



This year has come and gone, but according to some economists, we may be feeling its effect for some time. We wondered what 2009 would bring, and now we know!

Unemployment has reached its highest level since the 1980's. Construction projects are harder to come by, and backlogs are almost a thing of the past. Unless by chance you are one of the select few you have seen your budgets slashed or, at best, remain flat. And don't feel alone if you have been challenged to do more with less, yet maintain outstanding workmanship and produce quality products with fewer folks.

It is times like these that we must be creative, but always adhering to best management practices to ensure long term performance. Corners must not be cut!

With that said, if you are in the road construction business I would encourage you to consider the utilization of lime for the following cost saving construction/rehabilitation practices:

- Stabilize highly expansive soils to provide a good working platform, create an impermeable layer, add additional strength to the subgrade, and possibly reduce the required thickness of the pavement structure above
- Stabilize sulfate rich soils in-lieu of removal and replacement if testing confirms level of sulfates can be successfully treated and the risk of sulfate heave minimized
- Rehabilitate deteriorated roadways in-lieu of removal and replacement
- Enhance the longevity of hot mix

I look forward to continuing to serve as the Executive Director for the Lime Association of Texas. Please contact the LAT for information about our programs or for any questions regarding ***LIME... MAN'S MOST VERSATILE CHEMICAL.***

Sincerely,

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