

# Cambria Warehouse/Production Facility + Expansion

Le Sueur, MN



Cambria is an international company specializing in the manufacturing of natural quartz countertop and tile. The company is headquartered in Le Sueur, Minnesota and distributes its product worldwide. In 2005, an expansion was completed for the plant to increase its operations by 173,000 square feet. In 2013, Cambria undertook a second major expansion to keep up with current and projected production. The new 350,000 square foot expansion nearly doubled the capacity of the existing plant. New technology installed at the plant allows it to maximize efficiency in production and operations. The new design also maintained the need to reclaim the process water for reuse.

Full design services were required for the project, including land surveying, civil engineering, architecture, and complete building services. The project was technically challenging and an aggressive schedule was maintained.

The existing site was not level so in order to maintain the same finished floor elevation, significant fill of up to 45 feet was required. Additionally, unsuitable soils were discovered during the geotechnical analysis resulting in careful design of the backfill material and placement. Due to its proximity to the adjacent rights-of-way, several options were reviewed to match the proposed grading into the site, including a cast-in-place concrete wall, modular retaining wall, and modifications of the building footing systems.



Ultimately, modification of the building footings was determined to be the most economical. Close communication between the design team, the geotechnical engineer, and the construction manager allowed for the most cost effective solution to be designed.

The specialized equipment utilized in the plant has a long lead time which in conjunction with the unpredictable Minnesota weather resulted in a short timeframe for construction. The design team worked closely with the owner and construction manager to provide the development of numerous bid packages to expedite the bidding and construction schedule.

## EXPERTISE

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Environmental  
Planning

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Commercial  
Education  
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Housing  
Industrial  
Mining  
Public Works  
Sports + Recreation



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