



01 April 2005

DR PAL CHANA APPOINTED VISITING INDUSTRIAL PROFESSOR AT DUNDEE UNIVERSITY

Dr Pal Chana, Technical Director of the British Cement Association (BCA), has been appointed as a Visiting Industrial Professor at the University of Dundee. This appointment is made in recognition of his valued contribution to the work of the university and to acknowledge his national and international reputation.

Pal Chana joined the BCA in 2001 and now leads its standards, technical and research activities. Previously, he was Technical Director at BRE and founder Director of the Concrete Research and Innovation Centre at Imperial College London. He is the author of numerous papers and publications, and has been awarded several honours and prizes for his work on advancing knowledge and developing best practice in cement and concrete construction.

Commenting on the appointment, Mike Gilbert, CEO of BCA said, "We are delighted with this appointment. Dundee is a world class centre of excellence in cement and concrete research with a focus on developing new applications and promoting best practice in construction; this appointment will further strengthen the links between the cement and concrete industry and Dundee University."

Professor Ravindra Dhir, Director of the Concrete Technology Unit at the University of Dundee, spoke of his delight at the appointment, saying that "Pal Chana, together with other two Visiting Industrial Professors, Peter Hewlett COE of BBA and Tom Harrison, BRMCA Technical Director, QPA, will help us greatly to widen our research base and its relevance to the construction industry."

-ends-

A photograph of Dr Pal Chana is available from the BCA Press Office.

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:

1. 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, Lafarge Cement UK and Rugby Cement) 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 £750 million and is a major supplier to the construction industry. It employs around 3,500 people directly with a further 15,000 jobs depending upon its operations.

2. Established in 1989 by Professor R. K. Dhir, the **Concrete Technology Unit (CTU)** is now a world class centre of research. The Unit has state-of-the-art research facilities and has developed a widely focussed research base, covering concrete science, environment, technology and construction; durability, repair and maintenance strategies; recycling/reuse of materials and sustainability issues; novel construction applications; and risk assessment and whole life cost analysis. Funding for research is widely based: research councils, government and industry. This combination provides a culture where industry and academia can move together to optimise concrete for cost effectiveness, whilst allowing flexibility for radical innovation and development.