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NEW QUIKRETE® WET SHOTCRETE PROCESS WINS AWARD *The American Shotcrete Association Recognizes Oregon Tunnel Project*

ATLANTA (Sept. 5, 2012) – The QUIKRETE® Companies latest innovation, QUIKRETE® Wet Process Shotcrete, was recently recognized as a critical element in the award-winning Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) U.S. Highway 26 Dennis L. Edwards Tunnel Project in Portland, Ore. More than 1,200 bags of 3,000-pound QUIKRETE® Shotcrete MS – Steel Fiber Reinforced was used in the tunnel renovation, which was named 2011 “Outstanding Repair & Rehabilitation Project” by the American Shotcrete Association (ASA).

After 70 years of continuous vehicle traffic between Portland and the Oregon coast on Highway 26, the 772-foot Dennis Edward Tunnel was in need of significant structural restoration. However, renovating the tunnel could not interfere with the daily commute of thousands and had to be complete before traffic doubled when the tourist season began in May 2011. To make the project even more challenging, general contractor, Johnson Western Gunitite Company faced wet weather and unstable ground conditions when the project started in Jan. 2011. This made the use of a traditional rock bolt and shotcrete application system impossible, so an extremely unique approach was taken to restore the tunnel. QUIKRETE® Shotcrete MS – Steel Fiber Reinforced was applied up to 18-inches thick between existing timber sets so lagging could be removed and reinforcement applied a section at a time. This process enabled construction to be performed safely and efficiently throughout the night.

In addition to exceeding project strength specifications by reaching 3,800 PSI at one day and more than 9,400 PSI at 15 days, the QUIKRETE® Wet Process Shotcrete limited dust in the application process by batching the shotcrete wet in advance rather than combining the water and shotcrete during the shooting process. As a result, there was little clean-up each morning in preparation for traffic and Johnson Western Gunitite Company completed the project on time.

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“A combination of factors including the project schedule and traffic considerations really made this a uniquely challenging renovation,” said Don Dodroe, Regional Sales Manager for The QUIKRETE® Companies. “However, with the wet mix process, the Johnson Western Gunitite team experienced nearly no rebound and was able to methodically rehabilitate the tunnel in a timely manner without creating any traffic disruptions. This award from the Shotcrete Association really validates that the right approach was taken to restoring the tunnel.”

The QUIKRETE® Companies offers a full line of shotcrete products that can be applied through a wet or dry process to deliver high strength, high adhesion, low rebound and low sag in rehabilitating bridges, tunnels, parking garages, ramps, piers, dams and other concrete structures. In the past decade, QUIKRETE® shotcrete has been used on variety of renovation projects ranging from the Stanford Linear Accelerator in California and the New World Symphony in Florida to the Ashton Hydro Electric Plant in Idaho and Rankin Bridge in North Carolina.

For more information on QUIKRETE® and its products, visit www.quikrete.com, like it on [Facebook](#) and follow it on Twitter [@QUIKRETE](#).

The QUIKRETE® Companies

The QUIKRETE® Companies is the largest manufacturer of packaged concrete and cement mixes in the United States and Canada, and an innovative leader in the commercial building and home improvement industries. QUIKRETE® products are manufactured and bagged in more than 90 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and South America, allowing for unsurpassed distribution and product depth. The QUIKRETE® Technical Center ensures that professionals and consumers alike are provided with the most innovative and highest quality products available on the market. For additional information on The QUIKRETE® Companies or its products, please visit www.quikrete.com or call (800) 282-5828.

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