

Producer members

Producers offer mainland UK coverage unless otherwise stated

Anglia 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

Cornish Lime Company 01208 79779
www.cornishlime.co.uk

CPI Mortars Ltd 0845 850 9090
www.euromix.com

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

Tillicoultry Quarries Ltd 01294 557515
www.tillicoultryquarries.com

Watts Mix 01262 675383
www.wattsmix.com

New chair for MPA Mortar

MPA Mortar has a new chair, Michael May, taking over the role from long-serving Stuart Russell.



Michael May, the new chair of MPA Mortar.

Michael has a wealth of experience in the readymix, mortars and aggregates industries and is currently sales manager for the European Dry Mortar & Specialist Solutions business within CEMEX's Urbanization Solutions Global business.

This effectively means he is head of sales for CEMEX Dry Mortar and Silo Spray Concretes in Europe.

Away from work he plays cricket and golf and has a passion for classic motorcycles and currently is restoring a Suzuki 1976 GT550.

Speaking of his predecessor, Stuart Russell, Michael said:

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Along with the MPA Mortar executive committee, I would like to thank outgoing chairman Stuart Russell for all of his hard work and time that he has put into furthering the factory-produced mortar industry in the UK. Stuart has worked tirelessly over the past 5 years to ensure that the interests of the industry are at the forefront of the minds of clients, regulators and the European Mortar Industry. We are delighted that Stuart will remain active within the MPA Mortar organisation as vice chairman and I look forward to his valued support as we move forward our agenda in the coming years.

New technical information on-line

Two new pieces of MPA Mortar technical information are now available on-line to download.

Data sheet 24, *Repointing external brickwork*, explains that mortar in poor condition can lead to a loss in wall strength. This is often found in old properties where mortar is powdery or easily scraped away so that the joints are appreciably recessed. Incorrect use of pressure cleaning of fresh mortar in

new masonry can also affect the strength of new construction and must be avoided. The data sheet goes on to identify the need for repointing, normally developing from a visual inspection of a property. A checklist is provided covering various factors including spalling at the edges of bricks, powdery mortar, eroded and recessed joints, rain penetration and cracking.

Learning text 14, *Cleaning brickwork*, stresses that, for long-term durability, it is vital that

fresh brickwork is not high-pressure, jet washed. This damages the clean, smooth face of a mortar joint which a bricklayer has spent time and care to create. The learning text continues by outlining measures to be taken to ensure cleaning of fresh brickwork is carried out in a safe manner.

Both publications can be downloaded from the technical information section of the MPA Mortar website, www.mortar.org.uk.

Supply of dry, coloured mortar by CPI EuroMix ensured the safe, characterful transformation of a derelict Victorian bicycle factory into STEAMhouse, a state-of-the-art facility designed to provide wide-ranging support for new businesses



Restoration of the former Belmont Works factory in Birmingham city centre, is an exemplar of how dilapidated, landmark buildings can be revived for modern purpose. The grade A-listed building, owned by Birmingham City University, had been derelict since being gutted by fire in 2007. The refurbished building's design – work of architect, Aukett Swanke – has created space for a range of high-tech production equipment, masterclasses and workshops.

To meet the requirements of main contractor, Bowmer and Kirkland and brickwork contractor, Phoenix Brickwork, CPI EuroMix supplied 350 tonnes of dry mortar to the redevelopment. Dry mortar was delivered in two colours: an M4 Col E180 (Light Buff) and an M4 Colour E120 (Light Lilac).

CPI was able to enhance the programme's sustainability. Delivery mileage was significantly reduced due to the mortars' manufacture at CPI's Bilston plant, just nine miles from Birmingham. CPI's on-site silo mixing stations used, hold up to 35 tonnes of dry mortar.

The refurbished STEAMhouse in Birmingham. Photographs by Bowmer + Kirkland/@bandkphoto.

Continued support for young bricklayers...

Final of the 2024 Guild of Bricklayers national skills competition for young bricklayers will be held on 20 June at Herts Regional College, Broxbourne Campus, Turnford, Herts, after a series of regional stages. The competition is again supported by MPA

Mortar through the supply of factory-produced mortars to all venues.

Each of the regional competitions has a senior and junior category. Candidates 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 through to compete in the national final.



Presentation of the award to the senior winner, Charlie Richards (centre) of the north-west regional competition. Pictured also: (left) Guild judge, Phil Hodgkinson; (right), judge and chairman of the Guild's north west section, Mike Kelliher.

...and experienced professionals too

MPA Mortar is also supporting Super Trowel 2024 through the supply of factory-produced mortar.

Final of this year's competition for professional bricklayers will be held on 8 August at the

Marshall Arena, Bletchley, Milton Keynes. The event showcases bricklaying skills and craftsmanship available from across the UK.

Last year's winner, Charlie Collison, laid 607 bricks in 60 minutes, winning the accolade of the UK's faster bricklayer.

Further details available at www.bricklayerssocialclub.com/supertrowelcon.



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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 industrial sand industries.