

Environmental, Health and Safety News

October 2014

We're Proud of Our Work

Something to Think About!!

“Why do we call it rush hour, when nothing moves!”

- - Robin Williams (7/21/51—8/11/14)

Safety First! All Day, Every Day - Our Families, Friends and Customers Depend On It!



SPOTLIGHT

Imi has a lot of great people. Our great people are what make imi loudly say “We Are Proud of Our Work”. We thought it might be fun to spotlight someone who makes imi what it is. This particular individual has won the accolades of those he reports to as well as those that report to him. This month the EHS



Newsletter is proud to shine the “Spotlight” on Mike Oaf.

Mike is a multi-talented, well-organized individual. He learned many of his mechanical skills from his father growing up, while they were rebuilding motors and building race cars. This mechanical acumen was enhanced during his stint in the U.S. Army as a mechanic.

Home for Mike is in Royal Center, IN with wife Gina. His three sons are Michael (21), Ryan (14) and Daulton (4).

Mike started in the ready mixed concrete business as a ready mix truck driver at the Winamac, Indiana plant (about 60 miles southeast of Chicago) with the former owner of that plant. He was a part of the team that built the new plant at Winamac shortly after imi acquired that location. While helping Winamac Plant Manager George Scheffer maintain the plant and equipment at Winamac, Mike proved to be a talented

driver trainer and was soon tapped to provide the orientation for new hires to the area.

In 2013 a portable plant was erected near Monon, IN for a specific project and Mike volunteered to run the plant for a high-volume construction project nearby that was erecting a steel recycling plant. For this particular project, all new drivers were brought in, 16 in all, and not one had any experience in driving a ready mix truck. Mike took on the challenge of running the plant and training the drivers with the motto of, “**We are making imi proud by doing great things!**” and they did. During that project there were no serious injuries or accidents and the project was completed on schedule.

In the spring of 2014 the portable plant at Monon was moved to Lynn, IN (15 miles north of Richmond, IN) to service a wind farm that was being erected in East Central Indiana. Now, not only did Mike help erect the plant on the new site, but he also took over the responsibility of interviewing and hiring the drivers for the project. Seven new drivers were hired and again not one had any previous experience driving a ready mix truck. Another important project (phase one) successfully completed.



When we caught up with Mike for this article, he was the plant manager at a portable plant erected in Frankfort, IN (pictured above) for a major project in that area.

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**Irving Materials, Inc
Environmental, Health
and Safety News**

Editor:
Walt Tharp
2321 E - 150 N
Bluffton, IN 46714

Cell Phone: 317-432-9604
Office Phone: 260-824-3428
Fax: 260-824-4422
E-mail: walt.tharp@irvmat.com

Safety is never an accident: it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction and skilled execution! It represents the wise choice of many alternatives!!

ConAgra is building a huge distribution center near Frankfort. The plant erected at Frankfort arrived from the Gohmann acquisition in southern Indiana. That plant had not been operated in several years, so you can imagine that a lot of parts were a little tough to get working again. Mike assisted in getting the plant up and running in time for the start of the project. This particular plant has a different batching system than most of our other plants and again Mike quickly adapted to the challenge of learning the Rex controls on an Erie Strayer plant. This particular project is expected to require in excess of 100,000 yards of concrete in the next year.

Mike expects a lot from his helpers and the drivers and explained that work ethic is the most important asset when he is interviewing for positions that he needs filled. "Show up for work, work hard and have fun" were the exact words that were used. Because of his driving experience and his natural ability toward building and repairing things, he saw a great need with regards to training drivers and plant personnel. As a result, he has devised a program for training that includes truck inspections, practice backing and driving around the parking lot, driving on the road, proper alignment under the plant (he has made special devices at each plant to help - each plant is different), proper cleaning of the truck, concrete 101 (this includes safety, the properties of concrete and dealing with customers), and using experienced drivers to follow trainees to job sites. Keeping the work consistent is important to keeping everyone safe and the project on schedule.

Location: _____

Supervisor: _____

please sign below, confirming the material was reviewed: _____ October 2014

Mike is very proud of what has been accomplished at his recent projects. One of his greatest accomplishments was training Sean "The Marine" Conklin who started at the Monon project as a driver and quickly moved on to plant helper and is now the plant manager at the Grant County Ready Mix plant in Marion, IN. Mike said that he and Sean had the shared attitude that if you "expect great things, they can be accomplished."

The last correspondence that I had from Mike had the signature line, "Mike (DOING GREAT THINGS)" and that certainly makes you understand how we can say "We're Proud of Our Work".

Have a Safe, Healthy and Happy October!!

EEHS—Everyone, Everyday, Home Safe



Many thanks to Deborah Knauss for the help with this month's newsletter!!