



FeRFA E-Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2021

FeRFA Best Practice Awards 2022

The FeRFA Best Practice Awards, hosted by Fred Trueman, were inaugurated in 2002.

The event has taken place almost every year for nearly 20 years. After enjoying our largest attendance ever of 263 guests in 2019 at our 50th anniversary event, unfortunately our 2020 and 2021 events were unable to go ahead due to Covid-19.

We are pleased to announce that FeRFA have started talks with venues about our comeback event in 2022. For its entire history, the event has been held in the Autumn between October and December but for 2022 we are hoping to host our first ever summer event.

Watch this space for more information.



Labour and Materials Shortages

The Government has announced a **package of measures** to tackle the shortage of HGV drivers, which is causing widespread disruption across supply chains. It includes training 4,000 new drivers, offering 5,000 temporary visas for HGV drivers in the run up to Christmas, and using Ministry of Defence examiners to increase HGV testing capacity.

Build UK continues to work with the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS) to publish up-to-date information on the **availability of key construction materials**. For the first time, each material has been RAG-rated on price as well as availability, and timber and concrete are currently 'red' for both. Only cladding and paint are rated 'green' on availability and price.

To help members manage the contractual impact of a range of Brexit-related issues, Build UK has worked with Wedlake Bell LLP to produce guidance on **Your Contracts Post-Brexit**, which provides comprehensive advice on dealing with delays to time and programme, price and currency fluctuations, and sourcing materials and legal ownership.



Talentview Construction is now live and Build UK members can list all their opportunities for new entrants, including apprenticeships and work experience, on the new platform. Anyone looking for their first job in the industry, such as school,

college and university students, should now be directed to **Talentview**, which is part of the Construction Talent Retention Scheme.



Construction Product Information

The Construction Products Association (CPA) has published the **Code for Construction Product Information** to ensure that reliable and consistent product information is provided by manufacturers. Developed in response to the recommendations made in Dame Judith Hackitt's **Building a Safer Future** report, the code sets the industry benchmark for how product information is presented and marketed so that it is **clear, accurate, up-to-date, accessible and unambiguous**. It contains 11 clauses including transparency of information on performance and proof of stated claims, and manufacturers can now **register their interest** in being verified against the code later this year. **Guidance** has been published to assist with the verification process.



Materials Update

The CLC Product Availability Group has issued its latest **statement**, confirming that *'overall product supply has improved slightly with lead times stabilising in some product areas'*. The products that continue to be most affected are cement, bricks and blocks, roof tiles, timber battens, chipboard, steel lintels and PVC products.



Industry Supports CITB Levy

CITB has published the **results** of this year's Consensus process, which confirm that 66% of employers by number and 63% by Levy paid supported the **Levy Proposals for 2022-25**. Eleven out of the 14 Prescribed Organisations, including Build UK, voted in favour, and

these results were weighted alongside those of employers that are not in membership of a Prescribed Organisation. The overall results reflected Build UK's position of a lower level of support than in previous years and the industry will be looking for fundamental changes within CITB to deliver the services and support required to meet the industry's skills needs.

CITB has now sent the Levy Proposals to the Department for Education, which is expected to work towards having the Levy Order in place by the second quarter of 2022. This will mean that the Levy continues at rates of 0.35% for PAYE and 1.25% for NET CIS Sub-Contractors.

TRAINING NEWS



Training continued last week with our two resin flooring groups, Resin 25 & Resin 26. All nine learners progressed through module 10 - Prepare Background Surfaces with the help of FeRFA trainer Jack Longden and got some hands-on experience thanks to the facilities at The Preparation Group in Lincoln.

Learners in the group were:- Lewis, Gavin, Jenson and Ryan from TPS 360, Liam from Top Team, James from Central Flooring, Cole from CJ Surfaces and Cameron and Shane from F H Harvey UK.



We are currently inviting applications for our 27th Group which is due to start in October

Hurry! Spaces are limited so don't delay!

The course is **heavily grant funded** for eligible employers and leads to an NVQ Level 2 qualification and the blue CSCS Skilled Worker card.

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.

