

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

Remix supplies the new home of Welsh football

Bristol-based contractor ISG chose Remix Dry Mortar to provide factory-produced dry silo mortar to the recently completed Welsh National Football Development Centre, in the Newport International Sports Village at Spytty. This is a joint venture between the Football Association of Wales and the Welsh Football Trust.

Called Dragon Park, the £5 million, 42-week contract involved ISG providing headquarters buildings of 14,918 square feet to house changing rooms, a training recovery zone, conference facilities and administrative offices as well as two premium grass pitches and one 3G artificial pitch.

The architectural and interior design was by Newport-based Boyes-Rees Architects and the Remix technical department worked closely with the design team consisting of the client, ISG, Boyes-Rees and structural engineers Shear Design, to ensure the right mortar selection to complement the masonry units being used. The team chose a designation iii, dark black mortar, supplied in accordance with BS EN 998-2 via one 35-tonne capacity mortar silo. This catered for approximately 80,000 Ketley Staffordshire Blue Class A facing bricks required for the scheme's masonry element.



Dragon Park at Spytty, South Wales

ISG contracts manager Howard Davies said "Dragon Park will become the epicentre for developing future generations of top Welsh players and coaches with the complex hosting men's and women's national teams from the ages of 14 and upwards. As such, the significance of the project was not lost on the construction team who worked diligently throughout on an imaginative design where aesthetics were of paramount importance to the finish of the buildings. The provision of factory-produced dry silo mortar by Remix helped us achieve the colour consistency required which might not have been possible

by providing coloured mortar in other more traditional means".

Remix commercial manager Mark Leveson added "ISG at Dragon Park realised the importance of specifying factory-produced mortar to achieve colour consistency for a strategic coloured mortar application. We are delighted to have lent our support to them on such a prestigious project and their specification further endorses the numerous benefits that factory-produced mortar brings to such 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
association**

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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