



For Immediate Release  
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### Vulcan Materials Receives 2009 Blue Sky Award for its Innovative Research to Improve Air Quality

Los Angeles, Calif. (November 11, 2009) – Vulcan Materials Company (NYSE: VMC) announced today that its Western Division has been awarded the 2009 Blue Sky Award for Innovative Research given by the Maricopa County (AZ) Air Quality Department. The Company received the honor for its exceptional leadership and innovative research involved in the development of a sustainable alternative to traditional hot-mix asphalt that maximizes technology, equipment and resources. Vulcan's research led to the development of an effective new method to make asphalt at lower temperatures resulting in a new mix that reduces greenhouse gases and other emissions. In production, the new mix successfully contained up to 25% recycled materials, which further helps to reduce solid waste and GHG emissions.

This innovative research into warm mix technology by Vulcan's Arizona operations has already demonstrated environmental benefits in the communities Vulcan serves in other locations. For example, source tests of warm mix asphalt produced at Vulcan's Reliance Plant in Southern California (WarmPave™) confirmed 30% fewer greenhouse gas emissions per ton of material produced compared to conventional hot mix asphalt and reductions of 55% for oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions.

"It is an honor for our company to be recognized for its leadership in improving and enhancing air quality," said Alan Wessel, Vulcan's Western Division President. "We have an ongoing commitment to produce quality materials through sustainable practices that will protect and conserve the environment."

Vulcan's Western Division produces construction aggregates (rock, sand and gravel), asphalt, and ready-mixed concrete in three states – Arizona, California and New Mexico. The Maricopa County Air Quality Department ensures federal clean air standards are achieved and maintained for the residents and visitors of Maricopa County.

#### **About Vulcan Materials Company, Western Division**

Vulcan Materials Company, a member of the S&P 500 index, is the nation's largest producer of construction aggregates and a leading producer of hot-mix asphalt and ready-mixed concrete. The Company's Western Division was the first construction aggregates manufacturing company to join the California Climate Action Registry and was recently named "Climate Action Leader" by the Registry. In 2006, Vulcan's partnership with the Riverside Land Conservancy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received California's highest and most prestigious environmental award - the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award.

For additional information about Vulcan Materials Company, visit: [www.vulcanmaterials.com](http://www.vulcanmaterials.com).

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