

This news bulletin is brought straight to your desktop by the Concrete Repair Association (CRA). It provides brief and easy-to-digest updates, supplied by CRA members on recent concrete repair developments, new advances and other initiatives occurring in the industry.

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## **Impressed current cathodic protection project completed**

CRA Member Brookes Specialist Contractors Ltd has recently completed a major impressed current cathodic protection (ICCP) project at 22 Hanover Square in London.

The steel framed building, located just off Oxford Street, was constructed in the early 20th century and is clad with a decorative weatherproof material. The building had begun to display numerous signs of distress typical of those caused by corrosion of the steel frame members, including cracking and displacement of the decorative cladding. These were not only unsightly, but dangerous as well. In order to prevent further deterioration of the façade, an ICCP system was installed to the areas at highest risk from corrosion.

Repairs were also carried out to various areas on the façade where the cladding had already begun to crack and spall.



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## **Bringing Bristol's Harbourside history back to life**

Faced with the task of the £25m renovation of the Museum of Bristol, made possible due to a £11.3m Heritage Lottery Fund grant, HBG Construction Ltd appointed CRA specialist contractor member Cemplas Waterproofing and Concrete Repairs Ltd to undertake in excess of £100,000 of remedial concrete repairs and protective coatings work to the concrete surfaces, including beams, columns, soffits and fascias.

Cemplas chose Sika Ltd repair products for the work, which involved jet washing/grit blasting, breaking out of defective concrete, application of levelling mortars, anti-carbonation coatings and resin injection.

The landmark 1950s transit sheds at Princes Wharf, home of the former Industrial Museum and quayside, form part of one of the last remaining complete 20th century docksides in the UK. The harbourside sheds, a key part of Bristol's industrial dockside heritage, are being sympathetically renovated to preserve their historic character and will open in 2011.



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## Sympathetic repairs for grade two listed building

CRA contractor member, Rok Stonecare, has recently completed concrete repair and associated external works to the sea front bus station in the resort of Seaton Carew, near Hartlepool. The 1930s building, which includes a grade two listed clock tower, is one of the area's local popular landmarks and has featured in a local film.

To maintain the character of the building, the client was keen to retain the original authentic stippled finish, art deco, 'look'. The innovative repair solution was therefore designed to reinstate the concrete as needed, whilst retaining the existing texture of the building.

Since the bus station is situated in a public area, noise, dust and disturbance during the project was kept to a minimum. The works were fenced off from public access and public and transport segregation was introduced.



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## Remmers sparkle in Morecombe

Mortars manufactured by CRA manufacturer member Remmers UK Ltd, have helped revive the iconic 1930's Art Deco Hotel in Morecambe, which was originally designed by Oliver Hill and recently renovated by Urban Splash.

The concrete frame was repaired with Betofix fast curing mortars, the corroding steel protected with a corrosion inhibitor and the entire façade rendered with a bespoke glass render system.

The four types of recycled crushed coloured glass, within the render system, gives the impression that the building is glistening in the sunshine.

The render also contains a waterproofing agent which provides long term protection from driving rain and yet allows the facade to continue to breath.



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## Sika opens bespoke training academy

John Hayes MP, Shadow Minister for Higher, Further and Vocational Education, has opened a bespoke Training Academy at Sika Ltd's head office in Welwyn Garden City.

Stephen Hearn, general manager of the CRA manufacturer member commented "Sika has four different business units, each with its own set of training requirements and some that need to be tailored to individual requirements. What they all share is a commitment to provide training that aims to set the highest standards possible".

John Hayes commented, "The formula for this training academy is a model I would like to see replicated not only in construction but also in industry as a whole. We all share an admiration of what Sika has achieved and we hope that many more companies follow the example.



## Impermax and CRL to the rescue

To solve the problem of severe water ingress, more than 1500 square metres of the external surface plaza area at Foster Wheeler's premises in Reading, Berkshire, have been treated with a liquid applied resin waterproofing system.

The plaza, part of the building's main structure, also acts as a roof for the car park facility located directly below. To solve the problem, Foster Wheeler chose Krypton Chemicals' Impermax waterproofing system, a liquid applied polyurethane resin, which was applied by CRA specialist contractor member Concrete Repairs Ltd (CRL).

Following removal of the in situ block paving and decorative pebbles, a humidity primer was applied to the concrete substrate prior to the application of two layers of Impermax. The final 1.6mm thick membrane was further protected through the installation of a geotextile, before the block paving was reinstated.

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## Fascinating Arnusi Building now as new

Built in 1923 the Arnussi, located in Sunbury-on-Thames, is homage to Egyptian and middle-eastern architecture. The intriguing property, built mainly in concrete with render and a decorative coating, includes an Egyptian gateway, straddled by two kneeling camels, roof top domes and minarets. A 3,000 year old mummified cat is buried in a glass sarcophagus in the domed entrance vestibule.

Rooms added since the 20s have proven detrimental due to the variety of materials employed. Rendered surfaces began to crack and coatings failed, allowing water ingress.

CRA contractor member, Structural Renovations Ltd, removed existing coatings by grit blasting and water jetting. Remedial works included traditional hand placed, high-build, mortar repairs, resin injection to cracks, render repairs with modified sand and cement mixes and the application of a fairing coat prior to a decorative, elastomeric, anti-carbonation protective coating.

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## BS EN 1504 for concrete repair ... are you up to speed?

BS EN 1504 is Britain's first Standard for concrete repair. Your clients will be expecting you to produce specifications in line with the new Standard, which specifies minimum performance levels, provides identifiable performance testing and a standardised approach to design.

Discover where your responsibilities lie.

For a copy of CRA Guidance Note No. 6 click the email link and enter Code No: 1010

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