

## 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.

# CEMEX bespoke coloured mortar aids Islington development

CEMEX dry mortars were extensively used in the redevelopment of the Packington Estate in the London Borough of Islington.

Redevelopment was carried out by a partnership of the Hyde Group and Rydon Construction and designed by architects Pollard Thomas Edwards. Work had to ensure that new buildings, which depicted a variety of modern and traditional designs, had to blend with neighbouring Georgian terraces. Plans included reinstatement of the Victorian street pattern, creation of two new public squares, building a community centre, youth centre and an adventure playground. The 538 homes originally on site were to be redeveloped to provide 791 in total, of which 491 would be available at sub-market rates. The masterplan for the site was always designed with local people in mind – to give them a community with real identity, providing an infrastructure to help improve their lives.

The CEMEX role was to supply three bespoke coloured mortars along with an M4 natural mix, all supplied in both bulk and bagged



Part of the Packington Estate redevelopment.

form. Coloured mortars were to match existing brickwork and to produce the correct architectural contrast to areas where specialist bricks were being used.

Rydon senior buyer, David Calvey said:

“This site has and continues to be a flagship development for Rydon in partnership with Hyde. The redevelopment, in a heavily built up and congested area with large numbers of traffic movements, has been extremely

challenging. We have been delighted with the way CEMEX has responded to the challenge and complied in virtually every delivery with our traffic management plan system. This in no small part has helped us with our commitment to zero harm on and around the site to staff, stakeholders and the wider public. The colour matching service offered by CEMEX ensured that we could produce structures in complete confidence that the result would be right at the end of the day. ☺

## 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.



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

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.