TACA members work hard to support Texas’ growing population

Texas is growing at an unprecedented rate, with the population increasing by 1,000 daily. That means great demand for the raw materials that help residents and businesses grow and thrive. Currently, Texas consumes per capita approximately 2 yards of concrete, 10 tons of aggregate and about 0.6 tons in cement to support new and existing infrastructure.

The Texas Aggregates & Concrete Association (TACA) represents members who are the main resource for these necessary materials, representing 75% of the ready-mix, 80% of the aggregates and 100% of the cement producers in the state.

TACA industries help build Texas

Concrete

The use of concrete dates back to Roman times and is one of the most universally used building products known to man – thanks to its versatility and strength. It is a composite material chiefly made from cement, fine- and course-aggregates (rock and sand) and water, but may also include certain chemical admixtures that enhance or modify its properties.

Ready-mix concrete

Ready-mix, or ready mixed concrete, is batched or agitated concrete that is delivered directly to a job site via specialized truck in a plastic or unhardened state.

Cement

Cement is a powdered substance made of calcined limestone, clay and silica that, when mixed with water, forms a paste that acts as a binder to hold fine sand and coarse aggregates, i.e. rock, in a mixture. Cement is often incorrectly referred to as concrete.

Aggregates

Aggregates refer to a broad category of coarse- to medium-grained particulate minerals used in construction, including sand, gravel, crushed stone, slag, recycled concrete and geosynthetic aggregates. Aggregates are the most mined materials in the world.

More than 100,000 Texans work in the state’s aggregate, concrete, cement and affiliated industries.

More than 15 local, state and federal regulatory agencies oversee the industry.
TACA industries are a major economic force in Texas

TACA members support job creation, providing much-needed economic stimulus to local communities. More than 100,000 Texans are employed by the state’s aggregate, concrete and cement industries, along with the supporting companies that supply equipment and services to these producers.

Texas’ thriving and diverse commercial base also relies on TACA member companies. With an emphasis on capital intensive industries – including Texas’ energy sector – aggregates, concrete and other related materials provide the building blocks for start-up, ongoing and expansion projects, further supporting the state’s economic growth.

The industry enhances Texans’ quality of life

By sheer volume alone, no other raw materials play such an outsized role in our daily lives. Concrete and aggregates provide the basic raw materials essential to the construction of vital transportation routes, homes, hospitals and schools, as well as countless other projects, both public and private. They are integral to the overall prosperity of Texas.

Texans rely on concrete. For example:

- a residential home on average requires 100 yards
- a mile of six-lane highway 15,000 yards
- a hospital 30,000 yards
- construction of a high school football stadium 100,000 yards

Safely and reliably, TACA member companies make this growth possible. By relying on resources within Texas, the cost of infrastructure development is reduced and the availability of critical construction materials is ensured.

The industry is highly regulated

TACA members have a long history of maintaining good working relationships with more than 15 local, state and federal regulatory agencies – and numerous local agencies – that oversee different aspects of the industry. TACA works closely with these agencies to ensure compliance with all regulations and to support a consistent – and predictable – environmental permitting process.

The primary agency that regulates TACA industries is the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, which employs more than 2,500 staff, many of whom are strategically located in 16 different regions of Texas.

Whether working in quarries, along river beds or close to populated areas, TACA members follow best practices to protect the environment and ensure that their operations work within – and oftentimes going beyond – regulatory requirements.

TACA members are part of the community

TACA member companies and employees support social responsibility within the communities in which they live and work. This is demonstrated through active volunteerism and civic involvement with a host of community organizations and non-profits. For instance, member companies played a key role in responding to Hurricane Harvey, and continue to help the Houston area on its road to recovery.

Education is key

TACA provides industry short courses, as well as knowledge-based seminars, to keep members up-to-date on the latest industry standards and practices.

TACA and its member companies also provide scholarships and support to Texas State University’s Concrete Industry Management Program, which prepares students for a wide range of technical and managerial careers in the concrete and related industries.

Emerging Leaders

In 2016, TACA established its Emerging Leaders program to provide industry workers with the necessary advancement tools and skills to assume leadership roles. In 2018, the three-year rigorous program graduated its first class of Accredited leaders, and continues to graduate classes, to ensure that the industry – and Texas – will grow and thrive for many years to come.

Texans rely on concrete

Average
residential home
100 yards
Six-lane highway
15,000 yards
Hospital
30,000 yards
High school football stadium
100,000 yards

Every single job at an aggregates operation supports nearly five jobs outside the quarry.*

The Texas aggregates industry generates more than $4.8 billion annually.**

*The National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association
**The Phoenix Center for Advanced Legal and Economic Public Policy

About the Texas Aggregates & Concrete Association

The Texas Aggregates & Concrete Association (TACA) is the main resource for the aggregate, concrete, cement and other associated industries in Texas. The association represents its member companies by providing industry information to the public, media, policymakers and regulators; advocating for industry issues; ensuring member companies commit to conducting business with integrity, respect, transparency and honest communication; and creating industry training courses and materials that help members effectively manage their businesses.