

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

CPI Mortars Ltd 0845 850 9090

www.euromix.com

Hanson 0845 845 6699

www.hanson.biz

Hugh King & Co 01294 557515

www.hughking.co.uk

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

Smiths Concrete Ltd 01295 278177

www.smithsconcrete.co.uk (Oxfordshire)

Tarmac Building Products 08701 116116

www.tarmacbuildingproducts.co.uk

Need help in mortar selection?

The MIA website has help and advice on mortar selection plus a range of data sheets on many mortar topics and uses.

www.mortar.org.uk

Factory-produced mortar safest route for CE marking

Using factory-produced mortar in construction is the safest way to ensure a customer is receiving material meeting the requirements of the CE marking regulations which came into effect on 1 July this year.

MIA marketing group chairman, David Stewart says:

'Both mortar and screed need to comply to CE marking criteria. This compliance means that all products used on site have to be part of a testing regime.

'In the case of MIA members, we have decided to produce products to a guaranteed minimum strength or to defined mix proportions as required by current standards. In order to fulfil these requirements, membership companies take regular samples for testing and analysis to ensure compliance. This record then becomes part of a formal Factory Production Control (FPC) system where complete traceability can be checked and monitored.

'The above scenario is satisfactory when our customer base is buying our MIA factory-mixed products whether they be wet ready-to-use, silo-delivered or pre-batched lime:sand. The issue, however, is how can specifiers, clients and main contractors know they can demonstrate compliance to this standard when they start site mixing with separate bags of cement, a pile of sand and a shovel?'

To achieve CE marking – arising from the introduction of the Construction Products Regulations in the UK – a producer is required to make a Declaration of Performance (DOP). This is data based and will always relate back to initial type testing and ongoing FPC, although this may well already be available as a result of an historic testing regime. Continuing testing, FPC, is also a requirement. The CE mark



Factory-produced mortars achieve CE marking

demonstrates conformity to a set of requirements as outlined in the DOP and is not a quality mark. It means that a product has been produced in accordance with the relevant 'harmonised' European Standard, BS EN 998 for mortars. In addition, it shows that the product meets the seven basic requirements for construction works: mechanical resistance and stability; safety in case of fire; hygiene, health and the environment; safety and accessibility in use; protection against noise; energy economy and heat retention; and sustainable use of natural resources.

David Stewart again: 'The introduction of CE marking calls for a huge educational and cultural change in the building industry. It's a challenge to say the least.'

* A briefing note, *CE marking and the UK mortar and screed industry*, has been produced by the MIA and can be downloaded from resources section of the association's website: www.mortar.org.uk

CPI answers call for high quality mortar at new 'Walkie-Talkie' building

At 20 Fenchurch Street in the City of London, more than 300 tonnes of CPI EuroMix mortar has been specified for the construction of a new 37-storey skyscraper, nicknamed the Walkie-Talkie because of its distinctive shape.

Designed by Uruguayan architect Rafael Viñoly to feature a highly unusual top-heavy form, the new 160 metre tall building replaces an ageing 1960s high-rise block. Upon completion in 2014, the 'Walkie-Talkie' will contain over 28,000m³ of concrete, 13,000 tonnes of steel and approximately 33,000m² of glass.

During construction of the building's deep basement levels, brickwork contractor Lesterose Builders, faced several logistical challenges. With no hoists or means of access to the basement below, as well as extremely limited space on the city centre site, the company utilised one of CPI's 'hurricane' remote mixing stations and 300 tonnes of special, pumpable natural mortar.

"We have worked with CPI EuroMix for a number of years and consistently receive a very good service," said Lee Ledger, contract manager at Lesterose. "At 20 Fenchurch Street the silo and remote mixing station was the natural choice as it helped to cut down on waste, deliver consistent

levels of mortar and provide the highest quality of material where it was needed."

Easy to move around the 690,000 sq ft site, the remote mixing station utilises a standard silo that pumps dry material to the remote mixer where water is added.

The space-saving system takes up much less area than an equivalent amount of ready mixed tubs or skips of raw materials. It also helped reduce the need for constant deliveries – ideal for 20 Fenchurch Street where tight logistics meant a holding yard and carefully scheduled deliveries had to be put in place.

Whilst the remote mixing station was used to construct the building's basement levels, CPI EuroMix's standard silo system was used to produce mortar for the ground and upper floors. Capable of containing up to 30 tonnes of dry material, the system eliminates waste whilst ensuring a consistent high quality supply of mortar for Lesterose.

In addition to pumpable natural mortar, CPI EuroMix also supplied more than 150 tonnes of dry 40n concrete in bulk bags for use in the blockwork. The bagged RC40 concrete has been



The 'Walkie-Talkie' building, London

used in the creation of all the building's new blockwork as well as a series of plinths and plant bases.

With mortars accredited to the industry standard accreditation for quality control, BS EN ISO 9001:2000, CPI EuroMix ensures all projects benefit from quality mortars with high bond and compressive strength, durability and consistency. At 20 Fenchurch Street, the company's high quality mortar and collaboration with Lesterose is playing a crucial role in the delivery of one of London's most iconic developments.

NHBC says UK house-building levels continue to improve

The latest registration statistics published by the NHBC show that house-building levels in the UK continue to show improvement on recent years, with figures for July 19% higher (13,539) than for the same month last year (11,391).

When the rolling quarter May - July 2013 is taken into account, the period shows a 30% increase compared to the same period last year (2012, 28,951 compared to 2013, 37,738).

The private sector reported the highest number of registrations for over five years, with 10,300 new homes registered in July, the highest since February 2008 when 10,465 homes were registered.

NHBC commercial director Richard Tamayo said:

"July was a bumper month for new home registrations, particularly for the private sector.

"As we have emphasised over the course of the year, this recovery is from a relatively low base but nevertheless reveals that builders are beginning to meet the growing demand to provide the new homes that the country desperately needs. Looking ahead we hope that the rest of the year continues this long overdue recovery story."

In the rolling quarter May - July 2013, Greater London and the South East showed a 52% increase of registrations compared to last year (2013, 14,120: 2012, 9,244).

Private sector registrations overall increased by 25% (27,028), compared with the same period last year

(21,574), while public sector registrations increased by 45% (10,710 compared to 7,377).



**mortar
industry
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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