

FeRFA E-Newsletter



April 2021

CORONAVIRUS (Covid-19)

Easing Coronavirus Restrictions - Spring Update

Although there has been a welcome easing of the regulations affecting business operations during Coronavirus, there are still restrictions which need to be followed on site. These are detailed in the Construction Leadership Council's [Site Operating Procedures](#).

Businesses are also encouraged to participate in the Government's COVID-19 workplace testing programme, which helps businesses, whose workers who cannot work from home, to organise LFD testing.

Tests are currently being provided free of charge by NHS Test and Trace, and the Government has confirmed that it will continue funding tests until the end of June 2021 for all businesses that registered by the 12 April deadline. There is a full overview on workplace testing on the [Build UK website](#).

The latest regulations across the UK can be found at the following links:

[England](#)

[Wales](#)

[Scotland](#)

[Northern Ireland](#)

Keep up to date with the latest Coronavirus news via our social media channels (@FeRFAResin). Keep an eye out for these updates, and if we can be of any assistance please contact the FeRFA office.

BREXIT

Brexit update for FeRFA Members

Following the end of the Brexit transition period, there are now new rules for doing business with the EU. Build UK's dedicated [Brexit webpage](#) has all the latest information for businesses, including details on the new Points-Based Immigration System, importing and exporting, and product marking and availability.

TRAINING NEWS



FeRFA Training

Our In-Situ Resin Flooring SAP training schemes have re-commenced **in a virtual format.**

We are currently inviting applications for our 27th Group which is due to start in September. Spaces are limited so don't delay.

The course will lead to an NVQ Level 2 qualification and the blue CSCS Skilled Worker card.

Grant funding is available for eligible CITB levy payers.

The course runs for 18 months covering a mix of formal off-site instruction alongside supervised on-the-job training at employer level with a final assessment by a CITB approved assessor.

Contact the [FeRFA office](#) for more information.

CITB eCourses

Site Safety Plus: COVID-19 - Setting up and operating a safe construction site

Version 2: January 2021 update is now available online.

Learn at your own pace, anytime, anywhere

Click [here](#) for more details

ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT

This month, FeRFA are highlighting three more of our Associate members. Associate members are companies who are involved indirectly with the manufacture, application and maintenance of resin flooring such as Surface Preparation Plant Suppliers, Chemical Suppliers to Manufacturer members, floor cleaning machinery suppliers, test houses etc.



LKAB Minerals is an international industrial minerals group, supplying over thirty minerals into a wide range of product applications. LKAB Minerals is a subsidiary of the Swedish iron ore producer LKAB, one of the leading producers of upgraded iron ore products. Products supplied to the flooring industry include a range of environmentally friendly Gypsol binders, used in the manufacture of flowable floor screeds and DekorFlake.

01332 673131

minerals.uk@lkab.com

Click [here](#) for more info.



Established in 1989 in the ceramic and accessories market, Genesis quickly became a leading brand in the UK and around the world supplying trims, nosings and edging profiles. Genesis have been exporting since 1990 and are now available in over 70 countries, winning the Queens award in the process. Since then Genesis have diversified the range to cross over into the contract flooring, ceramic and soft flooring tools and more recently entrance matting industries.

01642 713000

info@genesis-gs.com

Click [here](#) for more info.



We specialise in stocking products for the application of liquid coating systems for the flooring and roofing industries along with consumables and tools required by concrete repair contractors and other associated industries. We also stock a vast range of industrial supplies including PPE, Hand Tools, Workwear, Janitorial Products and Power Tools. This makes us the single supply solution for all your consumable needs.

01270 750520

sales@vidistribution.co.uk

Click [here](#) for more info.



CITB Levy Consensus Latest

CITB Chief Executive Sarah Beale joined our recent member call as part of Build UK's consultation process ahead of Levy Consensus this summer. Sarah gave an overview of

the [CITB Business Plan](#), which sets out how £140 million of Levy will be spent in 2021/22 to support employers to access the 'right skills in the right place at the right time'. CITB will continue to focus on three priorities - Careers, Training and Development, and Standards and Qualifications - with 94p from every £1 of Levy collected invested in supporting employers.

The Build UK CITB Reform Steering Group has developed its '[Levy In - Skills Out](#)' [proposal](#) setting out the services and support that the industry expects and needs in return for paying the Levy. Build UK have received support for the proposal from the majority of members and if you have not yet submitted feedback please [email Build UK](#).

Fairness, Inclusion and Respect in Construction

Throughout April and May, the Supply Chain Sustainability School is delivering a series of virtual workshops and webinars on Fairness, Inclusion and Respect (FIR) in construction.

The free learning resources, part funded by CITB, cover the importance of Fairness, Inclusion and Respect, as well as mental health and wellbeing.

By ensuring our industry is a place where everyone feels welcome and valued, we will not only attract and retain the best people, we will also encourage more people to seek support when they need it.

For more information view the [full list of resources](#) and the [FIR Toolkit](#) including 11 CPD accredited e-learning modules, each lasting around an hour to complete.



ARE NEW STARTER DROP OUTS WASTING YOUR TIME AND MONEY?

