



Newsletter

Summer 2009

Team Tilcon walks and runs for a Cure!!!

Article by Linda Rocco, Team Tilcon Captain

On Saturday, May 9, Team Tilcon met at Walnut Hill Park for the annual Race in the Park to raise funds for breast cancer research and awareness.

Team Tilcon consisted of 36 members. The team was comprised of Tilcon employees, family, and friends. Because the members signed up for various walking or running events, only a number of members are shown in the photograph. The Simoes family did not join us for the photo shoot but were the greater part of the Tilcon Team.

It should be noted that this was the first road race for Troy Scarpa. Unfortunately, after leaving the starting line, it poured. He came in at a time of 28:53—a great time for a first 5K (3.2 mile) running event. Congratulations, Troy.

The women's 5K started with overcast skies and then sun and then back to overcast skies. Linda Rocco, the Team Tilcon captain, completed the run in 24:38 and came in 50 out of 610 female runners and placed first in her class.

Luckily, the weather turned to overcast skies for the walk. It was nice to have the Team complete the 2-mile walk without having a downpour and arriving at the finish all wet.

A big Thank You to everyone who participated and a special thank you to Bob Albrecht for getting the mixer truck on site for the race events.





Dear Fellow Employee,

As the summer of 2009 draws to a close one can only look back and reflect on how strange a season it has been from many perspectives. The weather and the economic environment have been far from cooperative. In my last message I indicated that 2009 was going to be an extremely challenging year. With stone, asphalt and ready-mix volumes declining at an even quicker rate than anticipated, this year has been anemic at best. The \$302M Federal Stimulus package allocated for infrastructure improvement in Connecticut was certainly designed to inject some economic life back into the state economy but the benefit never multiplied as intended.

Why? CONNDOT took the easy path and, for example, committed \$140M to just 2 long term, less labor and materials intensive bridge projects instead of committing the same funds to say 20 shorter term, more labor and materials intensive rehabilitation projects! Those 20 or so projects would certainly have generated a lot more employment and economic benefit in the short term, the original goal of the stimulus package. Of the \$18.8M identified for various resurfacing projects only one \$3.5M project has been bid so far and the balance remain on the drawing board. We hope that these yet to be bid projects will have a favorable impact in 2010.

But let's not write-off the 2009 season yet! We have a significant backlog of work to complete this fall and it's imperative we perform this work in the safest and most efficient manner possible. We need to use all the tools in our arsenal, including some new ones provided to us by the OPS (Oldcastle Performance System) Commercial, Aggregate and Construction initiatives.

With the bidding season behind us the last thing we need to do, after securing such highly contested work in the first place, is to erode our profit opportunity by taking money out of our own pockets. In the old Pogo cartoon strip, the lead character has a line, "**We have met the enemy and he is us**". We have enough competitors outside the company without creating new ones internally. From the drilling of the blast hole in the quarry face to the delivery of our products or the opening of a newly paved roadway to traffic, and every supporting role in between, we need to respect each other and the parts we play if want to be successful both now and in the future.

Thank you for your dedication, commitment and support!

Ciaran Brennan

"We Want You Safe for Life"