



McMinn's Inc. sold to international group

■ Oldcastle Materials will keep McMinn's name and local operation.

By CHAD UMBLE
New Era Staff Writer

It's the end of a road for McMinn's Inc.

McMinn's, the East Petersburg-based construction materials supplier, announced today that it has been sold to Oldcastle Materials, a division of CRH plc, an international building materials group based in Ireland.

The sale, for an undisclosed price, includes McMinn's Asphalt Inc., Binkley & Ober, Lancaster Ready-Mix and Prospect Aggregates and Concrete, which offer aggregate, asphalt, concrete and paving services.

There are no planned layoffs of McMinn's 375 employees and no other major reorganization is expected after the deal, which was completed Friday afternoon. The McMinn's companies will retain their names and local operations.

Jeff Sweigart, former president and owner of McMinn's, will remain as general manager.

Sweigart said today that he hadn't been looking to sell, but after being approached several times he made what



Former McMinn's owner and now general manager Jeff Sweigart stands in front of the McMinn's Asphalt office and asphalt plant.

he called a "tough decision" to part with the company.

"You've got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em," said Sweigart, quoting the Kenny Rogers' song "The Gambler."

Sweigart added that with more local quarries being sold to large companies, it was becoming harder for smaller firms like his to compete.

Randy Lake, president of

Mid-Atlantic Division, Oldcastle Materials, said adding the McMinn's companies was a strategic and geographic fit for the firm, whose practice is to buy medium-sized companies and let them run largely independently.

"It is a natural extension to expand our footprint and serve our customers," he said.

McMinn's generates \$80 million in annual revenue and

includes five asphalt plants, four concrete plants, two quarries and two block plants.

Lake said McMinn's two permitted quarries were a key asset for the deal, saying they are "the lifeblood of the industry."

The deal does not include the former Lancaster Mal-leable site in Manheim Township, which McMinn's bought in 2003 and includes Stumpf

Field.

McMinn's will join the Mid-Atlantic Group companies of Oldcastle Materials, which include Harrisburg-based Pennsy Supply, Slusser Brothers, of Hazleton, Tilcon-Delaware of Dover, Del., and Pioneer Concrete of Wilmington, Del.

Oldcastle is a supplier of aggregate, asphalt, ready-mix concrete and paving services in the U.S. It is one of four divisions of CRH plc, the international building materials group, which has operations in 28 countries and employs some 80,000 people.

Leaders of two unions representing some McMinn's Inc. employees said today they've had a solid relationship with the company in the past and anticipate having the same in the future.

"We're going to continue to work together and do our best to keep everything strong between the company and our people," said Joe Padavan, president of Steelworkers Local 15253.

"What (the new owners) told us was, they plan on growing the company...," said Padavan. "We expect McMinn's to do well and we're going to be behind them 100 percent."

Local 15253 represents about 175 truck drivers, mechanics and road construction workers under three contracts. Teamsters Local 771 represents more than 35 em-

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ployees under two contracts. All five pacts will be honored by the new owners.

"The company's attorney informed me that the jobs will be maintained and contracts will be assumed. It's just going to be owned by someone else, that's all," said Howard

Rhinier, Local 771 principal officer.

McMinn's was founded in 1933 by Walter C. McMinn Jr. His son, W. Charles McMinn, ran the company until his death in 1984, when Sweigart took over.

(Staff writer **Tim Mekeel** contributed to this report.)

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