

cement industry update



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Industry News

Sectoral Sustainability Challenge

The DTI has announced a Sectoral Sustainability Challenge (SSC), which is designed to assist sectoral projects that promote Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). Funding of up to £100,000 will be available in the financial year 2005-06.

Individual bids are expected to be in the range £10,000 - £25,000. Proposals must be submitted by 29 September 2005 and applicants will be notified by 17 October.

The full DTI outline of the challenge and an application form are available on the website with additional information at: www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/bo/sa.htm.

Concrete Works

The BCA is proud to be associated with *Concrete Works*, a new exhibition at The Devon Guild of Craftsmen, which celebrates the diverse, ground breaking and enlightening work of sculptor Carole Vincent.

Carole uses cement and coloured concrete to create beautiful shapes, sculptures, textures and finishes. Her understanding of the technology, performance and handling of the material is essential in achieving the unique effects in her work. With her eye for detail and colour combinations, Carole has proved that the apparently simple, mix of cement, sand and water can fulfil the dreams and designs of sculptors, architects, builders and engineers - in a sustainable way.

Carole has worked in concrete for over 30 years and continues to extend the boundaries of creative concrete design. Her garden for Blue Circle Cement at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2001 featured tinted concrete cones and waves and won a bronze medal. In workshops at the Royal College of Art, sponsored by BCA, she has shown great patience and skill in exciting others about the possibilities for cement and concrete.

The exhibition runs from 24 September to 6 November 2005 at the Riverside Mill, Bovey Tracey, Devon.

Review of Sustainable Construction

In April 2000 the then Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) issued 'Building a Better Quality of Life': A Strategy for more Sustainable Construction. Since then there have been significant policy developments relating to construction that are not reflected in this strategy.

Therefore, the new Minister for Industry and the Regions at the DTI Alun Michael MP issued a statement to Parliament on 7th July indicating that he would be reviewing the strategy "to provide a framework to guide future Government policies where they are relevant to construction."

The BCA, and The Concrete Centre, British Precast, British Ready Mix Concrete Association and the Concrete Society has agreed to work together to produce a sectoral response.

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Environment

Environment Agency Spotlight on Environmental Performance

The *Spotlight* report praises the good and 'names and shames' the bad environmental performers over the previous year. For the fourth year in a row, it highlighted the positive contribution being made by the cement industry, saying "it is the best environmentally managed and, under close regulation, re-uses about 230,000 tonnes of waste from other sectors."

Buxton Lime Industries' new Tunstead works was praised for using the best available techniques to protect the environment. These include reduced emissions limits for particulates and NOx and an energy efficiency plan that aims to reduce energy use by 35 per cent per tonne of cement. [Further information.](#)

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Consultations

Building Regulations (Fire Safety)

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister has launched a four-month consultation on potential changes to the fire safety aspects of the building regulations (part B) which set the design standards for new and altered buildings. Research reports that underpin the consultation have also been published. The consultation ends 18 November 2005. [Link to consultation.](#)

Monitoring of Mineral and Landfill Permissions

This consultation paper seeks the views of stakeholders on a proposed new fee regime for the monitoring and enforcement of mineral and landfill waste permissions. This paper is a re-consultation, making proposals on the basis of two research studies and taking account of the views expressed in the earlier consultation. The deadline for comments is 1 September 2005. [Further information.](#)

Thematic Strategy on Soil Protection

The EU has decided to adopt a Thematic Strategy on Soil Protection as part of its aim of protection and preservation of natural resources. But there is every possibility that the EU

proposals to protect soil will duplicate the Mining Waste Directive, existing UK Planning Permissions and PPC requirements. Deadline for comments is 26 September 2005. [Further information.](#)

Annexes to Mineral Planning Statement 1

These annexes relate to the specific issues affecting planning for brick clay, building stone, aggregates and onshore oil/gas. The cement industry needs to ensure that its landbank requirements are protected as the new system is implemented. The deadline for comments is 31 October 2005. [Further information.](#)

Technology Priorities for UK environmental Industries

The joint DTI/Defra Environmental Industries Unit is consulting business and other key stakeholders to help identify the new and emerging technologies critical to the growth of the UK environmental sector.

The findings will be used to develop a more strategic and widely shared view of where the UK has the research capacity to secure or maintain a leading position in environmental technologies and the potential to exploit such technology in international markets.

Amongst other things, this will help to better inform funding priorities for Government research and development, including the DTI Technology Strategy and associated grants for collaborative research and development. Consultation ends 2 September 2005. [Further information.](#)

EU Emissions Trading Scheme Phase II

This consultation is one of the most important for the industry as it will help determine a central plank of the Government's climate change policy between 2007-2010. The UK Climate Change Programme is the Government's policy designed to meet its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol, which targets reductions in green house gas emissions by 12.5% below base year levels by 2008-12, and to achieve its own goal of a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions, below 1990 levels, by 2010. The EU Emissions Trading Scheme allocates the quantity of allowances limiting the amount of CO₂ that can be produced by industry.

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Events

Concrete Works

An exhibition of sculptural work in concrete by Carole Vincent at

The Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Riverside Mill, Bovey Tracey, Devon. Exhibition runs from 24 September to 6 November 2005.
www.crafts.org.uk

The Institute of Materials Minerals and Mining's 48th Mellor Memorial Lecture

Surely we know all about cement, don't we? will be presented by Professor John H Sharp from the University of Sheffield on 15 September, 6:30pm at Royal Holloway College, University of London. Attendance free. Further information on the lecture and conference dinner: Raman Mangabhai, Cement and Concrete Science, email: r.j.mangabhai@btinternet.com.

BCA Berthold Lubetkin Memorial Lecture

The annual lecture, sponsored by The Concrete Centre, will be presented on 10 November by structural engineer Anthony Hunt from SKM Anthony Hunts. The lecture starts at 7pm, preceded by a drinks reception at 6pm, RIBA.

Revitalising Health & Safety Conference

The BCA Revitalising Health & Safety conference will be held on Tuesday, 22 November at the Bank House Hotel in Worcester.

For updates on all BCA conferences, please visit www.cementindustry.co.uk.

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BCA in the News

BCA media coverage for July

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Cement works to reduce emissions	Green Building	26 July
Cement CO ₂ emissions fall by 24 pc	Construction News	28 July

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for all the latest news and updates from the industry.

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