 1 had excellent fragmentation and crusher throughput but required a blast design layout change.
- Front row burdens were light and required custom loading.
  - ✓ Average min. burden 8.5 ft
  - ✓ Average burden 10.5 ft
- Additional 2 ft was added to burden layout for front row.
  - ✓ Average min. burden 10.8 ft
  - ✓ Average burden 13.5 ft.





- Fragmentation in all validation blasts resulted in meeting the 100% passing 37 inch criteria.
  - Eliminated oversize segregation in the pit.
  - Reduced use of the jaw mounted hammer to minimal.
  - No dramatic differences were observed in fragmentation gradation of validation blasts.







Improvements simulated by the fragmentation model for 12 ms inter-hole time were not obvious.





12 ms between hole times did display most consistent gradation.







	CAT 988H						
	# Avg		Avg	% Buckets	Crusher	Daily	
	Cycles	Cycle Time	Bucket	over 12 ton	Feed Rate	In-Pit	
	per		Weight		(overall)	Crushing	
	Shift	min:secs	tons		tons/hr	Tons/shift	
Baseline	1,234	2:04	11.97	51.85%	366.24	14,267	
Validation Blast #1	1,263	1:30	12.84	80.36%	505.94	16,173	
Validation Blast #2	1,671	1:41	12.62	73.17%	450.83	16,173	
Validation Blast #3	1,301	1:36	11.62	41.62%	452.64	15,207	
Average		1:35	12.36	65.05%	469.81		
Validation Blast #4	1,442	1:48	12.01	54.10%	363.70	17,314	

- Validation blasts 1 and 2
  - ✓ wheel loader cycle times were reduced by 15%;
  - ✓ bucket fill improved by 8 % and
  - the percentage of buckets weighing 12 tons or more improved by 63%.



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- For validation blast 3 (12ms)
  - Ioader cycle times were shortest;
  - ✓ there was no improvement over baseline in bucket fill;
  - there was a reduction of 11% in the percentage of buckets weighing 12 tons or more.



#### Results

- Impressive cost savings and increases in plant tonnage throughput within the "Blast to 1 inch minus" process cost model were realized in spite of 28% increase in D&B costs!
  - 10 to 27% increase in crusher plant capacity over baseline of 373 tons per hour to an average of 475 tons/hr
  - ✓ 17% to 31 % reduction in net total cost per ton when scalping
  - ✓ 8.8% reduction in net total cost per ton without scalping



#### Transfer of Knowledge Performance Testing

- Diesel operated portable crushing plant, supporting equipment and the blast design were moved to the California, MO quarry.
  - Similar cost reductions were realized
  - Increased performance and productivity reduced actual operating days to produce a 100,000 ton order by 25% compared to budget.

	CAT 988H								
Date	Operating	Daily Total	Average	Average	Buckets	Percent Buckets	Down Time	Overall	Adjusted
	Time	To Jaw	Cycle Time	Bucket Weight	per shift	Over		Crusher Feed	<b>Crusher Feed</b>
	hrs:min:sec	Tons	hrs:min:sec	Tons	#	12 ton	hrs:min:sec	Tons/hr	Tons/hr
Total	241:03:30	95,061.82			7,888		26:18:22		
Average			0:01:50	12.05		52.4%		394.35	442.66



#### Transfer of Knowledge Performance Testing

Capital Quarries Company Inc. - California MO Distribution of Bucket Weights for CAT 988H on per Blast Basis from April 16 Start-up.





#### **Eric Strope's Comment on Results**





07 - Sandvik Mtng 1-26-08 Clip3 - Cant Go Back - 0-44.wmv

**M**MV



























## **Algoa Quarry**

# Exposed 55 ft Bench Face looking South





#### Bit Penetration Rates by Rod







#### Avg = 164 200.0 dr-ft/hr 180.0 160.0 Hourly Production Rate (dr-ft/hr) 140.0 120.0 100.0 80.0 60.0 40.0 Algoa Quarry - 55 ft Bench - South Side 20.0 Titon 500 - 4-1/8" Bit - 3" Hammer - 3" Pipe

10

**Hole Number** 

AVG

Hole

17

Hole

16

Hole

13

12

Hole

14

Hole

15

Hole 1 Hole 2 Hole 3 Hole 4 Hole 5 Hole 6 Hole 7 Hole 8 Hole 9 Hole Hole 11 Hole

Hole to Hole Production Cycle Rate (dr-ft/hour)



0.0



















#### Algoa Quarry Shot Survey November 7, 2007

## Shot 1





Algoa Quarry

Muck Pile Shot 1

4-1/8" Bit

3" Pipe

3" Hammer

Exposed 55 ft Bench Face looking North







#### Algoa Quarry

4-1/8" Bit

3" Hammer

3" Pipe

+86% increase in TPH through the crusher. Muck Pile Shot 1

**375 TPH baseline to 700 TPH with improved drilling accuracy and blasting parameters.** 



#### **Phase 2 Summary**

- Average drill hole accuracy and precision improved, dropping to an average hole deviation of .6 feet to 1 foot off-center at depths below 40 feet.
- Nominal drilling cost remained neutral on a cost per dr-ft basis.
- Mean particle size dropped and muckpile shape and digability improved by a minimum 25% above phase 1 standards.
- Total crusher/screening plant productivity achieved close to double the ton/hour output of the original steady-state baseline.



#### Conclusions

- Drilling & Blasting can be a significant contributor to the aggregate producer's value chain. Maintaining control of the entire drill and blast process is imperative. Consistency and reproducibility are key drivers.
- The lessons learned in the casework were found to be transferable based on actual performance testing of the blast design at another of the Capital Quarries Company, Inc. operations.



#### Conclusions

- "Lean Thinking" helps "to see" all process improvements opportunities that can significantly effect finished product including drilling and blasting.
- Blasting and crushing models are useful tools to evaluate value-in-use solution hypotheses for crushed stone operations before on bench testing.



#### Conclusions

Quantification of value cannot be done without consistent and valid metrics. "Real-time" or "Dashboard" metrics drive continuous improvement. Considering the variable batch nature of shot rock as it moves through the production process, internal accounting methods for costing require modification to accurately associate work activities and time dependent variables with the costs that each generate.



#### **No Turning Back!**





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