

# cement industry update



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## Industry News

### BCA Berthold Lubetkin Memorial lecture

Internationally renowned architect Daniel Libeskind presented the 15th annual British Cement Association Berthold Lubetkin Memorial Lecture in London on 9 November. The lecture, sponsored by The Concrete Centre, commemorates the contribution of Berthold Lubetkin to design and celebrates inspirational works by contemporary engineers and architects.

This year saw record level attendance with some 800 academics, architects, structural engineers and students packing into the Kensington Great Hall to hear how Daniel uses architecture as a communicative art to encourage interaction with a building's location and the people who use it.

Next year's lecture will be delivered by Santiago Calatrava on 18 October

### **Hydraulically Bound Mixtures for Pavements Guide launched**

Around 70 attendees representing the Highways Agency, consultancy and contractors, attended an evening presentation to launch the guide, *Hydraulically Bound Mixtures for Pavements* on 19 October. Under the new design method, for construction to be economical, all major roads will incorporate a cement bound layer.

The guide (£29.50) can be purchased from the Concrete Bookshop, telephone 01276 608778, fax 01276 37369 or email [enquiries@concretebookshop.com](mailto:enquiries@concretebookshop.com).

### **ATILH visit**

A three person delegation from the Association Technique de L'Industrie Des Liantes Hydraulics (ATILH) visited BCA on 9 October. The delegation was led by Alain Capmas (Director General) supported by Michel Delort (Director Standards and Quality) and Horacio Colina (Director Technical Development). Wide ranging discussions included detailed matters concerning the European Cement Standard EN 197-1, CE Marking, combinations of cements and additions under UK and European concrete standards and the move towards performance based concrete specifications for service life design.

The delegation also left with BCA a DVD on Health and Safety prepared for contractors working at cement plants. From this meeting it is evident that regular liaison between BCA and ATILH will ensure equitable progress of cement, concrete and engineering design standardisation across Europe. Similar links are being forged with other key cement/concrete organisations in Europe including VDZ (Germany) and IECA (Spain).

### **Sustainability lecture at University of Liverpool**

Mike Gilbert, Chief Executive of the BCA, presented the annual Concrete Society Lecture at the University of Liverpool on 13 November. Around 70 students taking BEng and MEng civil engineering degrees attended his talk on sustainability and went away with some new ideas on the environment to consider.

## Solidification/Stabilisation progress

The industry's work continues on identifying suitable contaminated land case studies and managing/inputting into Solidification and Stabilisation research projects along with waste producers and waste contractors.

## Living with Minerals 2

BCA both attended and exhibited at the CBI's Living with Minerals2 conference on 6 November. BCA Chief Executive, Mike Gilbert, acted as rapporteur for the discussion group on 'sustaining access to UK minerals, challenges and solutions'. At the conference, the Department for Communities and Local Government launched the publication of its revised Minerals Policy Statement 1. Under MPS1, guidance on the provision of raw materials for the cement industry (MPG10) remains in force. MPG10 policy is to provide a stock of permitted reserves for at least 25 years for new plant/kiln and a stock of permitted reserves of 15 years for existing plants/kilns.

Following the conference, the CBI launched its Minerals Forum at a reception held at the House of Commons. A third Living with Minerals conference is planned for 2008.

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## Public Affairs Update

### Better Regulation Task Force

The Government's Better Regulation Task Force expressed an interest in meeting with Buxton Lime and the BCA. The Task Force was set up to free business from 'red tape' and to decrease 'unnecessary' restrictions which may impact on profits. A BCA and Task Force delegation visit to Buxton Lime is scheduled for 31 January 2007.

### REACH

Cement clinker currently remains exempt from registration. DTI have assured BCA that they will not allow any attempt to remove the exemption to succeed. A recent proposal to amend the text of the exemption (in a manner helpful to the industry) was not approved by the Environment Committee of the European Parliament.

### Waste Framework Directive

The important Environment Committee vote on this draft directive scheduled for 10 October has been postponed to allow more time for the rapporteur to find compromises among the 622 amendments tabled. The first proposal for compromise

amendments for the vote in the Envi Committee, as drafted by Dr Caroline Jackson and discussed with the shadow rapporteurs on 24 October 2006, is not wholly favourable to the cement industry. At the request of CEMBUREAU, BCA has written to Caroline Jackson and the two UK Shadow Rapporteurs (Caroline Lucas and Bairbre de Bruin) seeking support for industry's key priorities, and has requested a meeting with Chris Davies (ALDE) to discuss this dossier. The remaining UK MEPs that sit on the Envi Committee have also been contacted. The postponement of the vote will allow BCA/CEMBUREAU more time to lobby on crucial amendments relating to 'by products', 'discard', 'end of waste' and 'waste oils'. It has emerged in the last few days that all political groups support the idea of Caroline Jackson not to add a definition of by-products in the WFD, but rather to add in the preamble that the Commission should come up with a proposal or guidelines on by-products. This is a welcome development for the cement industry.

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## Consultations

### Evidence submitted

BCA has submitted evidence to the Environmental Audit Committee on 'The Kyoto Protocol: Beyond 2012' and 'The EU Emissions Trading Scheme: Lessons from Phase I'. To date, only ministerial oral evidence has been taken.

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## BCA in the news

### Media coverage for September

Article	Media	Issue
BCA appoints full-time sustainability manager	International Cement Review	Sep 2006
UK cement output forecast	International Cement Review	Sep 2006
Cement making demystified	Aggregateresearch.com	22 Sep 2006
BCA appoints new head of public affairs	Politics.co.uk	26 Sep 2006

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## Industry Standards

## Eurocodes

The Concrete Industry Eurocode Group (CIEG) was formally wound up with a celebration lunch on 20 October. BCA set up the CIEG in 2003 with the mission to co-ordinate concrete industry efforts to ease the transition to the Eurocodes. With the publication of the concrete National Annexes and preparation of extensive design guidance from the sector, this objective has been achieved. The cement and concrete sector is recognized as leading the way for the implementation of Eurocodes in the UK.

For a list of courses and forthcoming publications on Eurocodes, please visit [www.eurocode2.info](http://www.eurocode2.info) or [www.concretecentre.com](http://www.concretecentre.com).

## Cement/Concrete standards

A successful meeting of CEN/TC51 (Cement and building limes) was held in Dresden in late October. The major current activity in cement standardisation is the revision of EN 197-1, and its supporting standard, EN 197-2. The revision of EN 197-1 will include the text of three amendments and the text of EN 197-4. In this way, its scope will cover common cements, sulfate resisting cements and low early strength blastfurnace cements.

The UK Concrete Standard (BS 8500) is expected to be published by December 2006. The European Standard for Ground Granulated Blastfurnace Slag (BS EN 15167) was published late October.

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