



Aggregate Industries plc is a UK-based aggregates, construction and building materials Group, formed in 1997 by the merger of Bardon and CAMAS. Aggregate Industries' UK operations hold leading market positions across the UK, and include Ronez, on the Channel Islands, and its 50% JV in Norway. In the USA, Aggregate Industries has strong market positions in six regions. The Group reported its eighth year of record profits in 2004, with turnover at £1,659 million, up from £1,459 million in 2003, and profit before tax at £147.6 million, up from £140.1 million in the previous year. Aggregate Industries' shares have been listed on the London Stock Exchange, with a current market capitalisation of £1.8 billion.

Business and strategy

Aggregate Industries has mineral reserves of 5.1 billion tonnes, of which 3.9 billion tonnes are already permitted. During 2004, Aggregate Industries produced 72 million tonnes of aggregate; 14 million tonnes of asphalt; 7 million cubic metres of ready-mix concrete (rnc) and 4 million tonnes of concrete products, from 148 quarries, 128 asphalt plants, 175 rnc plants and more than 50 concrete products plants. The Group also operates paving and construction operations in support of its aggregates and aggregate products. Overall, the Group employs more than 9,800 people.

The Group's strategy is focussed on maximising the margins across its existing businesses; identifying and pursuing value-adding bolt-on acquisitions; and continually increasing its mineral reserves. The safety of Aggregate Industries employees, and those affected by the Group's operations, continue to be of the highest importance, and Aggregate Industries has established safety policies and procedures in the UK and the USA which have proved demonstrably successful. Aggregate Industries continues to develop its approach to sustainability and has developed a single integrated environmental policy for its UK and USA businesses.

Business areas

The Group's businesses are divided into the following regions:

UK

Aggregates – aggregates, asphalt, rmc, with paving and contracting, in the UK and the Channel Isles; aggregates production and export from 50%-owned Halsvik business in Norway.

Building Materials – concrete products marketed as Bradstone, Charcon and other brands, ranging from standard building blocks and paving products, to designer garden landscaping and bespoke construction elements.

Paragon Materials – grey and white cement importing and distribution through its 7 terminals.

USA

Northeast – based in Boston and supplying aggregates, asphalt and rmc, along with imported bitumen, in Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Boston's Central Artery and Tunnel project has been one of the region's major consumers.

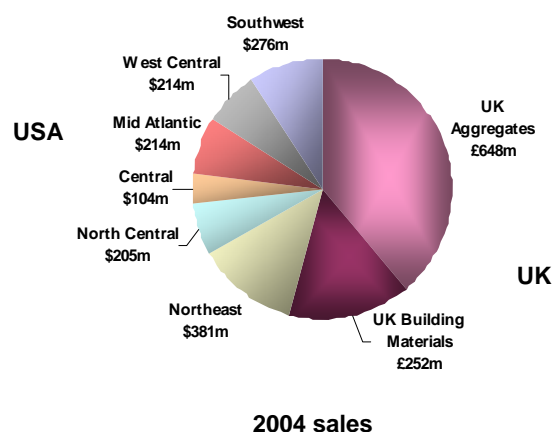
North Central – producing aggregates, rmc, asphalt and concrete products to Minnesota and North Dakota, including the Minneapolis/St Paul and Fargo/Moorhead conurbations.

Central – supply of sand and gravel, asphalt, rmc and concrete products to southern Michigan and northern Indiana.

Mid Atlantic – supplying aggregates, rmc and asphalt from its major rail-linked quarries close to Washington DC and from locations across Maryland, northern Virginia, and West Virginia.

West Central – producing aggregates, rmc and asphalt for Greater Denver, the Northern Front Range and other markets in Colorado.

Southwest – dating from November 2003, and centered on the 650 million ton Sloan Mountain close to Las Vegas, the region produces aggregates and asphalt for Nevada and particularly the fast-growing Las Vegas market; the region also operates a major construction and paving operations in Nevada and Utah.



Key financials

£ million	2002	2003	2004
Sales	1378	1459	1659
EBITDA	239	241	252
Operating profit	168	168	174
Group attributable profit after minority interests	89	95	103
Cash flow from operating activities	226	215	206

EPS (p)	6.7	7.1	7.7
Dividend (p)	2.6	2.8	3.2

(Currently £1 = CHF c2.2)

For further information see www.aggregate.com