

Volume 18, No. 2

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Spring, 2005

OPERATION SALT



Jeff Bonomo, Sales Manager

This winter, Independence Recycling Inc. will have loaded nearly 610,000 tons of salt for the Cargill Salt Corporation located on Whiskey Island in downtown Cleveland. Cargill supplies salt to many municipalities and independent brokers throughout Ohio and surrounding states. Nearly two million tons of salt will have been shipped out of the Cleveland mine either by boat, rail, or truck this year. Cargill does a tremendous job logistically of delivering salt to their customers even during the high demand of winter months.

There are two salt satellite piles set up in the Cleveland area; one located at International Bulk Storage Group on the Cuyahoga River where earlier this year 125,000 tons of salt was shipped in by boat,



and another 65,000 tons was shipped in by truck to the West 14th and Jennings Rd. site. The remaining 420,000 tons of salt will have been loaded by us from the Cargill facility located in downtown Cleveland. Independence Recycling and Cargill have established an excellent working relationship through our work at the satellite piles set up in the Cleveland area, as well as the loading completed at the Cleveland Mine.

This project could not have been completed without the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our operators. This was a difficult project to maintain due to shift hours and equipment maintenance. Our mechanics and fuel truck drivers kept the equipment maintained while loading in aggressive material. Your hard work is appreciated!



President's Message

Vic DiGeronimo Sr.

BETTER METHODS = SUCCESS = DIGERONIMO COMPANIES = TRUE SUCCESS

In 1971, when I was O.C.A. Cleveland Chapter Chairman, Bill Meisz was the largest excavating contractor in the Greater Cleveland area. He told me that once we hit \$2 million in sales, all we would do by increasing revenue would be to make more work for people. The only answer I could come up with was "well, that doesn't seem all bad". At that time our company was doing \$1.5 million in revenue, and he was doing about \$2.5 to \$3 million. He was correct, because since that time we have made work for many people and have put millions of dollars worth of projects in place. Our weekly payroll averages about 700 checks, as compared to about 20 in 1971. The revenue of the DiGeronimo Companies now exceeds \$150 million.

I am proud, and humbled at the same time, to say that all of our nine companies made a profit in 2004. As I mentioned at our annual Christmas party, you can't go wrong working for a profitable company.

Now for the "true success." This version was printed in a previous newsletter and repeated at our recent O.C.A. convention by an excellent speaker by the name of Dr. Pearsall. I believe that the DiGeronimo philosophy and many hours of participation and "giving back" to various charitable, civic, and industry boards fit the description of the following meaning of success.

Arrivederci!!

Success:

To laugh often and much, to win the respect of intelligent people and affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends, to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a little bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition, to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

Independence Excavating and Whiting-Turner Tackle Case Western Reserve University Football Field and Living Facilities Project

Tony DiGeronimo

Independence Excavating has has worked hard to help build the new football field and living facilities with Whiting-Turner Construction at Case Western Reserve University. At the same time, Joe DiGeronimo has worked hard at being a student-athlete at CWRU pursuing a civil engineering degree and playing football. Without a field on campus, the team played home games at Brush High School. That was the easy part. Practices were either held indoors, or at a grass field on campus unless the vice-presidential debate was being held; then they played in a parking lot.

Demanding schools such as Case have different rules for athletes than we read about in the sports page. There were only 50 players on the Case team last year; including 5 seniors. The team started with a new coach, new quarterback, new



Joe DiGeronimo has worked hard at being a student-athlete at Case pursuing a civil engineering degree

running backs, two new receivers, and seven new defensive starters. After a shaky start and five different quarterbacks, the team ended the season with two wins and finished at 5 and 5. Overall, Joe played a little QB, some fullback, and some tailback depending on his hand injuries and team needs. For his efforts he was the co-recipient of the first "Spartan Award" for non-statistical contributions made to the team. He was also named one of the team captains for 2005. We are very proud of our student-athlete and will be glad to welcome him to our team at the end of 2005 with his degree in civil engineering.

In the meantime, best wishes to the entire Case community on the opening of their new field and living facilities. We final graded the field to always be in your favor.

For Rugged Systems Solutions, Look No Further than Independence

In the construction business, rugged systems are an absolute must for each and every piece of equipment used. The DiGeronimo Companies offer the broadest selection of products and services for your needs, all of which are as rugged as they are essential.

Nowhere is “rugged” more essential than in the safety industry. When the City of Cleveland wanted to improve safety for its police officers, they turned to Independence Communications.

