

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.”

An electrifying boost to CPI sustainability



The electric forklift in action.

Introduction of an electric forklift truck by CPI Euromix at its Rotherham bagging plant is a clear demonstration of the company's dedication to sustainability in the supply of dry mortar.

The electric-powered forklift uses the latest lithium battery technology which, coupled with the company's zero-carbon electricity source, represents a healthy reduction in CO2 emissions.

The company's head of operations, Craig Buttenshaw, said 'CPI EuroMix is exploring many areas of the business for more sustainable options, forklifts being the most recent example. The electric vehicle's lithium technology contains opportunity charging. It means our new cleaner forklift is always available when we need it, allowing it to keep up with a demanding 24/7 operation. As part of our sustainability ambitions,

we see this mobile plant as the future for our forklift operations within the business.'

CPI's overall sustainability strategy is underpinned by a commitment to four key areas: planet, customer and products, people and communities. The company has implemented a number of measures to reduce its environmental impact. These include management programmes to minimise energy and waste, as well as an efficient recycling scheme. Each of these initiatives is guided by principles aligned to CPI's ISO 14001 Environmental Management accreditation.

The company's sustainable ambitions have also been enhanced by its initiation of a carbon capture forestry scheme containing nearly 100,000 trees. The programme will ensure that EuroMix deliveries throughout 2022 by its own vehicles and those used by its contractors, are carbon neutral.

The dry mortar manufacturing process has a high energy demand so CPI completed its switch to 100% renewable electricity procurement during 2021. It has also reduced its external demand by installing solar arrays at a number of its factories during 2022.

Despite a programme of investment, its diesel fleet generates high emissions. At present, no suitable, more sustainable alternatives to the current fleet have been identified but CPI continues to explore new technology developments alongside its vehicle manufacturers.

Craig Buttenshaw again: 'As pioneers of dry silo mortar in the UK, CPI has some of the best technical product knowledge in the industry. We are using this extensive product knowledge to collaborate with our supply chain partners to develop more sustainable product choices within the parameters of the British Standard specification for masonry mortars and other products we produce.'

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.



essential materials
sustainable solutions

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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.