

**Producer members**

Producers offer mainland UK coverage unless otherwise stated

**C&G Concrete Ltd 01780 482000**  
www.candgconcrete.co.uk (East Midlands)

**CEMEX UK Materials Ltd 01932 568833**  
www.cemex.co.uk

**CPI Mortars Ltd 0845 850 9090**  
www.euromix.com

**Hanson 0845 845 6699**  
www.hanson.biz

**Hugh King & Co 01294 557515**  
www.kingdrymix.com

**John Carr (Liverpool) Ltd 0151 2070067**  
(Liverpool)

**Premier Mortars 0845 603 3406**  
www.marshalls.co.uk/premiermortars

**RTU 02890 851441**  
www.rtu.co.uk (Belfast)

**Remix Dry Mortar Ltd 01329 231200**  
www.remixdrymortar.co.uk

**Roadstone Dublin Ltd 00 35 31 4041200**  
www.roadstone.ie (Dublin)

**Smiths Concrete Ltd 01295 278177**  
www.smithsconcrete.co.uk (Oxfordshire)

**Tarmac Limited 08701 116116**  
www.tarmac.co.uk

## Masonry construction reaches zero-carbon



Masonry construction can achieve a zero-carbon home

Government has recognised that masonry construction can achieve a zero-carbon home. Hidden away in the Spring Budget detail is confirmation that Code for Sustainable Homes level 5 – suitably met by good old brick, block and mortar – will be the highest level required when all new homes have to be zero carbon from 2016.

Head of architecture, housing and sustainability at the Concrete Centre, Guy Thompson, points out that tucked away in an appendix to the budget, government has announced that unregulated carbon

emissions produced by cooking and electrical appliances such as televisions are to be excluded from the definition. These account for between one third and half of a home's total emissions, with the rest coming from lighting, heating and hot water production.

Under original government plans house builders would have been required to fund renewable energy projects to offset emissions from household appliances, substantially increasing the price of new homes at a time when the house building industry can ill afford it.

\* Further information on building to Code level 5 is available in the Concrete Centre publication 'Achieving Code level 5 in Concrete and Masonry' downloadable from [http://www.concretecentre.com/online\\_services/publication\\_library/publication\\_details.aspx?PublicationId=695](http://www.concretecentre.com/online_services/publication_library/publication_details.aspx?PublicationId=695). Please note this is currently under review to reflect the changes in Part L outlined in a further publication, Thermal Performance: Part L1A.

## 40 years of the MIA lunch

The MIA lunch celebrates its fortieth year in 2011.

Several venues around the country have been used for the prestigious industry event which has drawn up to 200 guests for an event over its history.

In more recent years the favourite venue has been the Royal Overseas League in London again the venue for 2011.

## New MIA chairman appointed

Chief executive of CPI Mortars, Larry Dale, has become chairman of the Mortar Industry Association.



Larry has wide experience in the concrete and mortar industries having begun his career in the Tarmac technical department in 1983. He was subsequently given a post

in sales in the company's mortar business and progressed to southern region manager. In 1998, he joined CPI Mortars as a sales representative, four months after the company had set up the first dry mortar plant in the UK at Northfleet, Kent.

On becoming MIA chairman, Larry said: 'The Construction Industry and its suppliers have been under severe pressure in the last few years. There are small signs of improvement in certain sectors but no doubt we still have some tough times ahead. It is important during this time that the focus of the industry as a whole remains on delivering quality through its products, services, and its many skilled people.'

## Hanson mortar for Coventry school rebuild

**Dry silo mortar from Hanson has been used in the reconstruction of the Sidney Stringer School in Coventry.**

The company supplied 316 m<sup>3</sup> of mortar in two colours over a six months period to main contractor, Kier Moss.

A fire destroyed the original school in September 2007 and it was subsequently pulled down to make way for the new building, which covers some 13,088 sq m

and cost £27.3 million. The school was named after Alderman Sidney Stringer, a former mayor of Coventry who dedicated himself to the rebuilding of the city after the devastation of the Second World War. In September 2010, the school became an academy, a government-funded, local

school that provides a first-class education for young people of all abilities.

The site hoardings on the Primrose Hill Street and Cox Street junction have been painted with murals depicting some of Coventry's heritage and achievements.



The Sidney Stringer School in Coventry

## Screeds ideal answer for floor construction



Laying a cementitious floor screed

Benefits of factory-produced cementitious floor screeds are being restated by the MIA as part of its overall promotion of quality products available from its membership.

The screeds are high-quality products designed for all traditional screed applications including monolithic, bonded and unbonded construction.

A cementitious levelling screed, typically made from a 1:3 or 1:4.5 ratio of cement to sharp sand, is used to achieve a durable, flat surface ready to accept the final flooring finish. It may be applied onto either a solid in-situ concrete ground floor slab or onto a precast concrete floor unit.

Screeds are made under tightly-controlled factory conditions and delivered to site, ready to use. They have guaranteed mix proportions and overcome any potential problems relating to site mixing.

Benefits include:

- accurate cement content
- consistent strength
- reduced mixing and labour costs
- reduced wastage and pilferage
- guaranteed meeting of specification
- technical advice and test data available upon request.

Screeds can be left as laid or floated to produce a smooth surface on which to lay a specified flooring or finish. They can also be used to embed underfloor heating or to encompass ducting for other services. Reinforcement can be added as required, generally through use of a fine metal mesh or the addition of polypropylene fibres. Screeds can also be used in conjunction with insulation materials.

Self-levelling, flowing screeds are available.

Generally based on a calcium sulfate binder, these can provide significant additional benefits, including:

- speed of application
- finer surface finish
- accuracy of placement and finishing,
- reduced thickness
- a substantial reduction in the number of movement joints required.



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