Coal Combustion Product Type
Class F Fly Ash

Project Location
Truth or Consequences, New Mexico

Project Participants
New Mexico Spaceport Authority, David Montoya Construction Co., Salt River Materials Group, Guntert & Zimmerman, Virgin Galactic, UP Aerospace

Project Completion Date
September 2010

Project Summary
The New Mexico Spaceport Authority worked with Virgin Galactic, UP Aerospace, and several other aerospace companies to build the world's first commercial spaceport. Spaceport America sits on 27 square miles of state-owned land located in Sierra County, 30 miles east of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, in the vicinity of White Sands Missile Range. The spaceport was designed with sustainability in mind and met the requirements of LEED Gold Certification. In a weak economy, the spaceport project created approximately 500 jobs.

Project Description
The concrete paving was awarded to Albuquerque-based David Montoya Construction Co. (DMC) and consisted of a 10,000-foot-long runway, taxiways, and aprons. The project began in January 2010 and was completed in September 2010. The 200-foot-wide runway was divided into six 33.33-foot paving lanes, each of which took six days to complete. In order to meet the rigorous job specifications and ensure uniformity and reliability, DMC relied on Guntert & Zimmerman for their concrete slip form paver and batch plant.

Given the location of the spaceport, materials had to be shipped in from hundreds of miles away. Cement was transported from Albuquerque. Approximately 13,675 tons of fly ash was hauled in from Salt River Materials Group’s Escalante Fly Ash Facility, near Prewitt, New Mexico. Local aggregates were used in the concrete mixture design.