

**Huntsmans** is a small company in an industry increasingly dominated by a few very large operators. In its own area and in its particular market sectors, it is very much a leader - in terms of the range and quality of its products and because it still provides an essentially personal service.

Customers appreciate the special honey and buff colours of Huntsmans stone and its renowned frost-resistance. Rockery stone, chippings, slates, walling stone and gravels all carry with them the unique warmth of the Cotswolds. Other products such as agricultural lime and equestrian drainage media each have their own quality niches in competitive markets.

The company operates two key sites - a major hard rock quarry at Naunton near Stow-on-the-Wold and a sand and gravel quarry some 15 miles away at Bishops Cleeve.



## A long tradition

The origins of today's quarry at Naunton, go back hundreds of years when randomly quarried Cotswold slate was in demand far and wide. Such was its fame that it was even transported to London on river barges.



The focus changed in the 1920s when the unique frost resistance of this particular pocket of Jurassic limestone earned a new reputation as a high quality aggregate. In those days, the rock was worked by hand and transported by horse and cart.

The advent of mechanical power brought a steady expansion of the operation, and in 1936 Huntsmans Quarries became a private limited company. Updated crushing and screening plant was added in the 1960s as the quarry responded to the demand for aggregate, particularly for the M4 and M5 motorways. Investment has continued in more recent years as the operation has met increasingly demanding product and environmental specifications.

Today, Huntsmans is the only supplier of high quality aggregate within 30 miles of Stow-on-the-Wold. It is a major employer and contributor to the local economy.

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Huntsmans Quarries Ltd  
Naunton, Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire

Tel: 01451 850555 Fax: 01451 850670

e-mail: [sales@huntsmansquarries.co.uk](mailto:sales@huntsmansquarries.co.uk)

[www.huntsmansquarries.co.uk](http://www.huntsmansquarries.co.uk)

*natural stone solutions from the Cotswolds*