Mandatory training for industrial and professional users of diisocyanates in the EU

Be ready for compliance on 24 August 2023

[Click to sign-up for updates](#)



Training is becoming mandatory for industrial and professional users of diisocyanates in the EU from 24 August 2023. ISOPA and ALIPA are developing a comprehensive training programme.

You can sign up for updates to make sure that your organization is ready using this [form](#).

For further information on training requirements, please visit: safeusediisocyanates.eu and watch the latest ISOPA/ALIPA [YouTube](#) video.



HSE Construction Health Inspection Initiative – October 2021



Monday 4 October sees the start of a month-long HSE health initiative targeted at the construction sector.

The focus is on respiratory risks associated with exposure to dust with HSE inspectors visiting construction sites across Great Britain throughout the month.

Construction workers die every week from lung diseases caused by exposure to dust with many more suffering severe chronic long-term lung conditions.

The initiative aims to:

- support HSE's continuing strategy to improve the health of construction workers
- support industry by raising awareness of health issues in relation to dust exposure

Construction dust is a slow killer and employers, small builders and workers need to be aware of how dangerous and hazardous it can be to workers' long-term health. Inspectors will look to ensure those involved with construction projects know the risks, plan their work and use the right controls. Where poor standards are found, enforcement action will be taken.

To find out more about the initiative view our [latest press release](#) and visit our [WorkRight campaign website](#).

You can also follow the campaign at HSE's [Twitter](#), on [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

Industry support for the initiative includes:

- The [Health in Construction Leadership Group \(HCLG\)](#) Tier 1 contractor members carrying out their own site visits in October to assess measures in place to protect workers from respiratory risks from dust exposure and share insights with HSE. HCLG will also be running a [Together We Can Make the Change webinar](#) on 19 October
- The launch of the Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) *Make a Change 2021 (SMAC-21)* campaign on 11 October aiming to get everyone who works in construction to re-engage with their own health, safety and wellbeing. SMAC-21 material includes a revised series of '[Conversation Starter](#)' kits

NEW MEMBERS

FerFA would like to welcome our new member:

Abacus Flooring Solutions Ltd

Working in all Industries, we offer a full range of services associated with the Industrial Resin Flooring Industry, from a Type 1 to a Type 8. From our free, initial site survey to completion of the works, you can be rest assured that our 33 years experience will show. Environmentally Friendly systems are used wherever possible, to include our own unique screed made using 100% recycled materials. We offer an incredibly flexible approach to each enquiry which allows ourselves to offer a full range of solutions. We look forward to being of assistance to you.

Click [here](#) for info



MEMBER NEWS

CONICA

KEY CHANGES WITHIN THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

CONICA Ltd, the Newark-based international sport and play surfacing and resin flooring specialist, confirms Richard Hills, Chief Financial Officer, retired at the end of August. During his 25 years with the company, Richard was an integral part of the leadership team and his professionalism, knowledge and guidance have been key to our success.

In addition to his duties at CONICA, Richard has always been an advocate for the sports and play sector, representing the industry in a number of roles, including as the Finance Chair at SAPCA (Sports and Play Construction Association).

CONICA would like to thank Richard for his outstanding contribution to the business and especially his willingness to go above and beyond anything we could have wished for, or expected, during Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic. We also appreciate that he has kindly agreed to remain available to the business to handover key tasks and to provide guidance and support during the balance of the year and accounting cycle.

The accounting functions of Richard's role are now handled by Steph Henderson, Financial Controller.

To support our continued growth, CONICA is also pleased to announce that Verity Gale has joined the business in the role of Commercial Manager. She will be responsible for a wide range of pricing, planning, contract and reporting tasks.

Verity joins us from AAR where she was responsible for key commercial aspects of the relationship with Northrop Grumman and RAF Waddington.

CONICA wishes Richard a long, happy and healthy retirement and welcomes Verity on board.



INSTARMAC

A WORLD LEADER IN HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTICE

Instarmac Group plc are celebrating after landing an internationally recognised award for demonstrating high health and safety standards for the ninth consecutive year.

