

## ***Turkish cement plant installs 50 air cannons***

The Izmir, Turkey, plant of Cimentas, part of Cementir Holding, at the beginning of last year placed an order with Martin Engineering, headquartered in Neponset, IL, to install a network of air cannons on the preheater tower of its third clinker production line. An existing air cannon system had been under-performing, resulting in accumulations of material which had to be manually removed on a daily basis in an operation which took two hours each time. In addition the plant was subjected to a monthly slowdown to allow for major cleaning.

Equipment supplied by Martin included 50 high-temperature nozzles, 50 air cannons and a variety of pneumatic components and control systems, all of which were delivered in just a few working days to take advantage of a planned plant shutdown. The next day Martin Engineering technicians arrived on site to begin the upgrade, working through the night until the changes were completed, supervising the installation and helping to programme the firing sequences. The Big Blaster® air cannons with Tornado exhaust valves fire a powerful discharge of compressed air to remove caked material. Installed in a series and precisely sequenced for maximum effect, the network can be timed to best suit individual process conditions or material characteristics. Specific air blast intensities can be achieved by manipulating the operating pressure, tank volume, valve design and nozzle shape. Since the air cannon installation was completed in February 2010, there has been no requirement for manual cleaning in the entire preheater tower. Meanwhile a similar system has been installed at the Cimentas Elazig plant. Martin Engineering global representatives can be found at: [www.martin-eng/rep-finder](http://www.martin-eng/rep-finder)



***Martin Engineering air cannons at the Izmir Cimentas plant; the positive action of the Tornado valve amplifies output force by as much as 20% over standard air cannon designs***