

Winstone Aggregates, on the road to energy efficiency

Winstone Aggregates is taking major steps to reduce energy consumption and environmental impact and in doing so has won the Aggregate and Quarry Association of NZ award for Energy Efficiency.



Jason Lowe (left) Winstone Aggregates pictured with James Boyce, President of the Aggregate and Quarry Association.

General Manager Bernie Chote says there were a number of drivers behind reducing energy consumption. “Focusing on energy efficiencies not only reduces Winstone Aggregates’ environmental impact, but it’s also crucial in improving the bottom line.” Fuel and electricity use accounts for 10% of Winstone Aggregates’ expenditure.

In keeping with the company’s vision, *Economic Growth through Sustainable Practices* an Energy Policy was developed in 2007 and since then has led to a variety of initiatives including plant and site energy audits, productivity versus energy consumption analysis, fleet audits, bio-diesel and hybrid trials. An audit at three of the company’s 27 sites

identified yearly energy savings of up to 560MW per annum with a reduction in carbon emissions of 130,000kgs.

Jason Lowe believes that “the efficient use of energy is, and will continue to become a key factor in every business, the quarrying industry is a large user and as such has a responsibility to try and make most efficient use of the energy consumed.” He continues, “Winstone Aggregates are committed to doing this, we are delighted to have won the award as recognition of our achievements to date but the challenge is just beginning, I urge other Industry members to get on board and enter the 2009 energy efficiency award.”

The \$10,000 prize from EECA is being put towards completing energy initiatives identified during recent audits, along with helping to fund a follow up audit to quantify the success and actual energy savings achieved as a direct result of the audits.