

CUSTOMER FEATURE

Supplying the soil stabilizers — a growing business



taken from a PowerPoint sent by Doug Taylor on CD



via email from John Jordan March 13

When soil contains too much clay to form a stable base on which to construct roads, buildings or parking lots, adding high calcium quicklime can be a great solution. Western Stabilization, a California-based customer of Graymont's, buys over 40,000 tons per year for its booming business.

"We work throughout the western states and we are growing at a rapid rate," Western Stabilization General Manager John Jordan explained. "We are particularly proud of our state-of-the-art fleet of equipment and our commitment to environmentally innovative practices. All of our processes are environmentally friendly and can save a large amount of money for our customers."

Doug Taylor, a senior sales representative with Graymont, said the efficiency of transporting

the hi-cal quicklime to a "trans-load" site called Sugarfield, just outside of Woodland in northern California, has been very useful in serving this industry sector.

"We ship the quicklime via rail to Sugarfield and from there our customers arrive with their own trucks to pick up their orders," Taylor explained. "We're very proud of Sugarfield as a facility, too. It's in a beautiful and lush setting and we've made protecting that environment a priority."

According to Jordan, there are two main categories of soil treatment involving hi-cal quicklime.

"The first category is soil modification, where a lower percentage of lime is added to soils to improve their workability. Examples include adding lime to dry out wet soils so normal construction equipment can work the soil. This is a 'life saver' for contractors during the winter months," Jordan said. "Another example is to add just enough lime to limit the shrink or swell characteristics of clays so they can be used as engineered fill for building pads."

"The second category is soil stabilization where lime is added to the soil in larger quantities to actually create a structural section utilizing onsite soils," Jordan pointed out. "By using onsite

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soils, contractors can realize huge cost savings and usually end up with a better product than the normal aggregate replacement.

Usual uses of lime stabilized soils are under building pads, under roads and streets and under parking lots."

Headquartered in Dixon, Calif., Western Stabilization was established in 1978 and today employs 55 people at its facility. In addition to soil stabilization, Western Stabilization offers asphalt pulverization, cold foamed asphalt recycling and job site winterization (dry out) to keep projects on schedule. Western Stabilization's website features a technical library and an extensive list of resources for the industry as well. See www.wstabilization.com.

"We could use even more hi-cal quicklime in the future because our business is growing so much," Jordan said. "We've been working with Graymont for over five years and have a great relationship. We appreciate having this association with a company that shares our goals and has the same regard for integrity." ◀

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ABOVE AND LEFT: Need captions.