Independence Communications, Inc. (ICI), founded in 1993, is a rapidly growing leader in providing wireless communication solutions for a variety of companies, organizations, and municipalities. ICI delivers hardware and software solutions as well as portable and mobile radio devices for construction sites, police and safety departments, security needs, special events, and more.

The partnership between the city and Independence Communications began when ICI installed 28 rugged wireless tablet computer systems in police cruisers as part of a six-month pilot program. The Xplore GeneSys series offered durability, a responsive touch screen, and ease of operation. The system gave officers the ability

to quickly run license plate and ID checks, perform wants and warrants checks, obtain photo images from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles, initiate car-to-car communications, and access local, state and federal web sites while in their police vehicles.

Following on the success of that pilot program, Independence Communications is currently installing 400 Xplore computers and modems in Cleveland police vehicles. Along with the installation, inspection, testing and reviewing of the system, ICI maintains a stock of replacement parts should the Cleveland P.D. need immediate assistance. ICI's service facility provides same day, on-site service for any reported problems.

“We're proud to provide the City of Cleveland with the most advanced, rugged PC in the marketplace today,” said Don DiGeronimo, president of Independence Communications. “It's an example of the kind of communications solutions we provide for our customers every day, and it's what keeps clients coming back for their wireless data networks and two-way radio and telephone communications solutions.”



Independence Communications is currently installing 400 Xplore computers and modems in Cleveland police vehicles.

Tony DiGeronimo, President

Precision Environmental and ProCut are ready for a busy and dynamic 2005. We're busy trying to find a multitude of projects to keep our field forces occupied and dynamic by merging all shop and office personnel under one roof at our new facility.

As of this writing, the two bigger field jobs include the selective demolition contract of Fenn Tower at Cleveland State University for Turner Construction, and the abatement of a building purchased by The Cleveland Clinic. We are also waiting the resolution of the Steelyard Commons project for First Interstate, which includes a significant environmental clean-up for us. We will be returning to Ohio State University for another phase of the McCracken Power Plant abatement/boiler demolition with Gilbane Company. We will also begin a new selective demolition project at Fairview Hospital with Panzica. This major work along with the various tasks obtained from ISG, NASA,

Cleveland Hopkins Airport and the rest of our environmental customers keep our management and field personnel highly motivated.

Our floor prep division, which includes the surface removal and/or the final grinding for new flooring systems, is off to a strong start this year. Major projects are underway at Metro Health Medical Center and several Kohl's stores.

ProCut has added two new units to bring our saw cut and coring group up to 20 mobile units. Ruhlin continues to be our major client, while the service work for more than 150 repeat clients provides the most daily opportunities.

We thank our customers and employees for bringing each project to a successful conclusion by working together to a common goal.

Independence Excavating, Inc. – OSHA/CEA Elite Contractor

Vince Zeigler
Risk/Safety Manager

Independence Excavating, Inc. has once again been accepted to the Northeast Ohio Union Construction Industry Contractors Association's Elite Partnership. We were identified as one of the premier contractors in Northeast Ohio based on the review of our application by representatives from the Construction Employers Association (CEA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The Elite Contractor program is a partnering agreement developed jointly by the CEA, Cleveland Building Trades, United Brotherhood of Carpenters, and the OSHA Cleveland Area Office. The partnership recognizes contractors who have demonstrated their commitment to safety and health through criteria as specified by OSHA. The criteria stipulates that contractors must have a Lost Workday Incident Rate (LWDI)/Days Away, Restricted, or Transferred Rate (DART) at a three-year average of 25% below the national average and a good history with OSHA (no willful citations or serious citations related to a fatality for a three-year period). A contractor meeting the above specifications and who has implemented an outstanding safety and health program will be classified as an "Elite" member of this partnership program.

We are pleased to report Independence Excavating, Inc. has not had a recordable accident or injury in our 1st quarter working over 100,000 man hours. We congratulate all our superintendents and employees for a great start to the new year.





Ashtabula High School – Foundations Package

Jay Kellogg, Project Manager

We are currently working for Bob Strickland and his management team at PCS on the new Ashtabula High School project. Starting in late November 2004 and having already reached 75% completion has been quite a feat with the harsh winter we have experienced. This project adds to the ever-growing list of concrete contracts that Independence Excavating has successfully self-performed. Not shying away from challenges that our competitors may have foreseen as too difficult to overcome is exactly what made this project so attractive to us. These challenges included extremely condensed schedules, and a tight work site jammed with other contractors throughout winter, in a region that records some of the highest snow fall.

