

CONTRIBUTIONS REQUESTED

As most construction professionals will know, attempting to pre-determine the depth and area of deteriorated or damaged concrete before breaking out is complete, is not a precise science. This, in turn, makes it difficult to accurately quantify the volume of work and time needed to complete a concrete repair project.

Given this scenario, Bills of Quantities can only be regarded as approximate, with the accuracy of the quantities depending upon the degree of initial survey, sampling and other test data available prior to the contract documents being produced. It is only following a thorough assessment of the extent of structural deterioration, as well as accurate diagnosis of its causes, that a true quantification of concrete repair work is possible. This, however, continues to be a notoriously difficult area of construction measurement.

It was to assist the origination of clearer Bills of Quantities for concrete repair work that the Concrete Repair Association (CRA) originally produced its now well established 'Standard Method of Measurement for Concrete Repair'. The detailed 44-page document is specifically devised and structured to provide a uniform basis for measuring concrete repair and for fully itemising all aspects of the work involved.

It has proved of enormous benefit to construction professionals over the past decade and continues to do so. During this time thousands of hard copies have been issued and many more continue to be downloaded from the CRA website. Like all documents, however, new and modern methods, practices and standards make it necessary to review the content in order to bring it in to line.

This task is currently being taken on board by the CRA's Technical Committee, who has suggested that users of the document may wish to contribute in the assignment. They are, after all, the people currently using the document and as a result, will be aware any shortcomings and/or where the document could be improved.

The CRA 'Standard Method of Measurement for Concrete Repair' deals with the measurement of surface cleaning; surveying; concrete repairs; crack repairs; pore/blow hole fillers; levelling mortars/fairing coats; coatings and resin injection. It also itemises time-related elements such as provision of access and site facilities and includes a useful specimen Bill of Quantities.

If you have any comments to make, please contact Trevor Box, CRA Technical Chairman. He can be contacted at Trevor.Box@birmingham.gov.uk or alternatively via the CRA office at Tournai Hall, Evelyn Woods Road, Aldershot GU11 2LL. Tel: 01252 357835. Fax: 01252 357831. Email: admin@cra.org.uk

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Notes to Editor

- (1): For further information, a high resolution pic, or the above text by email, please contact: INITIAL CONTACTS, Tel/Fax: 023 8073 8953. Email: initialcontacts@btinternet.com Contact: Laurie Perkis
- (2): Please arrange for a copy of any published item to be sent to: Initial Contacts, 21 Gannet Close, Southampton SO16 8ET
- (3): Reader enquiries should be addressed to: CRA, Tournai Hall, Evelyn Woods Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU11 2LL