

History

1951

Guaranteed Gravel & Sand Company of Mankato, Minn., purchases a small concrete drain tile and ready mix concrete plant in Wells, a small farming community in south central Minnesota. They name the company Wells Concrete Products Co.

1957

Wells Concrete Co. expands into the prestressed concrete products business with a 4-foot wide steel form stretching 400 feet, capable of producing double tees measuring 4 feet wide and 14 inches deep. The first form is set up in a field on the outskirts of Wells. When contract work is unavailable, a building is produced from standard columns, double tees and panels mainly on the original form to house the operation.

1960's & 1970's

Wells Concrete expands production, introducing 8-foot-wide double tees, insulated sandwich wall panels and short span quad tee and double tee bridge members.

1980's

Wells Concrete develops a unique vapor barrier system to fulfill the requirements of cooler and freezer applications. The company becomes an industry leader in the quality concrete construction for food processors, constructing facilities for companies such as Geo. A. Hormel & Company, Swift-Eckrich, Iowa Beef Processors, SeaFest Fish Processing, Swiss Miss, Davisco, Malt-O-Meal, Jennie-o and Long Prairie Packing. The Hormel foods building in Austin, Minn., is the largest facility ever constructed by Wells Concrete.

In 1983, front-discharge Ready Mix trucks are added to the Wells Concrete fleet and in 1989 the company purchases Minnesota Lake Ready Mix. The new addition to Wells Concrete expands the Ready Mix division to include plants in Mapleton and Blue Earth.

1990's

Wells Concrete adds a separate facility in 1990 to produce architectural concrete panels. The panels are available in a variety of finishes, textures, and colors to meet the need of designers and specifiers.

Wells Concrete acquires Concrete Inc. in Grand Forks, N.D., in 1994 and Alden Concrete Products Co. in Alden, Minn., in 1997. The acquisitions expand Wells Concrete's capacity for prestressed panels and its product line to include concrete steps, septic tanks, and burial vaults.

2000

In 2000, Wells Concrete constructs a 18,750 sq. feet Finish Building at its Wells location to accommodate clients' demands for architectural panels. The company also addresses environmental issues in its finishing facility with state-of-the-art wastewater recovery and dust collection systems, resulting in environmental advantages and labor savings. All the ductwork and piping systems are housed in a "concrete attic" for protection from the finishing environment.

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2009

Albany, Minn., production facility opens, expanding the company's capabilities to Architectural and Structural Precast/Prestressed 12-foot double tees for parking structures, hollow core planks, and insulated hollow core wall panels.

Grand Forks, ND., operations add new 19,000 sq. feet Finish Building giving all three manufacturing operations identical capabilities to meet customer demands for architectural panels.

Also in 2009, Concrete Inc. changes its name to Wells Concrete, bringing all Wells Concrete facilities under one name.