The scope of work included grade beams, reinforcing, drilled shafts and pit walls. Independence formed and poured over 10,000 l.f. of grade beams. The grade beams span from one drilled shaft caisson to another. More than 420 caissons range from 24" diameter up to 54" diameter for a total designed length of nearly 9,500 l.f. Reinforcing bars totaled over 700,000 lbs. that needed to be unloaded, staged assembled into sections, and lowered into place. We also installed cast-in-place walls for the below-grade orchestra pit and two elevator pits.

Developing and maintaining a schedule that enabled us to stay ahead of the other prime contractors despite the extreme weather is a true testament to the capabilities of our field staff and crews.





New Projects

Charter Steel Concrete Demolition

Location: E. 49th Street & Grant Ave. Cuyahoga Heights, OH
Owner: Charter Steel
Construction Manager: Lockwood Greene Engineering
Start Date: December 2004
Completion Date: March 2005
Scope of Work: Removal of 25,000 cubic yards of concrete foundations from an old strip mill

Charter Steel Foundations

Location: E. 49th Street & Grant Ave., Cuyahoga Heights, OH
Owner: Charter Steel
Construction Manager: Lockwood Greene Engineering
Start Date: March 2005
Completion Date: June 2005
Scope of Work: Excavation of 75 pile caps and installation of 16,000 LF of concrete grade walls

Cleveland Clinic – Garage Demolition

Location: E. 93rd & Euclid Ave.
Owner: Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Construction Manager: Whiting-Turner Construction
Start Date: April 2005
Completion date: June 2005
Scope of Work: Demolition of a six-level parking garage

Cleveland Clinic Foundation

Location: E. 93rd & Euclid Ave.
Owner: Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Construction Manager: Whiting-Turner Construction
Start Date: February 2005
Completion Date: March 2005
Scope of Work: Utilities for Whiting-Turner project

Cleveland State Recreation Center

Location: E. 24th Street & Chester Ave.
Owner: Cleveland State University
Start Date: January 2005
Completion Date: July 2005
Scope of Work: Mass demolition of the recreation center including earthwork and shoring

Daisy Boulevard Utility Project

Location: Daisy Blvd., Independence, OH
Owner: City of Independence
Start Date: March 2005
Completion Date: June 2005
Scope of Work: Installation of storm sewer, sanitary sewer and waterline for future development

ODOT (574) Ditch Cleaning

Location: Various sites in Geauga County, OH
Owner: Ohio Department of Transportation
Start Date: April 2005
Completion Date: August 2005
Scope of Work: Ditch cleaning within Geauga County

Wadsworth Crossings

Location: Akron Road & I-76
Owner: Forest City Commercial Construction
Start Date: February 2005
Completion Date: November 2005
Scope of Work: Excavation and embankment of 500,000 CY and installation of 65,000 LF of utilities

Weirton Sinter Plant Demolition

Location: Weirton, WV
Owner: International Steel Group
Start Date: February 2005
Completion Date: June 2005
Scope of Work: Removal of the plant to grade and processing 6,000 tons of steel

Cleveland State University Recreation Center

Brandon Meyer, Project Manager

Independence Excavating Inc. has been awarded a prime contract from Cleveland State University to begin construction on a new recreation center to be located on the existing CSU campus at East 24th St. and Chester Ave. Gilbane is the construction manager for CSU on this project.

This contract includes the complete demolition of an existing intramural dome located on the future footprint of the recreation center, utility relocations and disconnects, mass excavation of approximately 20,000 cubic yards of sand for the future building, a sheeting and shoring system, site grading, and building backfill.

The dome demolition was subcontracted to B&B Wrecking and Excavating. Other subcontractors included Ballast Fence, VanCuren Services, Inland Electric, Gorman- Lavelle, Precision Environmental, HMM Restoration, and McKinney Drilling.

Work for the project commenced on January 3, 2005, and will be complete by July 1, 2005. The new recreation center will be complete in the summer of 2006.





Current Project – Allega Recycled Materials

ALLEGA RECYCLED MATERIALS

Cleveland Hopkins Airport, Cleveland, Ohio



Current Crushing Projects

ALLEGA RECYCLED MATERIALS

Cleveland Hopkins Airport, Cleveland, Ohio
75,000 tons of 1" minus base material

ALLIED CORP. / SHELLY CO.

