



For Immediate Release

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**Ash Grove Cement Company Receives
“United We Serve” National Volunteer Campaign Award from US EPA**

Overland Park, Kan. – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 Director of Environmental Services Dr. Ron Hammerschmidt presented Ash Grove Cement Company today with an award for its support of “United We Serve” and the Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign.

United We Serve is part of President Obama’s national volunteer campaign that challenges all Americans to engage in sustained, meaningful service to meet growing social needs.

On August 19, 2009, employees of Ash Grove Cement Company and its private sector chemical recovery partners, Tradebe Pollution Control Industries and Cadence Environmental Energy, Inc., collected and disposed of outdated and excess chemicals from science labs and custodial stocks at Grandview Middle and High schools in Grandview, Mo.

The Missouri Center for Safe Schools assisted the Grandview School District to make its chemical management practices sustainable by training key school personnel.

“Ash Grove has been honored to work with the U.S. EPA and others in support of the Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign here at Grandview High School,” said Michael Harrell, Ash Grove’s manager of Alternative Fuel and Resource Recovery. “We strongly support environmentally beneficial opportunities like these that offer the opportunity to partner with local communities.”

Ash Grove Cement Company is the only U.S.-owned cement company that is a member of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development’s Cement Sustainability Initiative. The Cement Sustainability Initiative is a global effort by industry leaders who believe there is a strong business case for the pursuit of sustainable development.

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Ash Grove Receives “United We Serve” Award

Ash Grove Cement Company (www.ashgrove.com) is an established leader within the cement industry and has a strong and longstanding tradition of service, reliability and quality for more than 125 years. As the largest U.S.-owned cement company, Ash Grove produces nearly nine million tons of cement annually from eight cement plants located west of the Mississippi.

The quality portland and masonry cements produced at these plants are used in the construction of highways, bridges, commercial and industrial complexes, single and multi-family homes, and a myriad of other structures fundamental to America's economic vitality and quality of life.

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