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PRESS RELEASE

ALPINE: State-of-the-art asphalt mixing plant opens in Linz

- **Investment volume: six million euros**
- **Short, environmentally-friendly access**

Linz: ALPINE Bau GmbH built an environmentally-friendly, state-of-the-art asphalt mixing plant in Linz on the former chemicals site. The investment volume was EUR 6.0 million. "ALPINE attaches great importance to extracting and producing its own raw materials to maintain its autonomy and independence. We set another milestone by building this asphalt mixing plant," said Karl Gruber, member of the ALPINE Management, during the opening ceremony. All special types of asphalt can be produced at the new plant using cutting-edge technology.

Short access routes

The plant's central location in close proximity to the A7 and A1 motorways makes it possible to supply the city of Linz and the central Mühlviertel district without having to cover long distances. "This plant will make us even more competitive and boost sales in the Road Construction Division, having continuously risen over the last ten years," adds Prok. Peter Schwaighofer, Division Manager for Road and Sewer Construction in Upper Austria.

*ALPINE Bau GmbH, **Upper Austria Branch**, employs a staff of nearly 1,000. Its construction output was approx. 200 million euros in 2009. The Austrian ALPINE company, a member of the FCC Group, is a global player. With a construction output of EUR 3.4 billion in 2009 and a staff of 15,234, ALPINE is the second largest construction company in Austria. For more information visit www.alpine.at.*

Questions:

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Step by step asphalt production – the plant's mode of operation

Gravel deliveries are stored in tower silos with a total capacity of over 7,000 tons, conveyed to the drying drums on discharge conveyors, dried at approx. 200° C and transported to the screening machine on a bucket conveyor.

After screening, the gravel drops into 12 different rock containers, depending on the grain size. The gravel is added to the mixer according to the required composition, bitumen is injected and mixed with the gravel. The product is mixed for approx. 40 seconds for three tons and is loaded onto trucks as a finished product through loading silos. The mix loaded onto the trucks is covered with a tarp or brought directly to the site on "thermo trucks."

Any accumulating dust and bitumen vapors are fully disposed of via exhaust fans, filters and reburning. The "white cloud" visible on cooler days is merely steam and environmentally compatible. The plant is completely enclosed to reduce sound emission.

To preserve gravel resources, recycled asphalt, i.e. asphalt dug out from paved areas and crushed, is also used in the production of base course.

Energy is supplied by environmentally-friendly natural gas.

The plant can produce up to 240 tons of asphalt per hour.

Asphalts consist of a mixture of mineral aggregate and petroleum bitumen as the binder, usually containing 93-96 % of the aggregate and 4-7 % of the binder. High-grade asphalts containing plasticized bitumen and hard rock can be produced in this plant for the major road system.