

# THE NEW HOT-MIX ASPHALT ABSOLUTELY!

## 2009 Ecological Commendation Award Winners

*By Richard O. Wolters, P.E., MAPA Exec. Dir. and Jill M. Thomas, P.E., MAPA Assoc. Dir.*

The Ecological Commendation Award program recognizes hot-mix asphalt (HMA) production facilities that **best demonstrate safe and responsible environmental practices**. Facilities are judged on their design layout, clean operation, conducted tours for neighborhoods/local community groups/school groups and appearance. In order to qualify for the MAPA Ecological Commendation Award, a facility must successfully complete the rigorous NAPA criteria for the Diamond Achievement Commendation.

The Diamond Achievement Commendation was developed by NAPA to **encourage excellence in HMA plant/site operations while fostering good community relations**. The program brings to light how important it is to the future viability of the HMA industry that producers operate in a clean manner. All HMA producers in the United States are eligible to earn the Commendation, a producer's plant/site must achieve a passing score in each category of the application. **Applicants are scored on compliance with the following vital aspects of plant/site operations:**

- **Appearance**
- **Operations**
- **Environmental Practices**
- **Safety**
- **Permitting & Regulatory Compliance**
- **Community Relations**

*"Earning the Diamond Achievement Commendation serves as a signal to the employees and neighbors that an HMA facility is a good neighbor,"* commented NAPA.

Both the NAPA Diamond Achievement and MAPA Ecological Commendation Awards are open to all in the industry, regardless of NAPA and/or MAPA membership. Participation is voluntary and is on a plant/site by plant/site basis. Nominations are verified by members of the local community and are evaluated by a nationally known independent assessment firm.

***In addition to making quality HMA, the material of choice for Minnesota's motoring public, environmental stewardship is setting the pace for others to follow.***



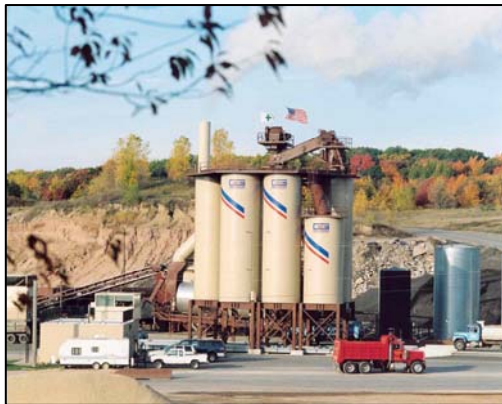
Those who earned the Diamond Achievement [NAPA] and Ecological [MAPA] Commendation Awards in 2009 are as follows:



*Knife River Corp. - North Central  
North Branch & St. Cloud Plants*



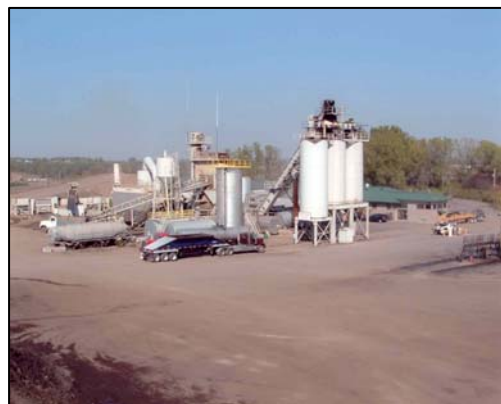
*Bituminous Roadways, Inc.  
Inver Grove Heights & Shakopee Plants*



*Commercial Asphalt Co.  
All 10 Plants (Scandia Plant shown)*



*Midwest Asphalt Corporation  
Eden Prairie Plant*



*Tower Asphalt, Inc.  
Lakeland Plant*

***Congratulations!***

