

## COMMUNICATION CIMPOR Inaugurates its Largest Cement Plant in China

CIMPOR today inaugurated in China its largest plant for cement production which will allow the company to more than double its installed capacity in the country. CIMPOR Zaozhuang possesses a capacity for cement production, with its own clinker, of 2 million tonnes per year, while respecting the highest standards of security and environmental protection. This investment represents a value of almost 100 million Euros.

The plant is located in Zaozhuang, a city known for its construction materials companies and for the production of coal. This region is very rich in reserves of coal and limestone, the essential raw material for the production of cement. Zaozhuang is the leader in the province of Shandong's ranking of installed cement production capacity, with around 60 million tonnes.

The geographical situation is one of several competitive advantages. In particular, this location is close to important lines of communication, including, airports (Xuzhou, Jining and Linyi), ports (Baijiu, Lanshan and Lianyungang), motorways (Beijing-Shanghai, Beijing-Fuzhou) and highways. The south provides the famous Beijing-Hangzhou canal (linking Zaozhuang to the cities of Jiangsu, Shanghai and Zhejiang), an essential method of transport for coal, cement and plaster for the whole country. CIMPOR's plants in both Shandong and Zaozhuang are close to this important waterway.

The President of CIMPOR's Executive Committee, Dr. Francisco de Lacerda, mentioned during the inauguration ceremony that "this investment constitutes an important step in the development and strategy of the company's internationalisation and in the reinforcement of the company's exposure to emerging markets with high potential growth." He added that, "CIMPOR's increasing presence in Asia is fundamental to ensuring sustainability in the pattern of economic performance which we have demonstrated."

CIMPOR entered the Chinese market in May 2007 with the acquisition of 60% of the social capital of the company, Shandong Liuyan, Ltd. It currently possesses two production plants for integrated cement production, in Shandong and Zaozhuang, a clinker production plant in Liyang, and two cement grinding units in Huaian and Suzhou, which together have a production capacity of cement with its own clinker of 5.3 million tonnes per year.

With a presence in four continents and twelve countries, CIMPOR is among the top ten global producers of cement, with an annual production capacity of 36 million tonnes.

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