



# BUSINESS OUTCOMES

## INDUSTRY:

Manufacturing

## SOLUTION:

Select Assessment® for Manufacturing, Select Assessment® for Leader Manufacturing

### **Finding the Right Mix: Identifying the Best for Holcim's Ste. Genevieve Plant**

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#### The Situation

Holcim (US) Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Holcim Ltd. and one of the nation's leading manufacturers and suppliers of cement and mineral components. In 2007, Holcim (US) contracted Select International to provide a world-class selection system to assist in hiring the best possible candidates for their new plant in Ste. Genevieve, on the banks of the Mississippi River. Employing about 250 full-time employees, this state-of-the-art, environmentally responsible facility will produce approximately 4 million metric tons of cement per year, making it the largest cement-producing plant in the nation and the world's largest single-kiln clinker production line.

This project was a pivotal venture for Holcim Ltd. in the Americas, as it was a Greenfield site project costing over \$1 billion, resulting in the largest cement facility of its kind. The project's environmental footprint is reduced by both Holcim Ltd.'s internal environmental commitment to the principles of sustainable development, and the extensive Federal, State and Local permitting process. The result is one of the most comprehensive programs of environmental controls and mitigation in the industry.

To address these critical goals, Select International's selection solution needed to:

- Be highly accurate in identifying the most capable individuals to work as Technicians in a high-hazard work environment and operate complex state-of-the-art facility equipment
- Be highly accurate in identifying the most capable individuals to work in a variety of professional and administrative roles at the new site

- Accurately measure safety and risk-taking propensity in candidates due to the nature of many of the roles; risks involve working at heights, working around high-intensity flames, working with corrosive chemicals, etc.
- Provide a selection experience perceived as fair and inclusive to the candidates in the greater St. Louis area
- Work seamlessly with other local recruitment and assessment providers in the area, both in the areas of administration and technology

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in the Americas.*

Holcim needed assessment solutions for the following positions:

- Five key technician positions who would directly operate or oversee various functions of the facility, including Cement, Quarry, Quality, Power & Control, and Warehouse.
- Professional and Administrative positions, from Specialist, Engineer to Area Leader, Manager, and Control Room Operators



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### The Solution

Select conducted a comprehensive job analysis and facility tour. Because the facility was still being constructed, we toured the facility most similar in Holly Hill, South Carolina. The unique nature of the jobs there were observed, and various focus groups were conducted to identify the critical competencies for success. This was followed up with competency analysis questionnaires to further develop a profile for success at Ste. Genevieve.

For the five different Technician positions, a comprehensive solution was designed that included:

1. EZ App® – an online application process customized to Holcim’s needs
2. Personal Preferences Questionnaire (PPQ) – a motivational fit assessment tool customized to match people with the jobs
3. Online Resume Builder
4. EZ Schedule – an automated self-scheduling system
5. Select Assessment® for Manufacturing along with the Basic Mechanical Reasoning (BMAR) test

Professional & Managerial positions completed the Select Assessment® for Leader Manufacturing and the Basic Mechanical Reasoning (BMAR) assessments.

*Our investment in our Ste. Genevieve start-up was one of Holcim’s most significant projects in the United States to date. We partnered with Select International and local community resources to help us develop a hiring process that would enable us to select the world-class workforce needed to operate our showcase facility.*  
- Robert Pickering, Human Resources Manager, Holcim (US) Inc.

### Outcomes

The facility started up on schedule, fully staffed with qualified employees. Holcim feels that the process and solution provided by Select International was one of the key reasons for that success.

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For over 20 years, Select International, Inc. has provided superior assessment products and solutions for its clients. Many of the world’s largest and most successful organizations trust us with their hiring and retention goals. Whether your company

needs pre-employment screening, personnel evaluation, in-depth leadership assessment or behavioral interviewing, Select International has a solution to meet - *and then exceed* - your needs.

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