

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

Need technical information on mortars?

Visit www.mortar.org.uk

Shortage of homes threatens future generations of homeowners



Fears that the level of house building is stagnating could lock future generations out of owning a home, says the NHBC, reporting on the latest figures relating to new home registrations.

In August this year, 9,978 new homes were registered with NHBC, a drop from 11,310 in July. In August last year, almost the same number of houses at 9,954, were registered.

NHBC chief executive Imtiaz Farookhi said: "At a time of significant national debate about the planning process, our registration figures support what is increasingly being recognised by objective commentators. This is that the number of homes being built is simply too low to support the needs of the UK population.

"Insufficient supply inevitably leads to higher prices and this is creating a two-tier Britain, split between those lucky enough to already own a desirable property and the younger generation who can see their own aspirations of home ownership dashed by

unwillingness at local level to build the homes that would make that possible. It is impossible to see this as anything other than social divide."

In 2006, 185,000 new homes were built in the year while in the first eight months of 2011, that figure is more than 100,000 homes lower.

Of the new homes registered in August, numbers for the private sector were up by 8 per cent compared to the same period last year but those in the public sector dropped by 16 per cent.

Chairman of the MIA marketing committee, David Stewart, said: "These are challenging times for all concerned within the construction industry, including the mortar producers within the Mortar Industry Association. Rest assured the MIA members will continue to promote the benefits of using all types of factory-mixed methods of mortar, promoting both their economical and technical benefits."

Remix scores at new rugby stand in South Wales

Bricklaying contractor Millisun has chosen Remix Dry Mortar to supply dry silo mortar to the first phase of the redevelopment of the Newport Gwent Dragons and Newport RFC rugby stadium at Rodney Parade, Newport, South Wales.

The new development, which was started in October 2010 and is now nearing completion, will see the replacement of the old, open north terrace by a covered standing enclosure. The former east terrace will be replaced with an all-seater 2,526 capacity grandstand comprising 2,382 seats in the main stand with a further 144 in 13 hospitality boxes. At the northern end of the stand there will be a two-storey function suite capable of catering for 300 covers, a club shop, ticket office and reception area. The new stand will also comprise concession areas and bars on both ground and first floors.

The scheme has been designed by architects HLN of Cardiff. Remix has worked closely with the architect, structural engineers Bay Associates and main contractor Andrew Scott,



The new stand under construction

to ensure the mortar selection satisfied aesthetic and structural requirements. Remix has supplied a 35-tonne capacity mortar silo to site containing designation iii natural mortar to cater for some 5,000 square metres of 100 ml standard blockwork. The mix has been supplied in accordance with the requirements of BS EN 998-2 to meet the contract specification for mortar.

Millisun managing director Chris White, said: "We specified factory-produced dry silo mortar from Remix to meet specification demands and to ensure that wastage was kept to a minimum on a tightly configured site. The dry silo mortar system ensures that site operatives can produce as much or as little mortar as required at the push of a button which realises

substantial cost saving benefits with silo use offering a significant reduction in waste against the amount that is often produced by traditional methods of mortar mixing on site".

Remix commercial manager Mark Leveson commented: "We are proud to supply Millisun with their dry silo mortar requirements on this prestigious contract at a historic rugby ground where the sport has been played for well over a hundred years and where national sides from New Zealand, Australia and South Africa have all tasted defeat. As well as meeting a stringent specification, our factory-produced mortar was delivered by the silo system which also reduced noise compared to site mixing – a major consideration as local residents' houses backed onto the site".

Fourth report on sustainable concrete

The Sustainable Concrete Forum published its fourth performance report in October.

In his introduction, forum chairman Andy Spencer says that in 2008, when the concrete industry first agreed on its sustainable construction strategy, it knew that sustainability would change the design, construction and supply chains within the built environment – the exact journey, however, has been for more complex than forecast.

Nevertheless, despite the general economic downturn and lack of growth within the construction sector, the industry's commitment to delivering a sustainable built environment is undiminished.

In the report, performance highlights include:

- **Supporting the government target on responsible sourcing**

88% of concrete production is responsibly sourced to BES 6001 making concrete the leading construction material for responsible sourcing.

- **Reducing CO₂ emissions**

CO₂ emissions for a standardised concrete mix have

reduced by 16.3 per cent compared to the 1990 baseline and is on track to meet the 2012 target.

- **Extending coverage of environmental and quality management systems**

These systems underpin any sustainability strategy and performance shows that the use of such systems continues to increase in the industry and supply chain and underpin any sustainability strategy.

- **Reducing creation and increasing usage of waste**

The concrete industry is a net consumer of waste, using almost 47 times more than it produces.

- **Continuous improvement**

The industry is proud of its progress since its initial strategy was agreed in 2008.

The strategy is being developed to ensure that it will drive continuous improvement.

The overall Sustainable Concrete Forum vision is that, by 2012, the UK concrete industry will be recognised as the leader in sustainable construction,

by taking a dynamic role in delivering a sustainable built environment in a manner that is profitable, socially responsible and functions within environmental limits.

A copy of the full report can be downloaded free of charge from www.concretecentre.com.



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