

## CIM PROGRAM REACHES FUNDRAISING MILESTONE

The **Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program**—a business intensive curriculum that awards students with a 4-year Bachelor of Science degree in concrete industry management—at California State University, Chico, has received its “One Millionth Dollar” donation. According to Douglas K. Guerrero, Chairman of the Chico State CIM Patrons, this milestone was achieved through the generous donations made by 110 corporate and 36 individual gifts from patrons and contributors over the last 3-plus years. “These donations, along with the generous gifting from the CIM National Steering Committee, have made our program the success we hoped for when our local Patrons Foundation was created in December 2005. The success to date is due to the dedication of the active Patrons,” said Guerrero.

## PRODUCTS RECEIVE GREEN SEAL OF APPROVAL

Cement All™, Mortar Mix, and Concrete Mix—Rapid Set® fast-setting cement products from **CTS Cement Manufacturing Corp.**—have been placed on Home Depot’s Eco Options list. Home Depot created Eco Options to make it easier for customers to identify products that have a smaller environmental impact. Eco Options products are required to offer at least one of the following benefits: sustainability, forestry, energy efficiency, healthy home, clean air, and water conservation. The Rapid Set products were chosen because their manufacture requires less limestone and fossil fuels, resulting in a smaller carbon footprint. Scientific Certification Systems evaluated the research to verify CTS Cement’s claims by using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s guidelines for Environmentally Preferred Products (EPP). Under EPP guidelines, a product must meet or exceed the environmental performance of a typical product in the same product category over its life cycle and without significant environmental trade-offs.

## BOOK DETAILS COMPANY’S CENTURY-LONG HISTORY

Written by Tom Miller, President of **Metal Forms Corporation (MFC)**, *Forming the Roadway to Success* details the remarkable 100-year history of a family-owned manufacturing company. This true American success story is documented with hundreds of photos and illustrations as uncovered in the MFC archives, industry publications, newspaper articles, legal depositions, and many interviews. Miller also recounts his personal

experiences with MFC, along with events relayed by his grandfather and father throughout his childhood and early adulthood. MFC, which began as a manufacturer of concrete forms, was the first company to successfully design and produce a steel form for constructing concrete homes and buildings. Innovation has continued throughout the company’s 100-year history—it’s been awarded more than 40 U.S. and foreign patents and currently holds nine registered U.S. and Canadian trademarks.

## MANUFACTURING FACILITY EARNS ISO CERTIFICATION

The **Saint-Gobain Technical Fabrics** building materials manufacturing center in Tlaxcala, Mexico, has received ISO 14001:2004 certification. Established by the International Organization for Standardization, ISO 14001:2004 is a management tool that enables organizations to identify and control the environmental impact of its activities, products, or services; continually improve its environmental performance; and implement a systematic approach for setting and achieving environmental objectives and targets. The systematic ISO 14001:2004 approach requires organizations to undertake a thorough review of all the areas where its activities have an environmental impact, leading to reduced costs for waste management, reduced consumption of energy and materials, lower distribution costs, and the establishment of a framework for continual improvement. Saint-Gobain Technical Fabrics plans to secure ISO 14001:2004 certification for all five of its North American manufacturing facilities by early 2011.

## AWARD RECOGNIZES INNOVATIVE COLLABORATION

The Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) has honored **Fabcon**, a leading manufacturer of precast concrete wall panels, with the 2009 Tekne Award in the “Innovative Collaboration of the Year” category. The award recognizes the innovative effort between Fabcon and **VAST Enterprises LLC**, a material science research and manufacturing company. The two companies worked together to launch the first precast wall panel using composite bricks that are made from up to 95% post-consumer/post-industrial materials. By significantly reducing construction and maintenance costs, the wall panel offers a unique finish option for builders seeking sustainable construction materials. Presented by MHTA in partnership with LifeScience Alley and Enterprise Minnesota, the Tekne Awards annually recognize Minnesota’s best and brightest technology users and developers in innovation, development, education, commercialization, and management.