

cement industry update



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Industry News

Innovations in Concrete Awards

BCA initiated these awards with the Royal College of Art (RCA) as a way of bringing together two seemingly disparate worlds – those of the world's only postgraduate university of art and design, and of an industry whose product, while essential, is nonetheless often viewed as utilitarian and monolithic.

Students at the RCA challenged these preconceptions to demonstrate versatility and innovation in the use of cement and concrete. Shortlisted students attended a workshop with concrete sculptor Carole Vincent and were invited to further develop their ideas.

The winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on 2 June at the RCA. Further information: Rosemary Tobutt at The Concrete Centre, Tel: 01276 606812 or Email: rtobutt@concretecentre.com.

BCA appoints full-time Sustainability Manager

Stefania Rosso has joined the BCA as Manager, Sustainable Development. Stefania will be leading the work to follow-up the UK cement industry Sustainable Development Task Force report, *Working Towards Sustainability*, launched by Jonathon Porritt in the House of Commons in November 2005.

Stefania graduated in 1998 with a First Class BSc in Environmental Sciences from the University of Genova (Italy). Her thesis was on the implementation of an Environmental Management and Audit Scheme in a cement industry, according to the EC Directive 93/1836 (EMAS).

She completed a PhD at the University of Brighton, where she also worked as a Recycling Surveyor for the Waste Energy Research Group. Stefania can be contacted on Tel: 01276 608720 or Email: srosso@bca.org.uk.

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Health & Safety

European Social Dialogue Agreement (ESDA) on Crystalline Silica

An ESDA on crystalline silica has been agreed between Trade Unions and a range of industrial interests, including CEMBUREAU. The ESDA was signed on 25 April 2006 in the presence of the European Commission. This is seen as a better option than waiting for the application of the Carcinogens at

Work Directive.

The main features of the ESDA are the following: carrying out of the appropriate risk assessment and systematic monitoring of the workers; application of a Health Surveillance Protocol when appropriate; application of best practices in order to prevent risks from exposure and to minimise such risks; regular reporting at national and sector levels every two years in order to monitor progress; regular training on health matters generally and on prevention and reduction of risk of exposure to respirable silica specifically.

Reporting will be made to a Council set up by the ESDA where employers and employees are equally represented.

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Parliament Update

REACH

Under the current proposal for an exemption from registration under the REACH Regulation, the cement industry would need to prepare the following:

- Safety Data Sheets (SDS): although it's an individual company's responsibility to prepare SDS, CEMBUREAU is drafting a harmonised SDS for clinker and cement to assist and enable uniformity. The SDS covers composition, hazard identification, first aid measures, spill procedures, handling & storage, exposure controls, physical properties, toxicology/ecological information and transport/disposal considerations.

NOTE. Fresh wet concrete/mortar is a preparation and will need an SDS. Pre-hardened concrete elements are articles and may/may not need an SDS.

- Exposure Scenarios: need to be developed for cement plant workers (clinker) and downstream users (cement). CEMBUREAU is looking to provide a template based on the use of petcoke.
- Suppliers: should be aware that petcoke, additives, Cr (VI) reducing agents, slags and fly ash need to be registered and exposure scenarios for each one developed for cement industry workers.
- Risk Reduction Measures: as recommended by the supplier
- Record Keeping: records to be kept for ten years after last production, supply of substance and preparation.

CEMBUREAU is drafting safety datasheets for clinker and cement. They are also developing a template exposure scenario based on petcoke. Further details to follow in due course.

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Consultations

BCA comments on the DTI Sustainable Construction Strategy

The BCA welcomes the revision to the sustainable construction strategy but feels there is a need for a vision and policy on how to achieve it. BCA strongly believes that whole life performance needs to be at the heart of the strategy. Solutions ought to be defined in terms of performance and industry encouraged to respond to the challenge. Prescriptive solutions should not be adopted as policy., three key issues are missing from the strategy: construction in a changing climate; sustainable local supply and sustainable communities.

BCA welcomes the move to develop indicators for sustainable construction and made a number of recommendations on how this could be done most effectively. If you would like a copy of the BCA submission, please email tipper@bca.org.uk.

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Events

Intercem

International cement industry conference. 13-14 June, London. [Further information](#)

Sustainability and the Concrete Producer

The conference draws together much of the current work on sustainability that will, to a major extent, govern the future health and prosperity of the concrete industry. 8 June, Loughborough. [Further information](#)

Concrete Communications Conference

The conference will focus on sustainability; structural design; modern materials; performance and construction. University College London, 5-6 September. Further information on www.cementindustry.co.uk.

Cement and Concrete Science

Sheffield Hallam University, 11-12 September. To register interest or submit an abstract, please contact RJ Mangabhai, Tel: 0208 9083762. Email r.j.mangabhai@btinternet.com

International Symposium on Concrete Roads

The plenary sessions will be held around three major themes, Concrete Roads and Sustainable Development; urban pavements and rural roads and special topics in materials, applications and processes. 18-22 September, Brussels. [Further information](#)

Living with Minerals 2

Making and sustaining the link between minerals, the economy and our way of life. 6 November, Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre. [Further information](#).

Berthold Lubetkin Memorial Lecture

Daniel Libeskind, architect of the Ground Zero project, London Metropolitan University Graduate Centre, Imperial War Museum North and Grand Canal Performing Arts Centre will be the guest speaker at this fifteenth annual lecture.

Kensington Great Hall, London, 9 November. Further details details to follow – please consult the [BCA website](#).

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BCA in the News

BCA media coverage for April

Article	Media	Issue
Red face for Lafarge over BCA emissions claim	Minerals, Quarrying & Recycling	April 06
Cement firms comply	Plant & Civil Engineer	April/May

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Publications

Fact sheet 12

Fact sheet 12: *Novel Cements: Low energy, low carbon cements* has been published and fact sheet 8: *Factory made Portland-limestone cements* updated. Please visit the [library section](#) on

the BCA website to view or download.

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Please visit www.cementindustry.co.uk [<http://www.cementindustry.co.uk/>](http://www.cementindustry.co.uk/) for all the latest news and updates from the industry.

For comments or contributions, please contact Liezel Tipper, Press Officer, on telephone: 01276 608707 or email: ltipper@bca.org.uk
