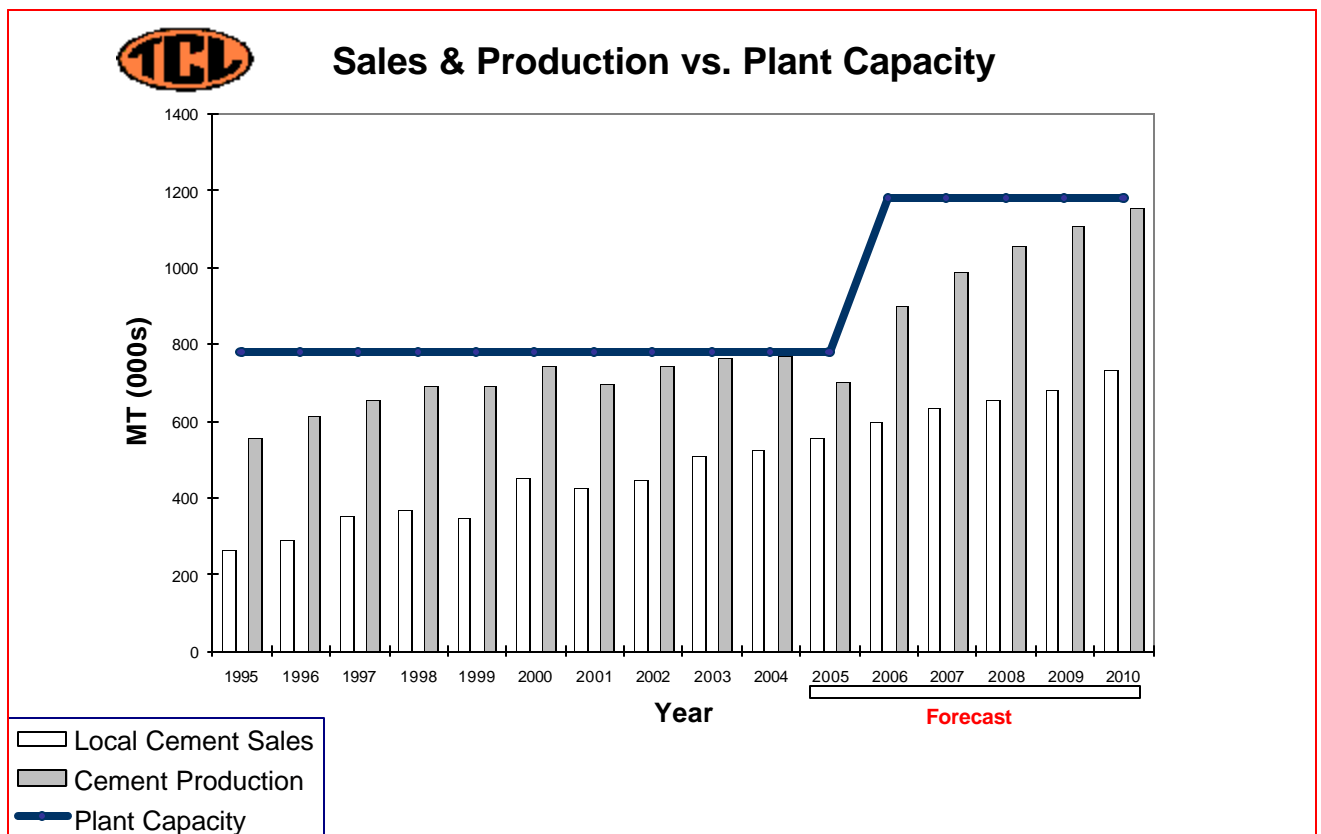


MEDIA RELEASE

TCL CAN MEET AND SURPASS LOCAL CEMENT DEMAND

TCL wishes to confirm its commitment to fully satisfy the local cement market and reaffirms its ability to produce 1.2 million tonnes annually, which is twice the 600,000-tonne demand projected for Trinidad and Tobago this year. This comes in light of comments made by the Minister of Trade and Industry, the Honourable Kenneth Valley at a post cabinet meeting held earlier today (April 6), during which the minister suggested that the company is unable to adequately supply the market and spoke of the government's intention to approach the Caricom Secretariat to remove the common external tariff on cement and steel.

At the nineteenth COTED (Council for Trade and Economic Development) meeting held in January 2005, a study of regional cement demand and supply was requested to ascertain TCL's ability to supply at least seventy five percent of the region's requirement. At the ensuing meeting, which took place in May, the findings were accepted and based on this, the retention of tariffs in support of a regional manufacturer was approved. What is noteworthy, is that this was prior to the successful completion of phase one of TCL's US \$20 million expansion programme in the last quarter of 2005, which increased the company's then capacity of 780,000 tonnes per annum, significantly taking it to its current capacity of 1.2 million tonnes per year.



MEDIA RELEASE CONT'D

TCL CAN MEET AND SURPASS LOCAL CEMENT DEMAND

TCL maintains that it has not received any complaints from its local customers. Indeed, on a recent television morning programme, an official of the Quarry Association of Trinidad and Tobago and the President of the Contractors Association publicly stated that there was no shortage of cement on the domestic market. In addition, checks with both hardware dealers and readymix operators indicate none to have been out of cement stock in recent months. The company understands, however, that the shortage of aggregate may have impacted the operations of some premix concrete companies and confirms that this has not affected cement production at TCL.

In a recent media release, TCL indicated that during the month of March, the company recorded its highest production of 75,000 tonnes. TCL is set to break this record by producing 86,000 tonnes of cement in April, which favourably compares to the current local monthly demand of 50,000 tonnes.

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