

On 18 January 2009, Shaanxi Yaobai Special Cement Co Limited (“Yaobai”), a fully owned subsidiary of West China Cement Limited (“WCC”) held its Annual Review and Award Ceremony in recognition of the outstanding efforts of Yaobai’s employees in 2008.

Despite particularly challenging conditions throughout the year, both economically and with the Sichuan earthquake of May 2008 and the unusually heavy snows of last New Year, Yaobai achieved its strongest results in the Company’s history. 36 members of staff were in turn honoured with employee awards of excellence for their hard work throughout 2008.

General Manager Mr Tian Maoyuan summed up the achievements of 2008. These included:

1. Improved management operating systems and controls Increased customer base
2. Increased market share
3. Centralised purchasing
4. Strategic expansion

CEO Mr Zhang Jimin praised staff for their efforts:

“2008 was an unusual year. We overcame funding difficulties and entered the southern Shaanxi market via our new Ankang plant. 2009 will be another remarkable year if all of us work diligently.”

Mr Zhang stressed that "enhanced internal controls, improved energy consumption and ensuring the Company capitalised on expansion opportunities" were the objectives for the coming year. He urged everyone to work cooperatively for a successful 2009.

The Ceremony was closed with a feast to honour the Company’s success and to mark the Chinese New Year.