

cement industry update



Issue 17, February 2005

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www.cementindustry.co.uk

Industry News

Substitute Fuels Protocol (SFP)

BCA welcomed the publication and implementation of the Environment Agency's revised Substitute Fuels Protocol (SFP) on 1 February 2005. The Agency revised the covering regulations to speed up the adoption of alternative fuels. Kiln operators need to demonstrate the environmental benefits of the fuels they propose to substitute for conventional fossil fuels, to engage in open consultation with local communities about proposals to use substitute fuels, and make relevant information available to the public. Revised emissions monitoring and reporting requirements have been designed to reflect the materials in the fuels being used.

Further information: Read the [press release](#).

[Copy of revised SFP \(pdf\)](#), [Regulation of SFP \(pdf\)](#)

REACH update

A public hearing on REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of CHemicals) took place in the European Parliament on 19 January 2005. It was attended by MEPs from the environment, industry and internal market committees as well as representatives from the Commission, governments, industry, Non-Governmental Organisations and interest groups.

In the run-up to the hearing, the REACH Alliance reiterated their opposition to the inclusion of waste under the scope; advocated an exemption of 'Minerals, ores and materials derived from mineralogical or physical transformation processes' from Annex III (registration exemptions) and called for the prioritisation of chemicals by risk rather than volume.

All agreed that the goals of REACH are better health and environmental protection, smoother functioning of the internal market and a sensible regulatory framework for the chemicals industry.

The implication of REACH for industry was debated. Issues raised included the risk it presents for SMEs and the possibility of relocation for some companies. Some speakers were also concerned about the costs imposed on

industry which could divert from industry's own budget for research & development. The forum also discussed the UK and Hungarian proposal for one substance, one registration (OSOR), which would help industry save on costs.

The European Parliament will vote on the REACH proposals in the early autumn. [Further Information.](#)

Cement and concrete industries work together to manage alkali incident

One of BCA's member companies, Lafarge Cement UK, discovered in December 2004 that alkali test data at its Westbury works had been deliberately mis-reported during the period from September 2002 to December 2004. As a result, a number of ready-mixed concrete producers inadvertently supplied non-conforming concrete to customers in the South West of England. The incident was isolated to the Westbury works, and true alkali data has been recorded and were made available

The company has been working with the ready-mixed concrete producers to whom it supplied Westbury cement during the period, sharing all technical data and meeting its responsibilities in dealing with the problem.

For further information, please see the [special section](#) of the BCA website.

Highways Agency prefers concrete barriers

Britpave celebrated the Highways Agency's announcement in January that the new concrete step barrier is the preferred option to use for future dual carriageway barrier installation and replacements works. The increased safety, maintenance and cost benefits of motorway concrete barriers compared to steel, convinced the Agency to use it where average annual daily traffic exceeds 25,000 vehicles per day.

The concrete step barrier has proved successful in preventing the crossover, the most dangerous of motorway accidents which claims some 40 lives a year. Whole Life Cost analysis carried out by the Highways Agency has concluded that rigid concrete safety barriers have the greatest benefit in terms of cost and safety.

Further information: www.britpave.org.uk

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Sustainability

Emissions Trading Scheme

The revised provisional list of installation level allocations for the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) was published on 14 February. The Government announced last October that it would be proposing an amendment to the UK's National Allocation Plan (NAP) for Phase 1 of the EU ETS to set the total number of allowances at 756 million. This reflected increases to the emissions projections for 2005-07 and the new Climate Change Agreement targets agreed with industry. Some inconsistencies remain in the published allocations and until the industry is able to resolve them with DEFRA, the final allocation for each cement plant will remain unclear. Operators have until 4 March 2005 to comment on any errors of fact. Further information: [DEFRA](#)

Waste

From 16 July 2005, the movement of hazardous waste from sites which have not been notified to the Environment Agency will be prohibited by the Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005. Producers who fail to notify and who are not genuinely exempt will be committing an offence. DEFRA have produced interim guidance on the notification of premises and this can be found at the link below. [Click for link to guidance](#)

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Health & Safety

Implementation of Chromium (VI) Directive

The HSE Joint Working Group was set up with a remit to develop a communications strategy for informing relevant stakeholders about the implementation of the Directive. At their second meeting on 4 February, the Chairman proposed, and members agreed, that the group should be disbanded. The basis of this being that there now appears to be good evidence from member trade associations that the Working Group's key mission of ensuring the smooth

introduction of the changes in the COSHH Regulations 2004 has been accomplished.

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Consultations

Waste

DEFRA is holding a consultation on Sustainable Waste Management. They state that the consultation sets out proposals for a stronger, simpler and more integrated framework to deliver the significant expansion in new waste management facilities needed to meet EU obligations and national policy. Many of the proposals relate to municipal waste, but the strategy could impact on the planning system with respect to the provision of waste management facilities. The consultation ends on 31 March 2005.

[Click for link to DEFRA consultation](#)

An ODPM consultation on PP10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management is running concurrently and ends on 11 March 2005.

[Click for link to ODPM consultation](#)

DEFRA is seeking views on the proposed Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2005. Areas of interest include

- Waste producer responsibility to ensure basic characterisation information on their wastes is correct.
- Proposed implementation date(s) for the ban on landfilling certain non-hazardous wastes and the requirement for all non-hazardous waste going to landfill to be pre-treated.

The deadline for comments is 5 March 2005.

