

THE NEW HOT-MIX ASPHALT ABSOLUTELY!

2008 Ecological Commendation Award Winners

By Richard O. Wolters, P.E., MAPA Exec. Dir. and Jill M. Thomas, P.E., MAPA Assoc. Dir.

The Ecological Commendation Award program recognizes hot-mix asphalt (HMA) production facilities that **best demonstrate safe and responsible environmental practices**. Facilities are judged on their design layout, clean operation, conducted tours for neighborhoods/local community groups/school groups and appearance. In order to qualify for the MAPA Ecological Commendation Award, a facility must successfully complete the rigorous NAPA criteria for the Diamond Achievement Commendation.

The Diamond Achievement Commendation was developed by NAPA to **encourage excellence in HMA plant/site operations while fostering good community relations**. The program brings to light how important it is to the future viability of the HMA industry that producers operate in a clean manner. All HMA producers in the United States are eligible to earn the Commendation, a producer's plant/site must achieve a passing score in each category of the application. **Applicants are scored on compliance with the following vital aspects of plant/site operations:**

- **Appearance**
- **Operations**
- **Environmental Practices**
- **Safety**
- **Permitting & Regulatory Compliance**
- **Community Relations**

"Earning the Diamond Achievement Commendation serves as a signal to the employees and neighbors that an HMA facility is a good neighbor," commented NAPA.

Both the NAPA Diamond Achievement and MAPA Ecological Commendation Awards are open to all in the industry, regardless of NAPA and/or MAPA membership. Participation is voluntary and is on a plant/site by plant/site basis. Nominations are verified by members of the local community and are evaluated by a nationally known independent assessment firm.

In addition to making quality HMA, the material of choice for Minnesota's motoring public, environmental stewardship is setting the pace for others to follow.



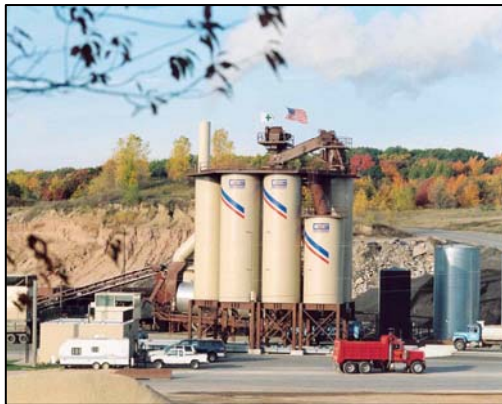
Those who earned the Diamond Achievement [NAPA] and Ecological [MAPA] Commendation Awards in 2008 are as follows:



*Knife River Corp. - North Central
North Branch and St. Cloud Plants*



*Bituminous Roadways, Inc.
Inver Grove Heights and Shakopee Plants*



*Commercial Asphalt Co.
All 10 Plants (Scandia Plant shown)*



*Midwest Asphalt Corporation
Eden Prairie Plant*



*River Bend Asphalt Co.
Kasota Plant*



*Tower Asphalt, Inc.
Lakeland Plant*

Congratulations!

