

This news bulletin is brought to your desktop by the UK 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.

To obtain further information on any of the stories, click the email links below.

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NEW FREE CD-ROM FROM THE CRA

In addition to publishing various Advice Notes on concrete repair and allied disciplines, the CRA has recently introduced a brand new CD, which includes three educational audio-visual (A/V) programmes. Each self-running image with voice-over commentary illustrates and lucidly explains the essential approach needed for important, yet quite different, remedies for ailing concrete.

The A/V programmes are specifically designed to give an insight into concrete repair techniques and allied refurbishment procedures. They have been produced for the benefit of specifiers, contractors and owners of structures/buildings containing concrete components, who need a brief introduction to the methods and just as importantly, the critical matters to be taken into account when looking at specific projects.

The programmes deal with electrochemical rehabilitation of steel reinforced concrete structures, structural strengthening with fibre reinforced polymers and the route to a successful concrete repair, which has been in place for a number of years, but has recently been updated in line with BS EN 1504.

Copies of the new CRA educational CD, which also contains the current CRA Advice Notes, can be obtained free-of-charge.

SEND AN E-MAIL: publications@cra.org.uk **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.cra.org.uk



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RENOCON COMPLETE BRUSSELS ROOF IN RECORD TIME

London based Concrete Repair Association specialist contractor member, **Renocon Ltd**, recently re-waterproofed two huge roofs at Huntsman Chemicals European headquarters in Brussels (a total area of 700m²) in just 72 hours.

Huntsman chose Renocon for the company's expertise, knowledge and track record in applying spray-applied polyurea materials. Such liquid based waterproofing membranes require specialist installer training and equipment. Mike Threadgold of Renocon commented 'It is always pleasing to be recognised for a professional approach and for quality workmanship and even more satisfying when acknowledged by an international company such as Huntsman. Our four-man team prepared and repaired the roofs on a Monday, applied the waterproofing membrane on the Tuesday and returned to the UK on the Wednesday. Even a 6 hour period of rain failed to prevent the team finishing in such a short period.'

The work was carried out using spray applied polyurea materials that cure within 30 seconds of application and can be applied in low temperature. This advantage substantially reduces contract periods and also reduces disruption to the occupants of the building.

SEND AN E-MAIL: mike.threadgold@renoconltd.co.uk **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.renoconltd.co.uk



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TCC 2000 LTD CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF SUCCESS

The **Concrete Consultancy 2000 Ltd** (TCC 2000 Ltd) celebrated ten years of trading in 2010 with a move to their new purpose built offices in Welham Green, Hertfordshire.

As a specialist Consultancy dealing with the inspection and testing of reinforced concrete structures the company has grown steadily working with Local Authorities, Consulting Engineers and Surveyors both within the UK and worldwide (as far afield as Lagos, Nigeria) to provide accurate assessments of the current condition of concrete structures and to provide recommendations for suitable repair methods and materials.

As an Associate member of the Concrete Repair Association, TCC 2000 Ltd gained ISO 9001:2000 accreditation in their first year of trading and now hold ISO 9001:2008, CHAS, SAFE Contractor and Constructionline accreditation.

The company's new offices were specifically designed with their forthcoming ISO 14001 accreditation in mind using the latest innovations in energy conservation including a STO external wall insulation system.

SEND AN E-MAIL: justin@tcc2000.demon.co.uk **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.concrete-consultancy.co.uk



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RONACRETE 'OPERATES' AT ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL

Any nurse will tell you that you can't just stick a plaster on a serious wound and expect it to heal. The situation is similar with buildings. You cannot repair a buildings/structure simply by giving them a new coat of paint!

The nurses' accommodation at Grantchester House is a good example. The 1970s-built high rise block of flats in the grounds of Cambridge's Addenbrooke's hospital, required restoring to good health. The windows needed replacing and the facades needed to be restored. Ronabond HB40 concrete repair mortar was used for the initial concrete repair and the finished facades were then coated with Ronabond Zolpacryl to complete the 'operation'. Both materials are manufactured by Concrete Repair Association member **Ronacrete Ltd**.

Ronabond HB40 is a pre-packed high build, medium strength repair mortar for repairing concrete and protecting reinforcing steel. It is used to repair concrete facades and is suited to overhead application, where its combination of ease of application and strength makes it an ideal product. It can be applied in thick-section layers up to 75mm on walls and soffits.

Ronabond Zolpacryl is a smooth, coloured, water borne acrylic anti-carbonation coating for use on vertical surfaces, soffits and at DPC level. It allows the passage of moisture vapour so it is particularly suited for application to substrates which may contain entrapped moisture. It can be applied to external walls and facades and protects against water, frost, and weathering. It is also an effective barrier against the damaging effects of carbon dioxide gas.

SEND AN E-MAIL: tech@ronacrete.co.uk **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.ronacrete.co.uk



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CARING REPAIRS

Built in the 1930's the Allington Sluice lock gate, adjacent to the Museum of Kent Life, is the last on the Medway before it becomes tidal.

