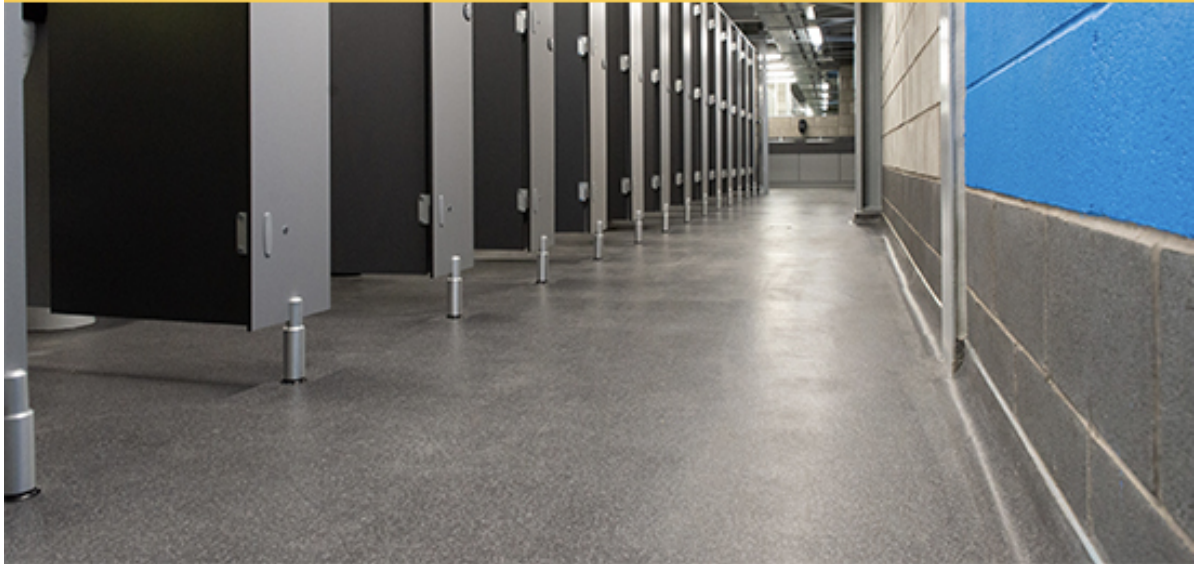


# FeRFA E-Newsletter



## March 2021

### CORONAVIRUS (Covid-19)

#### Easing Coronavirus Restrictions - Spring Update

Following publication of the [roadmap](#) for lifting lockdown restrictions in England, the Government has released a series of [posters](#) showing at a glance which restrictions will be relaxed at each of the four steps of the roadmap. There will be at least five weeks between each step and the indicative 'no earlier than' dates are subject to change if the four specific tests are not met.

Some of the rules on what you can and cannot do changed on 29 March. However, many restrictions remain in place.

[Click here for more information.](#)

The Scottish Government has released its [COVID-19 Strategic Framework Update](#) which sets out a phased approach to easing lockdown restrictions back to the previous geographical tiered level system by the end of April. The current restrictions will be relaxed in four stages, each at least three weeks apart subject to the six conditions within the framework being met. The earliest date for non-essential work to be resumed in people's homes is 26 April.

*Keep up to date with the latest Coronavirus news via [our dedicated webpage](#) and on 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. The new rules are here**

Keep your business moving. Doing business with Europe has changed. You need to follow new rules on exports, imports, tariffs, data and hiring. You can use the [Brexit checker](#) to get a personalised list of actions.

[Click here for more information.](#)

*We will be providing members with guidance on Brexit via [our dedicated webpage](#) and by email over the coming weeks. Keep an eye out for these updates, and if we can be of any assistance please [contact the FeRFA office](#).*

## MEMBER EXCLUSIVE WEBINAR

### **Reverse Charge VAT : Managing change**

FeRFA members were invited to join a webinar on 10th March in collaboration with The Tile Association, Contract Flooring Association and Finishes and Interiors Sector, focusing on the issues and challenges associated with the implementation of the Domestic Reverse Charge VAT planned for the 1st March 2021. The webinar was hosted by VAT expert Liz Bridge of JTC who took you through how to manage Reverse Charge VAT in your business and this included plenty of opportunity to discuss any challenges you are or were experiencing.

The recording of the webinar is available upon request. Please contact the FeRFA office for more information.

## KEEP YOUR TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE UP TO DATE

Those who make best use of any current opportunities to upskill themselves will be best placed to take advantage of the expected recovery in business when it comes.