[Click for link to consultation](#)

The European Commission's strategy on preventing and recycling waste includes an assessment of existing waste policies. Consequently, the Commission are reviewing waste legislation including the Hazardous Waste Directive. One of the objectives is to simplify legislation and the deadline for comments is 12 March 2005.

[Click for link to EC consultation](#)

Operator and Pollution Risk Appraisal

The Environment Agency is seeking views on how it should develop the Environmental Protection Operator and Pollution Risk Appraisal (EP OPRA) methodology. EP OPRA sets the level of Environment Agency charges and is used to determine inspection frequency. The deadline for comments is 14 March 2005.

[Click for link to EA consultation](#)

EU Biomass Action Plan

The European Commission is holding a consultation on how to increase the proportion of biofuels used in generation, heat and transport. The deadline for comments is 28 February and CEMBUREAU is preparing a response.

[Click for link to action plan](#)

EA Strategy for River Basin Planning

The Environment Agency is holding a consultation on its strategy for river basin planning. The strategy makes proposals in the following key areas

- better co-ordination of existing water planning;
- arrangements for working at national, River Basin District and local (catchment) levels;
- effective participation and consultation;
- integration of the River Basin Management Plans with other planning activities;
- success measures (how the EA judge success in river basin planning and management).

[Click for link to consultation](#)

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Events

Remediation of Brownfield Land Using Cement and Lime

08 March 2005, Leeds. Morning seminar, free.

22 March 2005, Falkirk. Morning seminar, free.

06 April 2005, Cardiff. Morning seminar, free.

Further information:

www.concretcentre.com or call 0700 4 500 500.

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BCA in the News

BCA media coverage in December and January

Article	Media	Issue
Remediation of Brownfield Land	World Cement	Dec 04
Contaminated land guide promotes cementitious mix potential in the UK	Ground Engineering	Dec 04
Concrete Evidence [remediation guide]	Sustain	Vol 05/05
Implementing and Enforcing the Chromium (VI) Directive	Master Builder	Dec 04
Sustainability Report	Mineral Planning	Dec 04
Cement Industry Website	Mineral Planning	Dec 04
The Concrete Debate (letter to editor by Mike Gilbert)	Grand Designs magazine	Feb 05
UK Industry frustrated at further NAP delays	Carbon Finance	Dec/Jan 05
Waste oil charges to soar in face of Incineration Directive	Letsrecycle.com	14/01/05
Tampering triggers cancer scare	Architects' Journal	20/01/05
Cover up on weak cement	Daily Mirror	21/01/05
'Faulty' cement used in houses and roads	The Scotsman	21/01/05
Westbury incident- interview with Mike Gilbert	ITV West News (Bristol)	21/01/05
Westbury incident- interview with Mike Gilbert	BBC Radio Wiltshire	21/01/05
Westbury incident- interview with Martin Casey	Radio 5 Live	21/01/05
Westbury incident- interview with Martin Casey	BBR Radio Gloucestershire	21/01/05
Westbury incident- interview with Martin Casey	BBC Radio Oxford	21/01/05
Westbury incident- interview with Mike Gilbert	BBC Radio Swindon	21/01/05
'Faulty' cement used to build houses and roads	Western Morning news	22/01/05

Lafarge faces hefty claims for bad cement	Business Day (South Africa)	24/01/05
Crumble fears over cement	Torquay Herald Express	25/01/05
Edinburgh evening News	Lafarge in faulty cement find	25/01/05
Chemical conference captures industry	Politics.co.uk	28/01/085

Member company news roundup

Castle Cement's new 360ft kiln at Padeswood received a license to operate. The new kiln will use a combination of traditional and substitute fuels, including Cemfuel, Profuel and tyres.

Castle's application to develop a landfill site at Lanehead Quarry, Chatburn, has been approved by the local council. It will be used as cement kiln dust disposal site and will be restored in its entirety by 31 December 2027. They are still awaiting permission from the Environment Agency.

Environment Agency Wales has confirmed that **Lafarge Cement UK** will be allowed to carry out a trial burning of Meat and Bone Meal (MBM) as a fuel at its works in Aberthaw, Vale of Glamorgan.

Cemex's takeover of **RMC** is expected to be completed by 1 March after receiving regulatory approval from US antitrust authorities.

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Industry Standards

New European Standard for masonry cement

The new European Standard for masonry cement was published in the UK in November 2004 as a British Standard. BS EN 413-1:2004⁽¹⁾ is the new harmonised (CE marking) standard for *masonry cement*. In accordance with a protocol agreed between the European Commission and the Member States' national standards bodies, conforming cements must bear the CE marking from a date, chosen at the discretion of the manufacturer, between 1 December 2004 and 1 December 2005. During

this twelve month period, the current standard, BS 5224:1995⁽²⁾, will continue to co-exist with the new BS EN until it is finally withdrawn.

The regulatory provisions to support the CE marking of masonry cement are not yet in place in the UK and so BCA member companies cannot adopt the new BS EN immediately. In the interim, they will continue to manufacture their masonry cements in conformity with BS 5224 but the situation is under constant review.

During this changeover process from conformity to the current standard to conformity to the new BS EN, specifiers and users will experience no change to the properties, performance or quality of traditional UK masonry cement and will still be able to specify familiar class MC 12,5 masonry cement with confidence.

In due course, further information will be available from the [BCA website](#).

Footnotes:

1. British Standards Institution BS EN 413-1:2004 *Masonry cement-Part 1. Composition, specifications and conformity criteria.*
2. British Standards Institution. BS 5224:1995 *Specification for masonry cement.*

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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.

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