

cement industry update



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Industry News

Madrid Windsor Fire

Technical experts from the BCA and The Concrete Centre will be part of a small delegation to visit Madrid where a 30 storey concrete frame building, Windsor Torre, survived an intense fire which raged through the upper floors in February. Engineers are hoping to gain an insight into why the fire propagated the way it did and to analyse the performance of the frame of the building.

Failure of the frame was contained to the steel perimeter columns. The [Arup review](#) found that 'the central concrete core performed well in the fire and seemed to have played a major

role in ensuring the stability of the building throughout the incident’.

An increasing demand on land space brings a greater need for high rise residential and commercial buildings. Fire design and robustness are crucial in the design of these building, and the delegation hopes to gain valuable insight to apply to future construction projects.

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Environment

EU ETS Phase II

The Government is currently considering its approach to the development of the EU ETS Phase II (2008-12) National Allocation Plan (NAP), including options relating to allocation methodology, expansion and harmonisation of the Scheme. NERA and Entec have been commissioned to explore the possibility of expanding coverage of the EU ETS for Phase II to include sources of CO₂ emissions not currently covered during Phase I. They will also identify emissions where current coverage boundaries lead to undesirable distortions or competitive impacts. Further information: [Defra](#)

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BCA News

Corporate responsibility report

The BCA is currently collating information and writing the second issue of *Performance*, its corporate responsibility report. The report last year replaced the annual review, with sections on health and safety, sustainability and cement in concrete. It reports the industry’s performance against the indicators set out in the Environment Agency’s sector plan, although the Agency will not have published it before this year’s review. *Performance* is due to be published at the beginning of July. The report will be available to download from the BCA website (www.cementindustry.co.uk), or if you prefer, please email ltipper@bca.org.uk to be put on the distribution list.

BCA website increasingly popular

Visits to the BCA's [website](#) has rocketed from 5,530 visits a month at its launch in April 2004 to 13,558 hits in April 2005. Technical information on cement and concrete were the most visited pages, and the [works tour](#) and sustainability issues also proved to be very popular.

The most downloaded documents included *European & British Standards*; *Designed concrete specification examples*; and *New Concrete Standards*.

BCA and CEMBUREAU working closely together during UK Presidency

Representatives from the BCA and CEMBUREAU will be meeting UK Representatives in Brussels this month to discuss issues of importance to the industry during the UK's Presidency of the European Union which begins in July. The EU chemicals policy REACH, Emissions Trading and energy prices will dominate the agenda. Climate change is a top priority for the UK presidency, and they will also make an effort to boost medium- and long-term reduction strategies for greenhouse gas emissions.

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Events

Global construction: ultimate concrete opportunities

5-7 July 2005, Dundee
Further information: Visit www.ctucongress.co.uk

Controlling hazardous waste

12 July 2005, London
Further information: Visit <http://www.controllinghazardouswaste.com/>

Recycle and remediate with lime and cement

12 May 2005, Manchester
21 June 2005, Falkirk
Further information on these free seminars: Visit [The Concrete Centre](#), Tel: 0700 4 500 500 or email: seminars@concretecentre.com.

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BCA in the News

BCA media coverage in April

Article	Media	Issue
Cement producers meet 2004 levy agreements	Mining, Quarrying & Recycling	March/April 2005
Cembureau and BCA to work closely together during UK Presidency	Eurobrief No 134	April 05
Dr Pal Chana Appointed Visiting Industrial Professor	Structural News	19 April 05

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