



26 September 2006

British Cement Association appoints new Head of Public Affairs

The British Cement Association (BCA) has appointed Damian Testa as Head of Public Affairs and External Communications. He joined the BCA on 11 September from the UK Flour Milling Association. Damian has got more than 10 years' experience in the public and private sectors, including working for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Speaking on the appointment, Mike Gilbert, Chief Executive of the BCA said: "Damian will lead the external relations programme to ensure our stakeholders understand the UK cement industry's responsibilities and achievements, and how the industry contributes to sustainable construction. A key focus for Damian will be working with UK Government, MPs and European representatives in order to ensure informed decision making".

The £775 million cement industry employs around 3,400 people directly and supplies an essential, virtually irreplaceable building material which is crucial to the well-being of the construction industry. "The industry has got some great sustainability messages and we need to keep politicians, their advisers and the general public aware of them to ensure the longevity of cement manufacturing in the UK," Damian concluded.

-ends-

For further information:

Liezel Tipper, Press Officer at the British Cement Association. Telephone 01276 608707, mobile 07870 179769, email ltipper@bca.org.uk

Notes to editors:

The British Cement Association (BCA) is the trade and research organisation that represents the interests of the United Kingdom's cement industry in its relations with Her Majesty's Government, the European Union and relevant organisations in the United Kingdom. The members of the BCA (Buxton Lime Industries, Castle Cement, CEMEX Cement UK and Lafarge Cement UK) are the major domestic manufacturers of Portland cement producing over 90% of the cement sold in the UK.

The cement industry has an annual turnover of £775 million and is a major supplier to the construction industry. It employs around 3,400 people directly with a further 15,000 jobs depending upon its operations.