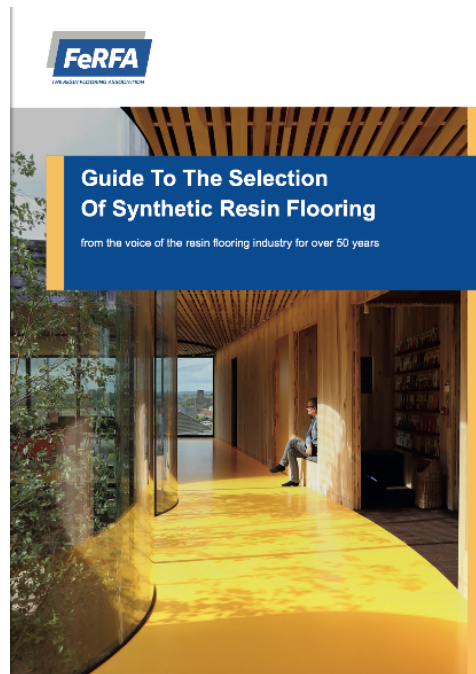
FeRFA has several technical publications online some of which can be easily accessed in a page-turning format, so that they are read just like a hard copy publication.

Please click [here](#).

### **Guide to the Selection of Synthetic Resin Flooring**

Synthetic resin flooring is classified into eight specific types, each exhibiting its own performance characteristics. The FeRFA Guide to the Selection of Resin Flooring provides an overview of the features and characteristics of each type, providing general guidance on potential suitability of each type under various conditions of service.

To access the guide please click [here](#).



#### 1 Selection Of Flooring To Be Applied

It is essential that, at the design and construction stages, there should be full consultation with the manufacturer of the flooring product and the specialist flooring contractor to ensure that the product to be selected is entirely suited for the conditions both during application and in its longest service. Consideration should therefore be given to whether the following are applicable:

- a) Intended use of the synthetic resin flooring including the type, extent and frequency of trafficking;
- b) Type of loading, static or dynamic, and severity of impact;
- c) Details of all elements, including those used for cleaning or abrading, which could come into contact with the floor and cause, frequency and extent of all damage;
- d) Temperatures that the flooring is required to withstand in normal service or as part of the cleaning operations and whether exposure is by radiant or conductive heat or by direct contact;
- e) Odour, uniformity and retention, aesthetics and decorative effects;
- f) Extent to which the flooring will be exposed to direct sunlight or ultraviolet light;
- g) Compliance with hygiene or food industry requirements;
- h) Special requirements, such as slip resistance or static controlled characteristics;
- i) Expected life of the flooring;
- j) Thickness of flooring to be installed;
- k) Time available for the application and curing of the flooring;
- l) Age, specification, nature, location and nature of the base, including information about any previous use of the floor which could affect adhesion, and any previously finished floor;
- m) Health & safety and environmental issues during application and in service.

For further information please refer to BS 8204-6 - Screeds, bases and in situ floorings. Synthetic resin floorings. Code of practice.



#### 2 Types Of Synthetic Resin Flooring

Synthetic resin flooring is classified into eight specific types, each exhibiting its own particular performance characteristics. A variety of synthetic resins, typically epoxy, polyurethane and methacrylate can be formulated to produce the different resin types. BS 8204-6, Section 6.2, classifies the types, varying in thickness and surface finish, as follows:

Type	Name	Description	Duty	Typical Thickness
1	Floor seal	Applied to bare or smooth concrete (generally resistant to water damage)	Light	Up to 150 µm
2	Floor coating	Applied to bare or smooth concrete. Generally solvent free.	Light to medium	150 µm to 500 µm
3	High build floor coating	Applied to bare or smooth concrete. Generally solvent free.	Medium	500 µm to 1000 µm
4	Maintenance flooring	Aggregate dressed systems based on multiple layers of floor coating or thin aggregate floor with self-levelling or 'trowel' systems.	Medium to heavy	> 7 mm
5	Flow applied flooring	Often referred to as 'wet screeding' or 'wet pouring' flooring and trowelling (smoothed surface).	Medium to heavy	2 mm to 3 mm
6	Roller coated flooring	Trowel finished, heavily filled systems, generally incorporating a surface coating to improve porosity and provide a wearing surface.	Medium to heavy	> 4 mm
7	Heavy duty smooth flooring	Having a smooth surface.	Heavy duty	< 2 mm to 6 mm
8	Heavy duty resin flooring	Trowel finished, aggregate filled systems effectively impervious throughout their thickness.	Very heavy	> 6 mm

Some of the types of flooring may be produced with special decorative effects by the incorporation of coloured particles or flakes in the surface. Some of the finishes (up and exposed aggregate) may be produced from certain recommended floorings of Types 6 and 8. Slip resistant or anti-static coated or versions of these categories may also be available.

The following tables have been produced to explain the relationship between the properties available within a particular flooring type and the conditions under which that flooring type will be applied and used in service. The guidance of the manufacturer should always be sought before specifying any type of resin floor.

## TRAINING NEWS



Approved Training Organisation

### FeRFA Resumes Training

This month we welcomed 12 new trainees across 2 groups to the In-Situ Resin Flooring SAP training scheme being our 25th and 26th Group.

Modules 1-3 were led and delivered remotely by FeRFA trainer Jack Longden.

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.

