

K.J. BEAMISH

A SIGN OF



PROGRESS

When it comes to anything having to do with roads in southern or central Ontario — whether road construction, paving, asphalt, aggregates, surface treatments, hauling, or seeding and mulching — the name K.J. Beamish Construction Co., Limited, of King City, Ontario, is sure to pop up.

“We’ve been around for over 65 years,” says Bob Staples, Equipment Manager. “The primary jobs right now are repaving. We’ve eight asphalt plants operating in Ontario. We

produce our own aggregate — we’ve got our own quarries and pits. We just put silos in four of our asphalt plants.”

As equipment manager, Bob weighs a number of factors before making a buying decision. In the case of the company’s purchase of a 90ZV-2 several years ago, the influences were both external and internal.

“If it wasn’t for Kenny McLean from McDowell Equipment pushing the Kawasaki line, I don’t know that we would have gone with it.

But Kenny took a 90ZV-2 up to our Hanmer Asphalt Plant in Sudbury. After trying it out, Marceo, our onsite superintendent for 26 years, told me ‘I want to keep this.’

“So as far as buying goes, it is based on input from the operators as to productivity, the field from whether it is reliable, plus there has to be good parts availability. I’d also heard from other companies that Kawasaki performs well. In fact, we were trying out a 95 for screening and feeding the bin, and the guys said, ‘Do a purchase order now!’”

HAMNER ASPHALT PLANT EXPERIENCE

Marcel DuBoise, Onsite Superintendent, has been at Hamner for 31 years. The site itself has been owned by several companies in the past, with Beamish as the latest. He recalls the day the 90ZV-2 first showed up.

“We were amazed when we got it. When the float came around with the Kawasaki, we took it off. And I remember Leo, our primary wheel loader operator, took it right into the pit. He was there for quite a while. He came



K.J. Beamish Construction Co. operates its own pits and quarries.

back and said he couldn't believe how strong the hydraulics were. It filled the bucket like nothing was there.”

Leo himself had been operating another brand for about 10 years when the Kawasaki made its appearance. He's been running the 90 now for about three years. “For loading, it's a better machine. It's got more power in the bucket. The cab is nice — and so is the ride control. It's the best loader you can buy!”

District Manager John Thomas has also been suitably impressed. “Our environment at this plant is mostly working in stockpiles. We load sand, stone, and stone products.”



“I found Kawasaki better suited our needs.”

– John Thomas, District Manager



After it arrived, the first operator to use the loader was impressed by how strong the hydraulics were.

“We need a good dependable machine that is ‘up’ 100 percent of the time,” continues John. “I found the Kawasaki better suited our needs. It has been very dependable.”

Obviously the plant can’t afford downtime. Extremes in weather, terrain, temperature, hours of operation, and materials loaded have to roll off their wheel loaders like water from the back of a duck.

“We get loaders for the long term, as we expect a piece of equipment to last for several years,” says John. “We are a daylight-to-dark operation, and the loader runs the entire time. In the winter we use it for snow removal as well.”

Marceo adds, “Our loaders feed the bins/hoppers and load trucks. We have three crews that work from here — two paving crews and a grade crew. So we get trucks lined up all the time just waiting to be filled.

“The 90 currently has 6,700 hours on it. In the winter it gets to 35 below zero. It doesn’t seem to matter — the loader is still very good.”

BACK TO KING CITY

Turns out the 90 isn’t the only Kawasaki being used by K.J. Beamish. “Up in Sault Ste. Marie, we are running a Kawasaki 65TMV-2,” says Bob.

“If you say something to a customer, you should have the organization and the people backing you. For us, most of the time we do our own maintenance, but if a machine is within two to three years’ old and under warranty, I let the dealer handle it. And if my guys are tied up, I’ll call in McDowell. Either way, I’ve never had to wait with McDowell.”

K.J. Beamish Construction Co., Limited is serviced by McDowell Equipment, Sudbury, Ontario.