

## **Shaw Tower: Ocean Construction Breaks the Record for Continuous Concrete Pour in Canada**

On September 26, 2004 Ocean Construction Supplies Ltd., a Lehigh company, delivered 3,018 cubic meters of concrete for one job, setting a record for the largest continuous concrete pour ever completed in the City of Vancouver, British Columbia.



The massive pour was for the core footing of what will become the tallest building in Vancouver—the \$150 million, 40-story residential-commercial Shaw Tower. On the waterfront, adjacent to the proposed Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Center, and in proximity to the city's central business district, Shaw Tower is expected to anchor the city's billion-dollar plus inner harbor redevelopment.

The concrete pour started at 5:00 a.m., and was delivered at a rate of 300 cubic meters per hour from two plants (Granville and North Vancouver), using about 30 trucks. The pour was complete well before 5:00 p.m.

The design requirements for this project include 55 MPa concrete for the suspended slabs, 70 MPa (10,000 psi) for columns, and will incorporate the use of "Ocean WaterGuard" concrete as a means of providing integral resistance to water permeation through the below grade walls.

When completed in late 2004, the Shaw Tower will contain over 39,000 cubic meters of concrete. Gerhard Muehlbeyer, Vice President- Materials, noted that on the day of the gargantuan pour, "Vancouver was blue" because of the steady stream of Ocean's brilliant blue and white painted concrete mixer trucks that kept the project on schedule.

The success of pours of this magnitude can be attributed to the dedication, professionalism, and the team effort of Ocean's employees.

Pat Heale, Ocean's Vice President & General Manager, added some perspective from a workaday world when he mentioned that day that in addition to the record-breaking job, "we are also doing another 1,000 cubic meters for other customers." His understated but confident analysis: "A big day for us."