Cleveland, Ohio
50,000 tons of asphalt crushing into 1/2" minus RAP material

DIGERONIMO AGGREGATES, LLC

Independence, Ohio
300,000 tons of 2" minus shale crushing

FORT MYERS FACILITY

Ft. Myers, Florida
50,000 tons of 2" minus base material

INDEPENDENCE FACILITY

Independence, Ohio
50,000 tons of ODOT #304 base material

JACKSONVILLE FACILITY

Jacksonville, Florida
75,000 tons of 2" minus base material

KENMORE CONSTRUCTION CO

Bedford Hts., Ohio
30,000 tons of asphalt crushing into 1/2" minus RAP material

KENMORE CONSTRUCTION CO.

Bedford Hts., Ohio
30,000 tons of asphalt crushing into 1/2" minus RAP material

KOKOSING / FRU-CON

Marmet Dam – Charleston, WV
150,000 tons of sandstone crushing into 3" minus material

LAKELAND FACILITY

Lakeland, Florida
50,000 tons of 2" minus base material

OLEN CORP.

Wooster, Ohio
300,000 tons of sand and gravel crushed into ODOT #304 base material

ORLANDO FACILITY

Orlando, Florida
200,000 tons of stone and base material

STEIN/I.S.G. SLAG CRUSHING

ISG Mill, Cleveland, Ohio
600,000 tons of slag crushed into #57, #8 and #10 stone

TAMPA FACILITY

Tampa, Florida
30,000 tons of 2" minus base material

VALLEY VIEW FACILITY

Valley View, Ohio
50,000 tons of #1's and #2's and #304 base material

WALSH CONSTRUCTION

Mifflin County, PA
975,000 tons of sandstone crushing into various size base materials



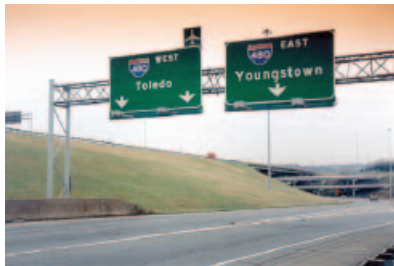
Oldie but Goodie



1963 Harris Rd. Project - Operator Vic DiGeronimo Sr.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mike Rider, Bill McDonald, and Steve Slanksy for receiving the Builders Exchange *Craftsmanship Award* in the category of excavation on the ODOT Emergency Slide Repair Project. We appreciate your hard work and dedication which made this project a success.



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2005 Independence Excavating Inc.

Editor: Stacey Bernas

Photos taken by: Brandon Mayer, Independence Excavating
Jay Kellogg, Independence Excavating
Scott Schroeder, Independence Recycling

Comments and suggestions can be submitted by letter to:



Independence Excavating Inc.
5720 Schaaf Road
Independence, Ohio 44131
www.indexc.com
An equal opportunity employer



'05 ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL

- 1 JACK & PATRICIA HELBIG
- 7 DAVE & KRIS BEVAN
- 7 VINCE & JENNIFER ZEIGLER
- 11 FLOYD & VIRGINIA RYBICKI
- 12 PAUL & REBECCA HAZEL
- 18 DAVID & GAIL STATEN
- 19 JAMES & BARBARA KRAMER
- 24 RONALD & NANCY ZAREN
- 30 JOSEPH & JAYNE MAK SIN

MAY

- 4 RICH & JOHANE DIGERONIMO
- 9 ERIC & CARRIE SEARS
- 9 THOMAS & KIM NIXON
- 10 TERRY & CAROL TOMASKO
- 11 JIMMY & KATHY IACAMPO
- 12 JOHN & SUE CARROLL
- 18 DAVID & CHERYL TRAVAGLIANTE
- 18 TERRY & CINDY KONTRA
- 19 THOMAS & SALLY SUDETIC
- 19 MARK & MARY KUPERSANIN
- 25 JOHN & HEIDI BECKMAN
- 28 ANTHONY & GLORIA GERMANO
- 29 SEBASTIAN & JOYCE SENRA

JUNE

- 3 ADAM & DEBBIE ROBERTSON
- 7 MARK & PEGGY SLAVIK
- 7 RAYMOND & ELIZABETH PERKINS
- 8 STEVE & LILIAN CINDRIC
- 9 DALE & DEBBIE LANG
- 10 MARK & CHRISTI TRIPODI
- 12 STANLEY & MICHELLE ROBINSON
- 13 GREG & DANIELLE SPAGNOLA
- 15 THOMAS & LINDA STEBLINSKI
- 17 THOMAS & TERESA STAMP
- 19 RANDY & PATRICIA SIPP
- 20 RICK & CINDY EVANS
- 21 JOHN & APRIL YADLOSKY
- 27 BLAISE & LORRAINE HORGAS
- 29 JOHN & KATHY BECKMAN