We have many workers that have had site experience and training – they're ready to start work today with no recruitment fees attached.

Supported by DfE and CITB funding, the Construction Skills Fund (CSF) operates regional hubs across England and has already supplied over 3,000 workers into jobs that have lasted over 3 months.

“CSF has been invaluable to us as a business and has enabled us to recruit ready trained employees.”

Pete Aikman, Director, Spires CS

CSF is a valuable recruitment partner if you:

- Need reliable, site-ready workers *today*
- Need to fill urgent skills gaps
- Want to build greater diversity into your workforce
- Struggle to find candidates that fill specific training needs
- Have unfilled apprenticeship places
- Would like to reduce your recruitment costs (CSF is entirely Government funded).

We can supply enthusiastic and experienced workers for immediate starts, with no fees required, for employers across England.

“CSF has developed an extremely successful solution to addressing the construction skills shortage with site-based work experience.”

Cath Jordan, Sanctuary Housing Association

Support for placing CSF trainees is in place until the end of June 2021. Visit our [website](#) to locate your nearest CSF Hub and make contact with an employment support officer to get participants placed immediately into your workforce.



COVID-19 Testing

The Government has amended its [guidance on COVID-19 testing](#) so that anyone who receives a positive result from a lateral flow test, taken either at home or at a test site, must now get a confirmatory PCR test. Build UK has updated its [flowchart](#) on what to do if a worker has COVID-19 or needs to self-isolate, as well as its [guide](#) to workplace testing, accordingly.

Deadline approaches for applying for EU settled status

Workers from the EU or EEA who were living in the UK before 31 December 2020 and wish to continue living and working in the UK without a visa from 1 July need to apply to the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) as a matter of urgency.

Applications must be submitted by 30 June 2021 and workers will receive settled or pre-settled status depending on how long they have been living in the UK when they apply. Whilst it is the responsibility of the individual to submit an application, members may wish to provide support to their employees, and there is a [comprehensive pack for employers](#) containing a range of useful resources you can share with employees to help them [apply](#).

Common Assessment Standard Rollout

There are now 10 major Contractors and Clients specifying the Common Assessment Standard after Kier, Sir Robert McAlpine and Derwent London became the latest organisations to confirm they have adopted it for their pre-qualification requirements. The full list is available on the [Build UK website](#) and members of the supply chain can obtain the Common Assessment Standard from any one of three Recognised Assessment Bodies - Achilles, CHAS or Constructionline.

The [Common Assessment Standard](#), which is endorsed by the CLC, has two levels of certification - desktop and site-based - and companies should apply for the appropriate level dependent upon their trade, size and requirements of their clients. Companies that are certified against the standard by a Recognised Assessment Body can use the appropriate version of the Common Assessment Standard logo.



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Construction Product Testing Review

The Government has appointed former Chief Construction Adviser Paul Morrell OBE to chair an [independent review of the system for testing construction products](#), with support from legal expert Anneliese Day QC. Announced earlier this year as part of improving building safety following the Grenfell Tower fire, the review will examine how to strengthen the current system for testing and certifying construction products to provide confidence that they are safe and perform as marketed. The review is not limited to products intended for use in high-rise residential buildings and will seek evidence from a range of stakeholders before submitting recommendations to Government in summer 2021.

Build UK Dedicated Brexit Webpage

Following the UK's exit from the EU and the end of the Brexit transition period, there are new rules for doing business with the EU. This dedicated Build UK webpage collates the latest information for businesses in the construction industry, and every business can get a personalised list of actions using the Government's checker tool.

Click [here](#)



Help us to retain great talent in the UK construction industry

CTRS remains free to use until 2022

The Construction Leadership Council (CLC) has confirmed its continued commitment to supporting the Construction Talent Retention Scheme.

The CTRS will remain completely free to use for all construction businesses and candidates until at least April 2022. In the meantime, the CLC is working with the CITB and others to support its on-going development, which includes developing a new 'Talentview Construction' early careers offering.

[Learn more about the future plans](#)



After UK Transition podcast from HSE: all episodes available

The latest episode of HSE's Working with Chemicals podcast series is now available. This episode invites experts from the Chemical Regulation Division to answer questions from organisations relating to the GB chemicals regulations. The podcast covers Biocides, Pesticides, CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) and REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals and PIC (Prior Informed Consent).

To listen to the podcast click [here](#)

To listen to all previous podcasts:-

[Episode 1 - PPP](#)

[Episode 2 - Biocidal products](#)

[Episode 3 - CLP, REACH and PIC](#)

[Episode 4 - BPR, PPP and industry voices](#)

[Episode 5 - CLP, REACH, PIC and industry voices](#)

MEMBER BENEFITS

PIB Insurance Brokers

PIB Insurance Brokers will continue to have access to a wider range of experts across many different industry sectors and insurance types. They'll also be able to draw on the skills of colleagues in PIB Risk Management and PIB Employee Benefits to provide you with important services beyond your insurance needs, should you need them.

