

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2021

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GERKEN MATERIALS INC. WINS NATIONAL AIRPORT PAVING AWARD North Bass Island Airfield Named 2020's Highest Quality Airport Pavement

Greenbelt, Md. — The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) announced today that Gerken Materials Inc. of Napoleon, Ohio, has won the 2020 Ray Brown Asphalt Pavement Award for excellence in construction of an asphalt pavement. The company was recognized today during the association's virtual 66th Annual Meeting.

"The asphalt pavement industry is committed to building high-quality projects that deliver superior performance to the traveling public. All contractors' projects earning a Quality in Construction award are measured against best practices designed to live up to that commitment," said 2020-21 NAPA Chairman James Winford. "Earning the Ray Brown Pavement Award demonstrates that Gerken Materials Inc. has met or exceeded these rigorous standards."

Gerken Materials Inc. won the award for the resurfacing of Runway 1-19 and adjoining east apron at the North Bass Island Airfield in Ohio. The award is named after Ray Brown, the Director of the National Center for Asphalt Technology from 1991-2007. Under Ray's guidance and tenure, the center became renowned for its asphalt pavement research. The award is presented to the highest scoring Quality in Construction - Airport Pavement project.

Gerken Materials placed two, 2-inch lifts of asphalt on the runway. The company used a ferry to transport 3,500 tons of asphalt to this remote island 10 miles offshore. Once on the island, the asphalt-hauling trucks had to travel down fields and roadside rights-of-way to avoid damaging the roads. The last paving shift worked 20 hours to place the pavement before inclement weather. The result was a quality asphalt runway.

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The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) is the only trade association that exclusively represents the interests of the asphalt producer/contractor on the national level with Congress, government agencies, and other national trade and business organizations. NAPA supports an active research program designed to improve the quality of asphalt pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities. The association provides technical, educational, and marketing materials and information to its members; supplies product information to users and specifiers of paving materials; and conducts training courses. The association, which counts more than 1,100 companies as members, was founded in 1955.