

## **JASPER COUNTY HOT MIX PROGRAM**

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Jasper County Highway Superintendent

In 1996 Jasper County was faced with the possibility of losing its one and only source for asphalt in the entire county. The private contractor who had supplied the county with hot mix was tearing his old plant down and was moving to another plant 30 miles out of the area. I began talking to the commissioners about the possibility of putting in our own asphalt plant. I first checked on used plants that were for sale, but most of these were 25 to 30 years old and the tear down and transportation costs were very expensive.

I learned of an asphalt plant manufacturer in Huntertown, Indiana, which is close to Fort Wayne. I called the company, Asphalt Drum Mixers, Inc.(A.D.M.) and made an appointment to visit their facility. They build asphalt plants that are capable of producing 60 to 325 tons per hour. They have been in business since 1974 and have sold more than 425 drum mix plants all over the world.

We talked about what I felt the county's needs would be in road building for the future and finally decided that a 110 ton per hour plant would suit our needs for the years to come.

The commissioners and I made another trip to Huntertown and toured the A.D.M. plant and also looked at two plants that had been installed in northern Indiana, one in Wakarusa and another in Valparaiso. Both of these contractors were extremely happy with the operation and efficiency of the A.D.M. asphalt plants.

In the spring of 1997 we advertised to accept bids on a 110 ton per hour asphalt plant. The bid was awarded to the A.D.M. company and they started building our plant on April 15, 1997.

During the summer the utility company installed a 4" natural gas line and electrical service to the plant site and the concrete footers and pads were poured. Our local forces did all of the excavation work and helped with the concrete forming.

The plant was delivered the first week in August and set-up time required three weeks.

We began producing asphalt in September and ran 10,000 tons the first month.

1998 was our first full year of operation for the Hot Mix Plant. We produced forty five thousand, two hundred five (45,205) tons of asphalt and paved 35 full width miles of roads.

The average cost per ton was:

Stone	(60%)	\$ 3.00
Sand	(40%)	\$ 2.40
AC-20 Oil		\$ 6.33
Utilities (gas & electric)		<u>\$ 1.89</u>

TOTAL \$ 13.62

Our cost to purchase hot mix from an outside vendor would be approximately \$24.00 per ton.

Vendor cost:

$$45,205 \times \$24.00 \text{ per ton} = \$1,084,920.00$$

Our cost:

$$45,205 \times \$13.62 \text{ per ton} = \$ 615,692.00$$

**TOTAL 1998 SAVINGS \$469,228**

Combining the \$100,000 we saved on asphalt in the fall of 1997 with this years production, we have realized \$570,000.00 in cost savings over purchasing hot mix from an outside contractor.

Needless to say, we are very pleased with our production costs, but aside from that we now can control the quality of our mix, have no downtime in loading trucks, and can lay 800 to 900 tons of asphalt per day instead of 300 to 400 tons as we did in the past.

Asphalt Plant Costs:

Plant	\$ 340,000.00
Concrete	\$ 11,653.00
Construction	\$ 13,050.00
IDEM Permits	\$ 10,000.00
Utility Installation	\$ 10,905.00
Crane Rental	\$ 4,364.00

TOTAL COST \$ 389,972.00

## ASPHALT PLANT

Asphalt Plant Cost	\$340,000.00
Concrete for Pads and Wet Scrubber Ponds	\$ 11,653.00
Anders Construction	\$ 13,050.00
IDEM Construction-Air Pollution, Operating & Title V Permits	\$ 10,000.00
Natural Gas Line Installation-City of Rensselaer	\$ 10,905.00
Hobart Crane Rental	\$ 4,364.00
<b>TOTAL COST OF PLANT AND INSTALLATION COSTS</b>	<b>\$389,972.00</b>