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## General Shale Wins National Safety Awards

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.—Safety awards are highly prized and much sought-after within the manufacturing industry; and for General Shale Brick, achieving that type of recognition reinforces the company's proactive approach to the safety and health of its employees.

The National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) has recognized four General Shale plants for their safety performance in 2009. The General Shale Brick Moncure Block Plant in North Carolina, the General Shale Brick Louisville Block Plant in Kentucky, and the General Shale Brick Colorado Springs Block Plant in Colorado each recently received a NCMA platinum award for “zero recordable-injury incidents in 2009.” The General Shale Brick Cheyenne Block Plant in Wyoming received a NCMA Category I silver award for zero-to-40,000 hours worked and only one accident recorded for 2009.

“Our mission points out that our people are our most important resource,” says General Shale President and CEO Dick Green. “The NCMA awards are another demonstration of the high priority we place on the wellbeing of all employees through our safety and health program. I congratulate these four winning plants for setting a fine example.”

The NCMA evaluates entrants on the number of accidents or injuries as a percentage of their total number of hours worked for the year. Entrants are grouped together based on the number of work hours, so that locations with higher employee counts are evaluated separately from those with a smaller workforce. Recordables, modified-duty and lost-time accidents/injuries are tallied from Occupational Safety and Health Administration logs to ensure uniform measurement. Winners are recognized in first-, second- and third-place categories with platinum, gold or silver plaques.

### **National Concrete Masonry Association**

The NCMA, established in 1918, is the national trade association representing the concrete masonry and hardscapes industry. It is an association of producers of concrete masonry products and suppliers of products and services related to the industry. The association is involved in a broad range of technical, education, certification, research, marketing, government relations and communications activities. For more information, visit [www.ncma.org](http://www.ncma.org).

### **General Shale Brick**

Founded in 1928, General Shale Brick operates manufacturing facilities throughout the United States and Canada. General Shale's parent company, Wienerberger AG, is the largest brick company in the world. Wienerberger is headquartered in Vienna, Austria.

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