

START-UP OF PRODUCTION AT THE JAMBYL CEMENT PLANT IN KAZAKHSTAN



Paris, 2 December 2010: The Vicat group is announcing that the Jambyl Cement greenfield plant in Kazakhstan has now entered the production phase in line with the original schedule. With a full-year production capacity of over 1.1 million tonnes, this new cement plant will enable the Group to capitalise on the tremendous potential and growth of Kazakhstan, a net importer of cement.

This efficient and modern facility boasts a geostrategic location that enables it to already meet demand generated by Kazakhstan's major growth regions. It is directly linked to the rail and road networks between the two major cities of Astana and Almaty, and can hence serve the country's leading economic and political centres.

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Guy Sidos, Chief Executive Officer of the Vicat group commented:

"The start-up of production at the Jambyl Cement plant is a technical success that has come at a perfect time to help meet Kazakhstan's growing needs for cement. This success has been built on a productive partnership with HomeBroker, our Kazakh partner, and IFC, a member of the World Bank Group."

ABOUT THE GREENFIELD JAMBYL CEMENT PLANT

The plant possesses limestone and clay reserves sufficient for more than 100 years and will produce cement using the dry process. This technology gives it a double competitive advantage:

- the energy-efficient production line will consume less than half the energy per tonne of cement of plants using the wet process.
- it is environmentally friendly, complying fully with all the Kazakh and international environmental and safety standards.

Alongside this industrial project, the Vicat group has developed a social project, including the creation of numerous direct and indirect jobs, an intensive and continuous training policy and the integration of employees from the neighbouring village of Mynaral.

ABOUT VICAT

PRESS RELEASE



The Vicat Group has **nearly 6,700 employees** working in three core divisions, Cement, Concrete & Aggregates and Other Products & Services, which generated **consolidated sales of €1,896 million** in 2009. The Group **operates in eleven countries:** France, Switzerland, Italy, the United States, Turkey, Egypt, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Kazakhstan and India. Nearly 56% of sales are generated outside France. The Vicat Group is the heir to an industrial tradition dating back to 1817, when Louis Vicat invented artificial cement. Founded in 1853, the Vicat Group now operates **three core lines of business: Cement, Ready-Mixed Concrete** and **Aggregates**, as well as related activities.