

cement industry update



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features

Industry news

- Reach Directive
- Visiting Industrial Professor appointment for Dr Pal Chana

Health & Safety

- Revitalising Health & Safety

Parliament Update

- Waste Policy and the landfill directive

Consultations

- Corporate Manslaughter
- RIDDOR regulations

Events

- Recycle & remediate with lime and cement

BCA in the news

- BCA media coverage in March

Publications

- Modern cements and how to specify them

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[Back to top](#)

Industry News

Reach Directive

The proposed Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation of Chemicals (REACH) Directive has again become a 'live' issue following various studies published by the European Commission, Member States, the Chemicals Industry and

NGOs. Portland Cement is classified as an existing chemical and would be in the first wave of chemicals to be covered by REACH due to the tonnages concerned. A registration under REACH would involve considerably expense and effort, with a full examination of data relating to health and environmental affects.

Efforts were made under the auspices of the REACH Alliance to exempt cement, other minerals, metals and a number of other materials from the REACH Directive. However, little head way has been made and the REACH Alliance is now ensuring that it is represented on the key Regulatory Implementation Programmes that are drafting the guidance to accompany REACH. A BCA Technical Briefing will be published shortly.

Visiting Industrial Professor appointment for Dr Pal Chana

Dr Pal Chana, Technical Director of the BCA, has been appointed as a Visiting Industrial Professor at the University of Dundee. This appointment was made in recognition of his valued contribution to the work of the university and to acknowledge his national and international reputation. Read the [press release](#).

[Back to top](#)

Health & Safety

Revitalising Health & Safety

Guidance to prevent Slips, Trips & Falls will be published shortly along with a series of accompanying posters. Guidance to prevent Hot Meal Burns will also be published shortly. A Customer Site Safety Scheme aimed at reducing accidents on customer sites is at an advanced stage.

[Back to top](#)

Parliament Update

Waste Policy and the Landfill Directive

The House of Commons EFRA Committee Report, *Waste*

Policy and the Landfill Directive (HC 102), was published on 17 March. On balance the cement industry gets the benefit of the doubt for its utilisation of wastes for energy recovery, but with some pointed warnings to the industry and the Environment Agency about consultation and avoiding 'sham' recovery.

As well as the robust evidence submitted by BCA, the cement industry received support from the ESA, Biffa, the CIA and the Non-Ferrous Alliance. Both the Environment Agency and Elliot Morley, Environment Minister, defended the role of the cement industry with appropriate controls. Download the [full report](#).

[Back to top](#)

Consultations

Corporate Manslaughter

The Government's Draft Bill on Corporate Manslaughter has been published along with an accompanying paper. The aim of the bill is to hold companies to account for gross failings by senior management which have fatal consequences. A new test looks more widely at failings within the senior management of an organisation. The deadline for comments is 17 June 2005.

[Click for link to consultation](#)

RIDDOR Regulations

HSE is reviewing the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases, and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR). They are considering whether RIDDOR really is the best means of gathering information on occupational health and for health & safety statistics. Changes are also being considered to encourage the reporting of more dangerous occurrences and for the sharing of experience/lessons learned. [Click for link](#)

[Back to top](#)

Events

Remediation Seminars

Recycle and Remediate with Lime and Cement seminars

12 May, Manchester
21 June, Falkirk

Further information: [The Concrete Centre](#),
Tel: 0700 4 500 500 or email: seminars@concretecentre.com

[Back to top](#)

BCA in the news

BCA media coverage in March

Article	Media	Issue
Need a building? Just add water	Wired.com	15/03/2005
Cement firms eye land clean-up opportunity	Contract Journal	23/03/2005

[Back to top](#)

Publications

Modern cements and how to specify them

BCA has just published *Modern cements and how to specify them*. This CPD package identifies the key cement standards, describes the types and strength classes in BS EN 197-1 and explains how to specify their use in concrete. Available as a free download from the [publications](#) section of the BCA website.

[Back to top](#)

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