



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **An Oldcastle Company Raises Work Zone Awareness in Ohio Labor Day Parade**

Oakwood, Ohio --- Paulding County residents experienced a new perspective on a work zone safety awareness campaign during the annual Labor Day Homecoming Parade. Stoneco Inc., an Oldcastle Materials company, unveiled "Safety Barrel Man," to increase public understanding of the risks and dangers that construction employees face every day while performing their jobs on Ohio highways.

"When I heard that more employees are injured and killed at construction zones due to vehicles not slowing down I felt compelled to do something to try and prevent it from happening again," said Robin Kraner, quality control, and Ohio City resident. "I came up with the idea of a lifelike orange construction barrel character that can be used at events to raise safety awareness and serve as a reminder to slow down in work zones." Kraner's son, Chris, 13, with the help of the costume and the right attitude became a walking safety barrel mascot.

There is a real need to circulate this message based on Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) statistics. According to their website, there were 5,012 crashes and 13 fatalities in Ohio roadway work zones in 2009. Through company and ODOT public awareness campaigns, behaviors can be positively influenced to create work zones that are safer for both workers and motorists.

At this time of the year construction crews are focused on completing projects as efficiently as possible before the end of the season. Completing all work safely requires focus, discipline and a strong commitment by all management and employees to keep safety as the most important value. The top priority, above all, is to ensure that all employees return home safely at the end of each work day.

Based in Atlanta, Ga., Oldcastle Materials is the leading vertically integrated supplier of aggregates, asphalt, ready mixed concrete and paving services in the United States with operations at 1,400 locations nationwide. More information about the company can be found at [www.oldcastlematerials.com](http://www.oldcastlematerials.com).

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