Organisations receiving a RoSPA Gold Medal Award are recognised as being world-leaders in health and safety practice, ensuring their colleagues, customers, clients and contractors all get home safely to their families at the end of every working day.

Every year, nearly 2,000 entrants vie to achieve the highest possible accolade in what is the UK's longest-running health and safety standard industry awards, and Instarmac are delighted to have been recognised by RoSPA for the ninth year in a row.

On winning this prestigious industry award, Emma Kavanagh, QHSE Compliance Manager for Instarmac commented: "The health and safety of our colleagues, customers and visitors has always been of the utmost importance to everyone at Instarmac, but never more so than in the last 12-18 months. We have introduced a number of additional safety measures throughout the building to ensure we keep everyone as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are particularly proud of the automatic temperature screening and sanitising dispensing system we have installed at every entrance which has helped minimise infection as much as possible.

We are delighted to have been awarded with the RoSPA Gold Medal for the ninth year and are now one step closer towards our goal of winning a President's Award for 10 consecutive Gold Awards."



ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT

This month, FeRFA are highlighting two 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.



NCC is a leading materials consultant who specialises in



Innoveo Ltd is the UK Agent for Gebruder Dorfner GmbH



Our comprehensive **Grantex**

flooring and chemical products for the construction and building industry.	& Co. Dorfner mines kaolin and crystalline quartz sand from their own deposits and through a variety of highly sophisticated refining processes produces the finest quality industrial minerals.	selection of dried aggregate granules are available in a wide range of colours and sizes, specifically produced for use in resin bound and bonded surfacing systems.
Working in Partnerships with international manufacturers on an exclusive basis, NCC is able to offer solutions to specifiers and contractors, from specification stage through to material supply.	Our range of natural and coloured quartz sands, and formulated filler systems are used in commercial and industrial resin flooring; in mortars, broadcasting and self levelling floors.	A selection of these products are further supplied colour coated within our SightGRIP collection to ensure a more vibrant, long lasting colour is achieved and maintained.

Click [here](#) for more info.

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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](#)

Help us to retain great talent in the UK construction industry

MEMBER BENEFITS



H&S Advice and Business Shield from Stallard Kane Associates

FeRFA are keen to provide additional benefits to our members and we work hard to secure partners who offer simple solutions that could help you and your business.

For a number of years, our partner **Stallard Kane Associates Ltd** have provided FeRFA Business Shield as part of the FeRFA membership package and as we approach the anniversary of this long term relationship we are delighted to confirm the expansion of the offering moving forward.

With immediate effect you will receive the following services for **FREE**:

- **Unlimited** HR & employment law telephone support via the FeRFA Business Shield helpline on 0345 076 6485
- **Unlimited** health & safety telephone support via the FeRFA Business Shield helpline on 0345 076 6485
- Access to the FeRFA Business Shield exclusive members area with many downloadable templates and guidance such as risk assessments.
- Complimentary gap analysis to review your current health & safety and/or HR & employment law management systems. This can be carried out at your premises or remotely subject to availability.
- Complimentary training needs analysis

The above are **ALL** included as part of your annual FeRFA membership and there is no charge to set up additional access.

Your dedicated Account Manager is **Barry Nicol** who will be more than happy to discuss the above in greater detail should you have any queries, wish to arrange a meeting, or if you indeed require additional consultancy support on top of the above complimentary benefits such as the creation of documentation including policies, contracts of employment or indeed workplace and site audits. Barry's contact details are:

Barry Nicol

Email: barry@skaltd.co.uk

Mobile: 07854 938693

In addition, should you be unable to find your login details, or if you wish to set up additional users from your company to the service at no extra charge, please email Barry (barry@skaltd.co.uk) and he will arrange accordingly.

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

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.](#)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Surfex moved to June 2022

Following review of the major considerations, the Board of Surfex Ltd - unanimously supported by OCCA - has taken the decision to reschedule the dates in the interests of allowing Surfex to take place in a period that offers a high degree of confidence in a successful outcome.

Accordingly the dates of Surfex are 7 – 8 June 2022.



FeRFA The Resin Flooring Association

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