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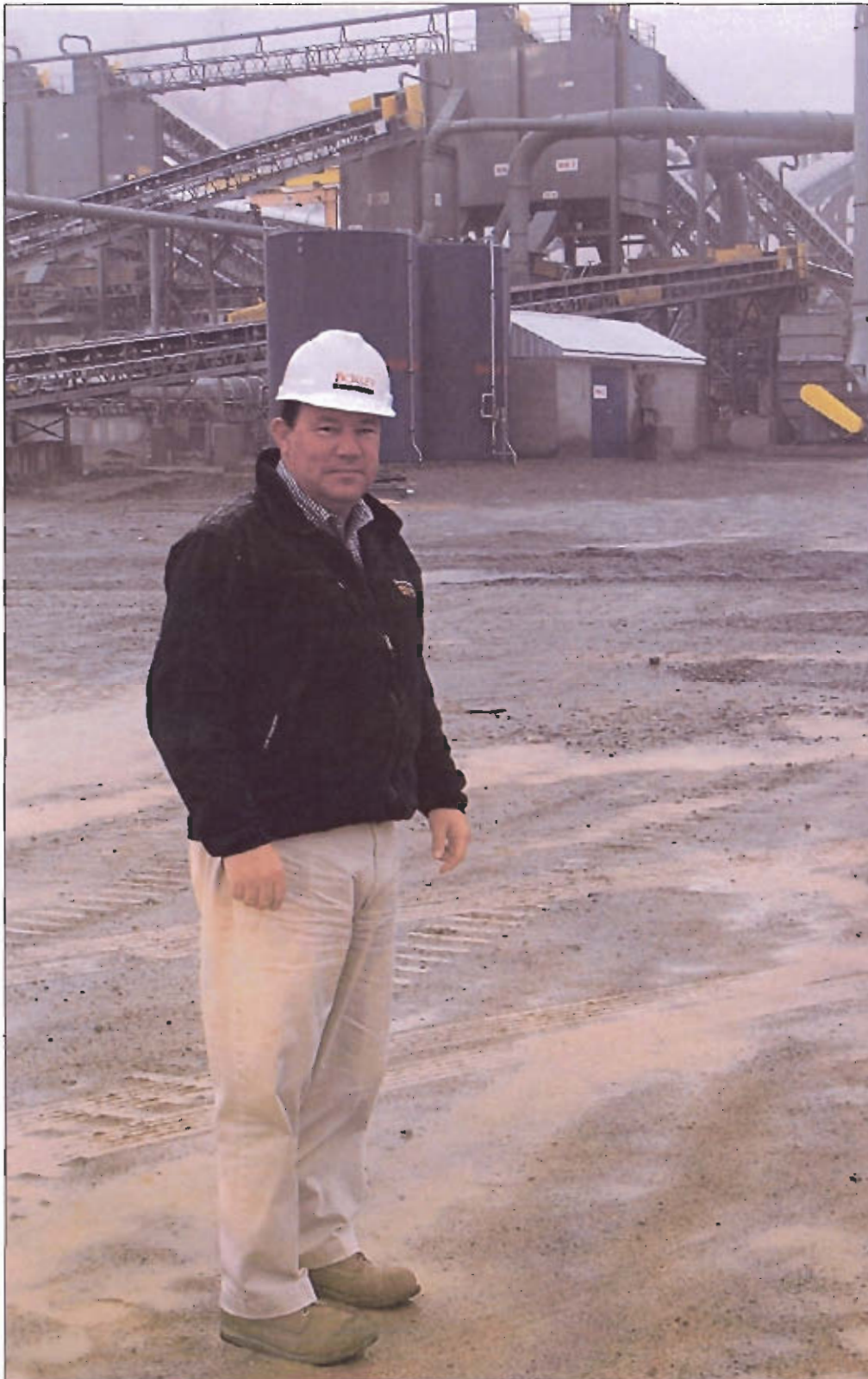
THE "ROCK TO ROAD" TRADE MAGAZINE



**Portable Plants
Truck Units**

Bill Hamlin, Vice President, Aggregate Operations, Boxley Materials, Roanoke, VA

Boxley Materials Company: A Vertically-Integrated Company in Roanoke, VA



Bill Hamlin, Vice President, Aggregate Operations for Boxley Materials, Roanoke VA.

by Kelly Gates

Founded in 1892, Boxley Materials Company, Roanoke, VA, is a vertically-integrated company that currently operates crushed stone, ready mix concrete and concrete block plants. Boxley services customers in Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina, supplying many of its own operations with limestone, granite and sandstone from its numerous quarry locations.

