

Producer members

Producers offer mainland UK coverage unless otherwise stated

Breedon Aggregates 01332 694000

www.breedonaggregates.com

CEMEX UK Materials Ltd 01932 568833

www.cemex.co.uk

Cornish Lime Company 01208 79779

www.cornishlime.co.uk

CPI Mortars Ltd 0845 850 9090

www.euromix.com

Hugh King & Co 01294 557515

www.hughking.co.uk

John Carr (Liverpool) Ltd 0151 2070067

(Liverpool)

Marshall Watts Mix 01262 675383

www.wattsmix.com

Premier Mortars 0345 3013030

www.marshalls.co.uk/premiermortars

RTU 02890 851441

www.rtu.co.uk (Belfast)

Tarmac 03701 116 116

www.tarmac.com

New data sheet published on using mortars at low and high temperatures

The MIA has now published its new data sheet on factory-produced mortar for use at low and high temperatures.

The data sheet explains that if the temperature of recently laid mortar falls below 0°C there is a probability of some degree of frost attack. The water may freeze and expand thus disrupting the mortar by forcing the material apart and breaking the bond.

It used to be thought that this process was completely irreversible. However, the presence of free lime in the mix imparts to some degree the property of self-healing and any hairline cracks formed will tend to seal, over a short period of time.

The data sheet points out that it is obviously desirable to take precautions to minimise frost attack, explaining that special precautions should be taken when using mortar in winter conditions.

The inclusion of carefully controlled air entrainment under factory conditions in mortar increases the frost resistance in its hardened state and it is for this reason that MIA members supply specially modified factory-produced mortars for winter usage.

The masonry contractor's primary concern during hot weather is evaporation of water from the mortar. If sufficient water is not present, the bond between the mortar and masonry unit may be reduced. However, the effects of high temperatures are not as damaging as those of low to masonry performance. The increased rate of hydration of the cement and favourable curing conditions in warm, humid weather will help develop masonry strength if sufficient water is present at the time of construction.

MIA data sheet 7, *Factory-produced mortar for use at low and high temperatures* is downloadable from the resources section of www.mortar.org.uk.



National winners of the 2016 Guild of Bricklayers Competition

Finals of the Guild of Bricklayers 2016 national competition took place at PETROC, Barnstaple, Devon at the end of July.

Jordan Richards of Derby College took the senior category award – and the MIA cup – while Tim Johnston of Stephenson College was the junior winner.

The finals were a culmination of a competition that included nine heats around the country. At each, finalists were given up to six hours to construct a brickwork model from drawings supplied.

Guild of Bricklayers president, Phil Vine-Roberts, said of the final: 'It was a fantastic day, it was a privilege to be involved in the judging on the day. The quality of work was truly excellent and all the competitors should be extremely proud of themselves.'

CPI Euromix supplied the mortar for the competition on behalf of the Mortar Industry Association.

National senior category winner, Jordan Richards of Derby College, receives the MIA cup from Guild of Bricklayers president, Phil Vine-Roberts (left) and CPI Euromix's Stuart Russell, who supplied the mortar for the competition



CEMEX mortar used for new retirement care home

With masonry beginning in Spring 2016, CEMEX Dry Silo Mortar supplied 350 tonnes of M4 natural mortar to Churchill Retirement Living's new care home, Emmeline Lodge, in Leatherhead, Surrey.

This development began with the demolition of the former Leatherhead Police Station and erection of a new retirement building consisting of 38 one- and two-bedroom apartments and a coffee bar and communal gardens.

The method of construction was of traditional brick and blockwork, with a red facing brick and CEMEX M4 natural from Braintree, Essex, chosen as the desired mortar for all above damp proof course works.



As part of the development, Churchill will also contribute £450,000 towards off-site affordable housing and £28,000 towards infrastructure improvements in the town.

Leatherhead is an historic market town, surrounded by outstanding countryside and the beautiful Surrey Hills. It is also close to Box Hill, which was the venue for the London 2012 Olympic cycling road race.

Resilient housing conference in London

Modern Masonry Alliance and The Concrete Centre are staging a one-day conference on resilient housing in London on 3 November.

The event is aimed at house builders, architects, local authorities and, indeed, all those involved in the provision, design, construction and maintenance of UK housing.

The organisers say that the conference is in response to the growing need to take full account of resilience in the design of UK homes. They promise a broad range of technical expertise will be provided.

Areas to be covered include practical guidance on BS 85500 flood resistant and resilient construction, best practice for the design of resilient concrete and masonry and an explanation of how resilience and changing demographics are impacting current and future housing needs.

Further information is available at www.concretecentre.com/Housing2016.



essential materials
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MIA is part of the Mineral Products Association, the trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and silica sand industries.