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.

Resin 25 Trainees - Aaron, Lewis, Gavin and Jenson (TPS 360), Stuart and Dempsey (L&S Finishes Ltd) and Liam (Top Team)

Resin 26 Trainees - Paul (Milestone Flooring), Cole (CJ Surfaces Ltd), James (Central Flooring) Cameron and Shane (FH Harvey UK Ltd).

We are currently inviting applications for our September intake.  
Spaces are limited so don't delay.

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

## 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.



We provide technical support to the food, drinks and allied industries worldwide. The practical application of technical excellence lies at the heart of all that we do – practical scientific, technical, legislative and information support to the food and drink chain.

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Click [here](#) for more info.



Preptec supply a wide range of surface preparation related products and services. The company provides services to many sectors including the industrial flooring, refurbishment and construction industries. Preptec are main distributors for a number of leading machinery manufacturers and also supply high quality consumables, diamond tooling, spare parts,



Warmfill aims to be a leader in the field of insulation expertise. By providing best practice insulation solutions with fabric first and through delivery of a consistent high value quality service, we aim to exceed the expectations of all our clients. This is a NEW OPPORTUNITY for the screed industry.

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### **Construction Leadership Council's People Survey**

The **Construction Leadership Council** has launched its latest industry-wide [People Survey](#) which will measure the impact of coronavirus on the construction sector and its workforce one year on. [Previous surveys](#) helped to secure a range of support for the sector, including funding for the Construction Talent Retention Scheme. Your views make a difference, and will help CITB and others direct support effectively, so please spare just ten minutes to complete the [online survey](#). The deadline for responses is **Friday 16 April** and all information provided will be confidential with no company details required.

### **Don't forget to have your say on our levy proposals**

A reminder that our [consultation on the Levy Proposals](#) 2022-25 is open until Sunday 11 April. CITB registered employers can have their say on the way we raise the Levy for the next three years, and give feedback on our plans for supporting construction recovery at [www.citb.co.uk/levyconsultation](http://www.citb.co.uk/levyconsultation)

### **Britain's construction training body pledges pre-Covid rates**

The training body for British construction is proposing to keep rates at pre-Covid levels as it launches a wide-reaching consultation into its funding proposals.

A six-week consultation into how CITB raises its Levy – the funding needed from the industry for the training body to provide its support – began on 1st March.

The consultation includes a range of virtual events, and once feedback on the draft Levy Proposals is in, CITB will proceed to Consensus this summer. This will see a representative sample of 4,000 Levy-paying employers asked for their agreement on plans to raise this funding for the next three years.

[Read more here.](#)

### Reverse VAT Webinar

Build UK and KPMG will be delivering a Reverse VAT webinar on **Wednesday 7 April 10:00am - 11:00am** to answer members' questions on issues that have arisen during the first month of the legislation. This is a **member only** webinar and FeRFA members should **email Build UK** directly to register. Build UK's **checklist** identifies the actions to take following the introduction of Reverse VAT.



### New PQ System Goes Live

The new PQ system developed by Build UK, with the support of CECA, is now fully up and running following the introduction of data sharing, and its rollout will significantly reduce the duplication of time, effort and resources that is costing the industry up to £1 billion a year. The Common Assessment Standard, which is endorsed by the CLC, is an industry-agreed question set with two levels of certification - desktop and site-based - and companies can apply to any one of three Recognised Assessment Bodies - Achilles, CHAS or Constructionline - to get the appropriate level dependent upon their trade, size and requirements of their clients.

For the latest Build UK Member Updates, please follow this link

**Build UK website.**



### Stem Ambassadors

Build UK, supported by CITB, **joined forces with STEM Ambassadors** last year to showcase careers in construction and help to attract talent. The CLC's **Industry Skills Plan** includes a commitment to recruit 7,000 construction **STEM Ambassadors**, and members are encouraged to sign up and inspire young people to join the industry.



### **After UK Transition podcast from HSE: episode 6 now 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](#)



### **Raw material availability & price hikes may end up as 2021's biggest issue**

Lack of availability of key raw materials and packaging, and significant price increases are causing significant disruption to the coatings and printing ink industries in the UK and across Europe.

[Read More](#)

## **MEMBER BENEFITS**

### **The Oil & Colour Chemists' Association**

OCCA are offering a 20% refund on membership fees for any new or returning members signing up and paying via the online link below on or before 30 April 2021. The fees must be paid online in full in the first instance. Subsequently a refund of 20% of the total value will be made back to the method of payment card on Tuesday 04 May 2021.

The refund is only available to new or returning members wishing to pay online, and is not valid as an offer for members paying by cheque or BACS.



Members will be granted full access to OCCA's digital Surface Coatings International and back catalogue of 35 webinars - exclusive to members via the Members' Area of their website.

Click [here](#) to join.



## 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](mailto: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.

[Read more.](#)



## 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](mailto: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
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- 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](#).

## 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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