

## 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

## MIA sponsors Guild of Bricklayers competition for further year

**MIA continues to sponsor the Guild of Bricklayers apprentice competition for 2017, principally by supplying mortar through its producing members.**

Nine regional competitions for both senior and junior apprentices are planned before the final, to be held at Derby College on 21 June.

By the end of April, five regional competitions were complete covering the West Midlands, North West, Notts/Lincolnshire, Southern and Wales. To come were East Midlands, London, Northern and Yorkshire.

At each regional event, apprentices are given up to six hours to construct a brickwork model from drawings supplied with industry judges deciding senior and junior winners.

A recent NHBC Foundation report underlined the need to attract more young people into the house building industry to avoid a workforce crisis so the MIA is delighted to be helping the Guild of Bricklayers in its efforts to promote continuing high levels of skill in its trade.



Winner of the senior section of the Guild of Bricklayers north west regional competition, Jordan Ireland, receives his awards from guild vice president, Kevin Harold.



Guild of Bricklayers West Midlands chairman, Vic Scriven, presents the junior section awards to Connor Keyte of Morton Morrell College.

## MIA technical information

For a wide range of news and technical information including downloadable data sheets, learning texts, guidance and FAQs go to

[www.mortar.org.uk](http://www.mortar.org.uk)

## MIA works on environmental product declarations

The MIA has recently been working with British Precast to develop a generic industry average Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) relating to a typical mortar product. An EPD is a standardised way of quantifying the environmental impact of a product or a system and contributes to the output from a life cycle analysis. The mortar EPD will be published through the IBU Verification Scheme - currently Europe's most recognised and established scheme for the publication of EPDs in accordance with EN 15804.

Sections of the construction industry are still largely unaware of EPDs but the application of product life cycle analysis is likely to

be an important growth area. Benefits are not only in the future: even now, having EPDs can provide assistance for projects seeking high BREEAM ratings. They are one of the tools that will help us put data behind our understanding of the whole life impact of the built environment and play a key role in the ability of construction product suppliers to maximise the benefits that Building Information Modelling (BIM) offers.

Having this EPD in place will provide a verified source of data to factor into revisions to industry guides and databases. The aim is to publish the mortar EPD in the coming months.

## CPI aids aesthetics and efficiency at Bermondsey Spa

CPI EuroMix supplied the essential reliable, efficient and proven method of delivering high quality mortar for the regeneration of Bermondsey Spa in Southwark, London.

Forming part of a 50-acre regeneration project for the London Borough of Southwark, the Bermondsey Spa development features a mixture of new and affordable housing, commercial premises, public space and community facilities. Specialist contractors Bishop Developments, worked with CPI EuroMix who supplied a range of mortars to meet the client specification on the seven residential blocks.

To achieve the desired aesthetics while ensuring long term performance, CPI supplied approximately 1500 tonnes of mortar - in red, white, black and natural colours - to site in silo mixing stations. The product was used for the entire build



A general view of the Bermondsey Spa development.

on all seven blocks from the sub-structure to the parapet.

*‘We use CPI on many of our projects and always get a good service. The consistency of their mortar is excellent,’* commented project manager at Bishops Developments, Jason Wells. *‘We had seven silos on the*

*project and used at least 12m<sup>3</sup> of mortar every other week on each silo. The silos are incredibly efficient and take up far less room on site.’*

Capable of holding up to 35 tonnes of dry mortar, the silo mixing station is delivered to site where it is plugged into water and power. As required, at the touch of a button, the silo produces a perfectly mixed mortar. As well as maintaining mix and colours, the system also minimises waste, helping to reduce the environmental impact of projects during construction.

With the development now complete, Bermondsey Spa has become a vibrant and exciting new development in an increasingly popular part of South London. CPI EuroMix has once again played an important role in a major London regeneration project.

## Strong start to year for new house registrations

More than 42,000 new homes were registered in the UK by NHBC in the first three months of 2017.

Registrations reached their highest level in 10 years for the first quarter at 42,470 new homes. This is an increase of 17% on the 36,351 registered 12 months ago.

In the private sector, 31,197 homes were registered, an increase of 10% on the same period a year ago (28,278). Pleasingly, 11,273 new homes were registered in the affordable sector, a 40% increase on 2016 numbers (8,073).

New home statistics for the financial year also reveal a 4% increase for 2016/17 with a total of 157,898 new homes registered compared to 151,599 in 2015/16. New home completions for the financial year increased by 5% to 145,282, up from 137,826 in 2015/16.

For the first time in seven years all 12 regions across the UK experienced growth in

registrations, when compared to the same period 12 months ago. The North East (+39%), London (+38%) and Eastern (+31%) were among the regions with the most notable growth.

Commenting on the latest new home statistics, NHBC managing director, Neil Jefferson, said: ‘These figures, with growth across the entire country, are clearly encouraging for the sector, at a time when there is considerable demand for new, high-quality homes.

‘This growth in registrations, in both the private and affordable sector, is welcome news and will result in more newly built homes across the UK over the coming months.’

*\* Registrations refer to the process of a builder registering a new plot/home to be built in the coming months or weeks, to be covered by NHBC’s 10-year Buildmark warranty. Completions refer to when the builder completes a new home.*



essential materials  
sustainable solutions

mortar  
industry  
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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.