JULY

- 2 ROBERT & GLORIA BOLLINGER
- 3 SHAWN & CAROLINE ROBERTSON
- 4 PAMELA & MICHAEL WIELAND-MOHER
- 8 BARON & RUTH WILLIAMS
- 8 RICHARD & JANET MILLER
- 9 MIKE & DEBORAH RIDER
- 10 GENNARO & LINDA NIRO
- 20 JOHN & PAULA HARPER
- 21 VIC SR. & LURLIE DIGERONIMO
- 24 RICHARD & HOLLY SCHIEFERSTEIN
- 27 VITO & DIANA DIGERONIMO
- 29 DOUGLAS & SHIRLENE BRYANT

'05 BIRTHDAYS

APRIL

- 2 MARK KONTRA
- 5 CHARLES A. ELLIOTT
- 6 DAN LEWIS
- 6 BRANDON MEYER
- 8 LARRY HROVAT
- 9 DAVID GOODYEAR
- 9 JOHN ZUCHINSKI
- 9 TED HOWARD
- 15 MICHAEL MYERS
- 15 STEVEN BENDER
- 19 ARTHUR WILLIAMS
- 22 DICK CALES
- 22 CHUCK GILLOMBARDO
- 23 CHRIS BOWERS
- 23 DERNA LEDDON
- 24 BARON WILLIAMS
- 27 BEVERLY RAYMOND

MAY

- 1 STACEY BERNAS
- 3 KIMBERLY KOVALIK
- 3 JOHN LONG
- 3 DEBORAH TURNER
- 7 STEVE HALL
- 9 STEVE CINDRIC
- 10 PATRICK MUNSON
- 11 RAYMOND HEIDEN
- 12 RANDAL SHONDELMYER
- 13 RICHARD PAVELECKY
- 13 GARY NELSON
- 14 STAN SKOCZEN, JR.
- 15 JEFFRY RAMUNNI
- 19 PHILIP WENK
- 20 CHARLES DRESLINSKI
- 20 MIKE RIDER
- 21 TIMOTHY DEMARCO
- 24 VIC DIGERONIMO, JR.
- 27 PASQUALE CICCONE
- 27 CHARLES MARCH
- 29 JOHN MARTIN
- 31 ROB DIGERONIMO

JUNE

- 1 MARK JENKINS
- 2 CRAIG TEXTER
- 2 BRANDEN MORRIS
- 2 JOSEPH NIEDERRITER
- 13 DAVID TRAVAGLIANTE
- 16 KEITH KIST
- 17 SHAWN ROBERTSON
- 17 ROBERT CASTLEBERRY
- 18 PAT CUFFE
- 20 TONY DIGERONIMO
- 21 ROB PROCK
- 21 LARRY MAHON
- 21 JONNY DUNCAN
- 22 THEODORE CHUHA
- 23 JOHN VANEK
- 24 DONNIE DIGERONIMO
- 25 JAY KELLOGG
- 26 RONALD BENEDEK
- 28 ALAN PERKO
- 28 VICTOR ROBISON
- 30 JON ZUMBRUNNEN

JULY

- 1 ROBERT LAZAR
- 1 ANTHONY MCDANIEL
- 3 JOHN BECKMAN
- 3 RONALD COSTANTINO
- 4 CHRIS SCHUERGER
- 5 JOSEPH MARTIN
- 5 GREGORY RIETH
- 5 BRIAN KNIGHT
- 6 SONYA MCNEELY
- 8 GREGORY FOTH
- 9 RICHARD INGRAM
- 10 THOMAS FORD
- 11 JIMMY IACAMPO
- 11 MARK SHAUGHNESSY
- 12 THOMAS NIXON
- 13 BOB BROWN
- 14 DEANA DIGERONIMO
- 16 ROBERT BOLLINGER
- 16 ANDREA GALMARINI
- 17 JOSEPH SAVAGE
- 19 EDWARD VIZDOS
- 19 DEREK MASTERS
- 21 VICTOR EPELBAUM
- 23 SANDI CIELEC
- 24 LARRY KNIGHT JR.
- 26 EDWARD GILBERT
- 26 SCOTT SHERMAN
- 26 RICH WILK
- 27 RICK LANTZ
- 27 LISA PESTA
- 27 JOSEPH MAK SIN JR.
- 28 BOBBY DIGERONIMO
- 30 KENNETH MANN