The sluice lock gate has been undergoing a major refurbishment programme including new gates, lifting gear and gantry, a new fish pass, a disabled access ramps and repairs to the concrete structure.

In order to achieve repairs that matched the existing weathered concrete, CRA specialist contractor member, **Structural Renovations Ltd**, carried out site batched samples using a range of cements and aggregates that could be applied over the traditional polymer modified mortar structural repairs. On completion of successful trials the main works were let to Structural Renovations in 3 separate phases.

Although the sluice gate is not listed, the Environment Agency has a very keen interest in the structure ensuring that the repairs were carried out in a sympathetic manner.

SEND AN E-MAIL: a.muirhead@structren.com **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.structren.co.uk



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SERIOUS REPAIRS AT SERIOUS FRAUD SQUAD HEADQUARTERS

Major concrete repairs have been carried out on the dilapidated external concrete staircase at the Serious Fraud Squad 1960s-built headquarters building in London by Concrete Repair Association specialist contractor **Cemplas Waterproofing & Concrete Repairs Ltd**.

The staircase was deemed unsafe due to large areas of spalling concrete and heavy corrosion of the steel landings.

The nature of the work was highly sensitive due to restricted time frames for noisy activity. As such, the extensive cutting out had to be completed in just a few days. Repair areas were reinstated with hand placed mortars before an overall levelling coat was applied, followed by two coats of anti-carbonation protective treatment. All works were undertaken using the Sika Monotop Repair System.

Steel areas identified as being corroded beyond repair, required replacement of a number of the steps welding into position on new landings. Other areas, including the handrails from top to bottom, were shot blasted, primed and coated using zinc rich protective coatings. Missing and damaged bolts were also replaced.

SEND AN E-MAIL: info@cemplas.co.uk **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.cemplas.co.uk



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CRA UPDATES ROAD SHOW PRESENTATION SUITE

The CRA has announced the re-launch of its CPD certificated Road Show presentation programmes.

The presentation series now includes three important, yet quite different, remedies for ailing concrete. They are typically presented to professional groups, in their premises, at mutually convenient date and time (normally lunch periods). Each presentation, about 45 minutes in duration, is specifically designed to give an insight into concrete repair techniques and allied refurbishment procedures.

The first programme, an entirely new presentation entitled 'Electrochemical rehabilitation of steel reinforced concrete structures', explains the primary causes of steel reinforcement corrosion and the various remedial options that are available. The second presentation, entitled 'Structural strengthening with fibre reinforced polymers', provides an overview of structural strengthening using fibre reinforced polymers (FRP) composite materials. The third programme, entitled 'The route to a successful concrete repair' has recently been updated in line with BS EN 1504.

SEND AN E-MAIL: initialcontacts@btinternet.com

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FOSROC DEKGUARD DELIVERS DURABLE CONCRETE PROTECTION

Specifiers looking for evidence of coating longevity need look no further than the Linda McCartney Centre in Liverpool. This landmark cancer treatment and research centre was originally constructed in 1971. By the late 1990s, however, the external concrete was suffering from widespread spalling and discoloration.

Refurbishment works were undertaken between 1998 and 1999 with specialist contractor, Makers, carrying out extensive concrete repairs using the BBA approved Renderoc concrete reinstatement system supplied by CRA manufacturer member **Fosroc**. The final stage of the project, aimed at ensuring the long-term protection of the structure, was the application of Fosroc Dekguard W, a durable surface finish and one of the UK's biggest selling anti-carbonation coatings.

Twelve years after undergoing this major refurbishment, the Linda McCartney Centre looks as good as new.

SEND AN E-MAIL: enquiryuk@fosroc.com

LINK TO WEBSITE: www.fosroc.com



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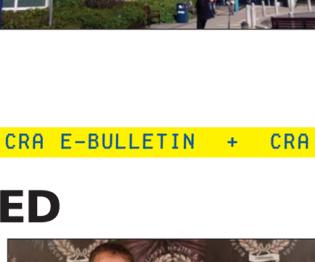
CONCRETE REPAIRS RECOGNISED FOR SAFETY EXCELLENCE

Specialist contractor, **Concrete Repairs Limited (CRL)** has recently been awarded the RoSPA President's Award for Occupational Health and Safety.

The President's Award, the culmination of ten consecutive gold awards from the RoSPA committee, is recognition of the company's long-standing commitment to reduce the number of injuries in the workplace, whilst also creating its own everyday health and safety at work policy.

Tony Rimoldi, CRL Managing Director commented, "The RoSPA Award is testament to the significance we place on our duty of care as a construction sector employer. An accolade of this level proves that CRL is continuing to exceed the high levels of compliance expected."

SEND AN E-MAIL: JDrewett@concrete-repairs.co.uk **LINK TO WEBSITE:** www.concrete-repairs.co.uk



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