Boxley has been producing crushed limestone products at its Blue Ridge, Virginia quarry for all types of construction projects including road, commercial, municipal and residential developments, since 1917.

Recently, the company completed a major, state-of-the art project at the quarry that entailed the design and construction of a brand new materials processing plant. The multi-million dollar project included the relocation of the company's entire stone crushing and processing operation to a location directly across a four-lane highway.

"Our primary plant was built adjacent to the main line of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, which was on the other side of the road from where we put our new plant," said John Zalubowski, vice president of development at the company's Blue Ridge support center. "We had been conveying material under a four-lane divided highway for years but when it came time to build a new plant, it made more sense to go back to the north side of the highway where the deposit is located." Several years ago, Boxley Materials began speaking with engineers and taking quotes, in search of the perfect processing plant for its Blue Ridge Quarry. Construction began on the new plant in September of 2003 and was completed in July of 2004.

"We actually had our own project team established with a written charter, including a cross-section of our employees to make sure we looked at all areas of concern," said Zalubowski. "The team met on a regular basis to go over financial budgets, purchase orders and scheduling to ensure that everything was completed efficiently and on time."

The project includes a perimeter to better accommodate the influx of inbound and outbound traffic that would be generated by the quarry.

According to Zalubowski, the quarry's scale system was also relocated and in the end, both the quarry and the outlying road fit better into the land's natural topography.

By the time the project was effectively under way, the only piece of equipment that wasn't purchased brand new was a vertical shaft crusher, he said.

One of the units incorporated into the plant is a gravitational-inertial classifying system manufactured by Buell a Division of Fisher Klosterman Inc. Lebanon, PA. The unit, a twin GI 108, enables Boxley to produce manufactured sand by removing the minus 200 mesh fine component to make in spec sand products for use as asphalt filler.

The feed material that has already been reduced and processed by other components of the Blue Ridge plant enters the top of the classifier along with primary air. The air then makes a 120 degree shift in direction and exits through the unit's vanes, carrying fine particles with it.

The coarse particles, too heavy to make the turn, fall to the bottom to be discharged through a valve. Secondary air, injected below the vanes, passes through the curtain of falling particles. Those particles near cutpoint in size are diverted by the secondary air stream into an eddy current within the heart-shaped chamber. The fines, some captured as they enter the unit and others drawn from the eddy, are carried by the exiting air to a filter for final recovery.

As a result of the elaborate classifying process, Boxley is able to make



New TelSmith 4448 primary crusher installed at new plant.

Photos by Bruce Button



Wanda Eaves-Taylor, receptionist at Boxley.

a wide variety of spec materials for its customers as well as its own materials divisions.

With the company's new plant in place, Boxley's Blue Ridge Quarry is effectively producing every size of finished product from fine dust to rip rap.

Along with the various-sized limestone materials produced Boxley's Blue Ridge Quarry, the company also produces arch marble products at its Lynchburg, VA quarry, green stone products at a Mt. Athos, VA location, Aplite products at its Piney River quarry and granite products in Martinsville, VA.

The company also has limestone quarries in Lewisburg, WV and Mill Point, WV, as well as a sandstone location in Beckley, WV.

Boxley's quarries, ready mix and block plants supply a wide array of construction customers.

One of the major projects in the company's portfolio includes a 600,000 sq. ft. distribution center for Nautica Clothing Company, complete with a "till up wall design" and a total of 24,000 yards of concrete.

