

## PRESS RELEASE

Suez Cement group of Companies expands its operations by investing in the lime production.

## Suez Cement signs joint venture agreement with Unicalce

**Cairo, 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2007.** An agreement establishing a new joint venture in the lime sector has been signed between Suez Cement and Unicalce, one of the world's leading suppliers of lime.

Through this agreement Suez Cement group of Companies will enlarge its perimeter and expand its current activities by producing lime, an industry with high growth potential for the Egyptian market in the coming few years.

With the aim of becoming in a short-term the main Egyptian lime producer with a high quality products portfolio, the project will focus its activities on the production of quicklime and hydrated lime.

Still, the new line of lime's products will be manufactured in a new plant, equipped with the new modern and advanced automatic hydration systems, which will be located within the industrial facilities of Suez Cement group of Companies.

The availability of the raw materials as well as the logistic synergies offered through the existing industrial network of Suez Cement group of Companies will determine the optimization of the production costs.

Suez Cement is Egypt's leading cement producer, with a market share of more than 30% in grey cement and more than 50% in white cement. Suez Cement has five production facilities (Suez, Kattameya, Tourah, Helwan and El Minya), for a total capacity of approximately 12 million metric tons of clinker.