

Producer members

Producers offer mainland UK coverage unless otherwise stated

Anglian Lime Company 01787 313974
www.anglianlime.com

Breedon Southern Ltd 01332 694000
www.breedonaggregates.com

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

Cemfree Masonry Mortar 01954 780687
www.cemfree.com

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)

Marshalls Mortars & Screeds
0345 3013030
www.marshalls.co.uk

Mortar and Screed Company Ltd
01952 224202
www.mortarandscreed.co.uk

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

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

Tarmac 03701 116 116
www.tarmac.com

Watts Mix 01262 675383
www.wattsmix.com

MPA Appointment

Mineral Products Association has appointed Jon Prichard as chief executive from 1 October 2022. He succeeds Nigel Jackson who has retired.

Mr Prichard, a chartered civil engineer, was previously chief executive at the Institution of Chemical Engineers and at the Engineering Council, Consulting Engineers Rendel and the Institution of Civil Engineers after completing 19 years in the British Army - Royal Engineers.

Towards sustainability in the mortar industry

MPA Mortar producers continue to work towards the best standards of environmental and business performance, reports the trade association's executive chairman, Stuart Russell.

“Not only are our efforts essential for sustainability but, without doubt, our work also ensures the best quality and cost controls on the products we offer,” he says.

Looking at the wide range of elements being assessed, Mr Russell stresses the underlining need for an ethical and responsible approach to business, limiting where possible the industry's impact on natural resources, minimising use of energy, cutting down waste and recycling materials wherever possible.

Raw materials are carefully sourced and decisions made about where alternatives can be introduced. For example, by adding a limestone filler to a cement mix in mortar, an overall embodied carbon reduction of 10-14% has been achieved by one producer.

He cites industry examples of mortar suppliers moving towards renewable electricity producers and the installation of solar arrays at some operations to limit external demand.

Water use can be reduced by such measures as installing a collecting drier, used for preparing raw materials, which returns water to settling ponds.

Vehicle deliveries do generate high emissions and it is at present difficult to identify a more sustainable alternative but the mortar industry is working with manufacturers to explore new technology developments. Indeed, an MPA member has recently ordered what will be the first battery electric mixer truck in the UK, which will give zero tailpipe emissions and reduced operating noise and vibration.

A final word from Stuart Russell:

“At the end of the day, as an industry we have a responsibility to act in the best interests of our planet, our customers, our employees and those that come into day-to-day contact with us. We supply an essential building material and it is up to us to do so in a sustainable way.”

Cemex meets a light and dark mortar challenge in Brighton

Meeting the architect's requirement to supply a consistently coloured mortar to complement the dark bricks being specified was key for CEMEX winning a major building contract for mortar supply in Brighton.

The contract involved the redevelopment of the former Longley Industrial Estate, meaning a warehouse brownfield site will be changed into a new vibrant place for the community. It is the first build-to-rent scheme to be delivered in Brighton and will comprise 209 apartments, in a building ranging from eight up to 18 storeys. The development includes commercial office space, car parking, cycle storage and private roof terrace gardens.

CEMEX worked closely with client McAleer and Rushe to meet the mortar colour requirement, including providing colour swatches, sticks and test panels before finally building an initial section on the flank of the building.

CEMEX subsequently supplied two coloured mortars, M4 CEMEX black light and Dove Holes white.



Approval of first stage brick panel.

The project's architect is reported as being pleased with the result, commenting that producing early façade mock ups demonstrated the achievement of a good variation of colour without forcing the brick mix which had been an earlier proposal.

Winter working with mortar

With winter approaching, if you need guidance on using mortar in colder conditions, download the MPA Mortar data sheet 07, FACTORY PRODUCED MORTAR FOR USE AT LOW AND HIGH TEMPERATURES, from www.mortar.org.uk.

Hydration and strength development in mortar generally occurs at temperatures greater than 4°C, meaning that when the temperature at the time of laying is less than 4°C, the characteristics of the mortar may be affected. It is therefore advised that masonry construction should stop when the air temperature falls below 3°C, unless the mortar temperature can be maintained at a minimum of 4°C until it has hardened. This may mean working in heated enclosures.

The data sheet suggests other broad measures that should be taken, including covering bricks and blocks to avoid them becoming saturated, covering and protecting

containers holding mortar and covering newly erected areas of masonry.

MPA Mortar's learning text 11, CONSTRUCTION, has a section on hot and cold weather working and can also be downloaded from the association's web site.

Guild of Bricklayers 2023 competition

MPA Mortar is again to sponsor the Guild of Bricklayers annual skills competition.

A series of regional competitions for brick laying trainees studying at accredited colleges is carried out initially. Students, in junior and senior categories, are given up to six hours to construct a brickwork model from drawings supplied. Industry judges mark the work

and winning competitors from each heat go forward to compete in the national finals, expected to be held in mid-summer 2023.

Producer members of MPA Mortar supply mortar for each stage of the competition.



essential materials
sustainable solutions

Gillingham House
38-44 Gillingham Street
London, SW1V 1HU
Tel +44 (0)20 7963 8000
Fax +44 (0)20 7963 8001
info@mineralproducts.org
www.mortar.org.uk

MPA Mortar is part of the Mineral Products Association, the trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and silica sand industries.