If you would like to speak to Howard about your company insurance needs and organize a **free insurance health check** please don't hesitate to contact him at howard.collins@pib-insurance.com or call him on 07775 888933.

FerFA and PIB Insurance Brokers are excited to offer a facility which gives all your resin floor protection with an **INSURANCE BACKED WARRANTY**. The scheme has been set up so that **all your customers** benefit from the **security** of an **Insurance backed warranty** once you are signed up. You pay an upfront premium based on your annual turnover and then simply register each resin contract online when completed.



CONTRACT REVIEW SERVICE



CONTRACT AND LEGAL SERVICES

FerFA have partnered with BEB Contract & Legal Services so that as a member of FerFA, you will get 10% off their Bronze, Silver and Gold packages for bespoke, robust contracts.

Contact BEB on 01604 217365 or email info@bebconsultancy.co.uk and quote FerFA10 to get started.

BEB are passionate about protecting businesses with watertight contracts. It's what they do, day in, day out. Their approach is hands-on so they'll find out as much as they can about what your business does, how you work and any problem customers you may have had – because it's only when talking about those practical, real-life issues you've encountered that BEB get to really understand how to protect you from those things happening again, in your Ts & Cs.

BEB can help with:

- Terms and conditions
- Sub-contractor agreements
- Shareholder agreements
- Manufacturing and distribution agreements
- GDPR and privacy policies
- And much more

OR are you signing contracts you don't really understand? BEB offer a unique review service where they will check and confirm if the contract you've been sent:

- Protects you fully
- Is clear and unambiguous
- Contains clauses that could be risky for your business

[Click here for more information.](#)

H&S Advice and Business Shield from Stallard Kane Associates



Stallard Kane Associates Ltd provide a support service to SMEs for both Health & Safety and Employment Law. FeRFA members can access its services for free via the Business Shield. All FeRFA members have FREE access to the Business Shield service giving you:

- **FREE** access to the FeRFA Business Shield online portal
- **FREE** and unlimited use of the 24hr hotline
- **FREE** one hour review of your daily activity and associated risks
- **FREE** one hour review of your existing employment contracts.

The dedicated FeRFA Business Shield Account Manager is Barry Nicol, please call him on 07854 938693 for more details.

Read more about Stallard Kane [here](#).

May is National Wellbeing Month

The wellbeing and mental health of all of us has certainly been challenged over the past year or so, and May sees a big focus on the topic – not only is it the start of National Wellbeing Month on Saturday, but there is also Mental Health Awareness Week on 10 May.

**We have lots of free advice and resources on our website
on our [Mental Health & Wellbeing](#) page.**

**Our Training team can also help – get in touch on 01427 420 405
or email training@skaltd.co.uk**

MEMBERS' CASE STUDIES

Jaguar Land Rover Car Dealership

After a lengthy tender process a Leeds construction company appointed ACC Flooring to carry out the epoxy resin flooring installation at the new Pendragon Jaguar Land Rover car dealership in Newcastle upon Tyne. The £5.5m design & build scheme covers over 4,000sq metres of floor area.

The newly laid concrete substrate to the Workshop, Drive Through, Parts Manger, Parts Store, Overnight Delivery and Unit Repair/Large Tool Store areas was prepared by enclosed shotblasting and diamond edge grinding.

A high build epoxy coating in RAL 7031 Mid Grey which provides a hard wearing protective floor finish was installed throughout. This product is resistant to chemical spillages and benefits from ease of application, is non dusting and available in a gloss appearance in a wide range of both standard and bespoke colours and is ideal for medium duty vehicle traffic.

[Read more.](#)



Healthcare Resin Flooring

As epoxy resin flooring contractors, Monarch specialises in many sectors. This includes working in car workshops, warehouses and factories all over the UK. On this occasion, we were called to a Covid-19 vaccination centre which needed a new floor that was hygienic, easy to clean and tough against heavy footfall. We often work within the healthcare sector, providing floors that are 'hospital safe', hygienic and durable. The centre was currently not in use and they needed a fast turn around time in order to start the vaccinations. The original floor was carpet tiles which we removed and used diamond grinders to remove the top layer of the floor and create a textured surface ready for the resin to be installed on. We also completed small repairs on the floor before we started, to ensure a smooth finish.

[Read more..](#)



Events

CFJLive Online Expo

On 1st July 2021, Contract Flooring Journal will be hosting their first online expo for the flooring industry. Set to take place from 2pm until 7pm, the expo is intended for contractors, retailers, distributors, architects, developers, facility managers and many more. With more than 100 companies taking part, this is sure to be an incredible face-to-face event in a digital format.

Register for the event [here](#) or [visit the website](#) to find out more.



CHEMUK 2021 Expo

NEW DATES: 15th & 16th September, 2021

NEC, Birmingham, UK

Free To Attend – Admission age: 18+

The CHEMUK EXPO & speaker programme brings together the UK's industrial chemicals, biochemical, chemicals processing & chemical product formulation industries.

Targeting chemical & process specialists & sector management teams embracing chemical synthesis, formulation / blending & manufacturing / processing segments

Register your interest [here](#) or [visit the website](#) to find out more.



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