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# FERFA E-NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2021



## Consultation on Principal Contractor Competence

The BSI has launched a consultation on **Publicly Available Specification (PAS) 8672**, which aims to establish the competences required by Principal Contractors, and individuals designated by them, to meet their responsibilities under new building safety legislation. Required across **all** buildings and not

just higher risk buildings (HRBs), the PAS builds on recommendations in the **Setting the Bar report** that individuals undertaking the three roles with oversight of building safety at each stage of a building's lifecycle - Principal Designer, Principal Contractor and Building Safety Manager - need to show that they have the skills to interrogate design and construction activity, challenge the quality of work and bad practices, and identify major hazards and minimise risks to safety during operation.

## Building Safety Bill

To help with understanding the Building Safety Bill, the Government has published further **draft regulations** which include the Construction Products Regulations for the safety of construction products being placed on the UK market and the Higher-Risk Buildings Regulations to define which buildings qualify as HRBs.



## Construction Pipeline Summary

Build UK has published an **executive summary** of the National Infrastructure and Construction Pipeline 2021/22 to help the industry understand recent Government announcements on the delivery of £31 billion of economic and social infrastructure procurements in this financial year. With the Government aiming to build confidence in the industry to invest in innovation and develop capability, our summary provides a breakdown of the 418 public sector projects by sector, together with when they are anticipated to be awarded. It also includes an overview of planned and projected spend of up to £650 billion over the next 10 years to 2030/31.



## Championing Flexible Working

Earlier this year, Build UK and Timewise published the results of a ground-breaking **project** to implement flexible working on site, which showed that not only is it possible but that it benefits everyone. It has long been recognised that flexible working is key to a more diverse workforce, and for the 10th consecutive year the Timewise '**Power List**' will recognise part-time workers enjoying a successful career. Nominees need to be working four days or fewer each week and have been either hired or promoted into their role and the deadline is **12 January 2022**.

BEIS is **consulting** on significant reforms to flexible working regulations to help 'make flexible working the default', including making the right to request flexible working a day one right for employees and requiring the employer to suggest alternatives where a request is refused. Both businesses and individuals can **submit a response** before the deadline of **1 December 2021**.



## Materials and Labour Shortages

The CLC Product Availability Group has issued its latest **statement**, confirming that *'while product supply has improved in some areas, several critical challenges remain, particularly around logistics and related labour shortages, and rising product and input costs'*. The shortage of HGV drivers remains the most critical issue for the industry, but high gas and electricity costs are expected to lead to further price increases, particularly for ceramics, glass, steel, roof tiles and bricks.

With members also facing significant skills shortages, Build UK has published a suite of guidance on employing foreign workers under the Points-Based Immigration System. Our **flowchart** provides an overview of the process, with detailed guidance on **How to Get a Sponsor Licence** and **How to Apply for a Skilled Worker Visa**.



## Reverse VAT Update

Following the introduction of **Reverse VAT** in April, many businesses due repayments at the end of each month or quarter had been reporting slow payment by HMRC. At a meeting with Build UK and other industry representatives, HMRC confirmed that payments are now being made promptly and companies have been compensated where repayments have taken longer than 31 days. Some companies also reported that they have had their repayments offset against outstanding VAT deferred due to COVID-19. HMRC responded that companies that have deferred their VAT and still have payments to make can contact HMRC either **online** or via telephone on **0300 200 3700** to stop payments being offset.

## Are You Using Talentview?



**Talentview Construction**, the dedicated online platform for those looking to secure their first role in the industry, is open for business! Build UK called for an apprenticeship matching service to help us recruit the next generation and the Government responded by funding the set-up of Talentview. By bringing together all opportunities for new entrants in one place, we can make it much easier for young people to join our industry.

Members are encouraged to list all their new entrant vacancies, including apprenticeships, traineeships, graduate placements and work experience, on the platform. Talentview sits alongside the **Construction Talent Retention Scheme** to provide a 'one stop shop' for the recruitment and retention of skills across the industry, and it is now up to employers to use it!



## CLC Contractual Guidance

The CLC has updated its **suite of guidance** on managing COVID-19 within contracts, which now includes revised information on future-proofing JCT and NEC amendments for new contracts to ensure that parties take a collaborative approach if circumstances change, as well as templates designed to help avoid disputes.



The ONS has published **construction output** data for August 2021. Overall, output fell 0.2% month-on-month, which marked the second consecutive monthly decline following the upwardly revised 1.0% fall in July. Anecdotal evidence from the ONS's monthly survey returns suggested that higher prices and the low availability of materials such as steel, concrete, timber and glass continued to impact projects on the ground. The monthly decline in August was driven by a 3.1% fall in non-housing repair and maintenance output and a 1.7% fall in commercial output. As a result, construction output now remains 1.5%

below its February 2020 level. Infrastructure (45.4%) and private housing repair, maintenance and improvement (9.7%) were the only two sectors where output was significantly above its February 2020 level. Changes across the sectors in monthly data are:

- All new work remained flat compared to July but was 12.0% higher compared to August 2020
- Public non-housing output fell 1.7% on a monthly basis and 8.3% on an annual basis
- Public housing output fell 0.2% month-on-month but rose 4.8% year-on-year
- Private housing output increased 1.0% month-on-month and 5.2% year-on-year
- Infrastructure output increased 0.4% compared to July and 45.9% compared to August 2020
- Output in the private commercial sector fell 1.7% month-on-month and 3.0% year-on-year
- Industrial output rose 1.4% compared to July and 19.9% compared to August 2020
- Public housing repair, maintenance and improvement (RM&I) output fell 1.2% on a monthly basis but rose 17.3% on an annual basis
- Private housing RM&I output rose 3.2% month-on-month and 2.4% year-on-year
- Non-housing R&M output decreased 3.1% on a monthly basis but rose 8.0% on an annual basis

### **Code for Construction Product Information Published**

The Code for Construction Product Information (CCPI) has now been published. Construction Product Information Ltd – a not-for-profit organisation with independent governance and management has been set-up to administer the CCPI. Organisations can register their interest now to receive updates ahead of the launch of registration for verification towards the end of the year. Full information can be found in the [press release](#) & some further useful links can be found below:

#### **Links:**

<https://www.cpicode.org.uk/>  
<https://www.cpicode.org.uk/register-interest/>  
 Code for Construction Product Information  
 Code Guidance  
 Preparing for the Code information pack

### **Connect with the Code for Construction Product Information on social media:**

Twitter: [@CPICode](#)

LinkedIn: [Code for Construction Product Information](#)

Hashtags: #CCPI

Web links: <https://www.cpicode.org.uk/>

Register interest: <https://www.cpicode.org.uk/register-interest/>



## Fire Safety Training

In Setting the Bar, Working Group 2 **recommended** that all installers should have a “*core knowledge of fire safety within buildings*”, including building design, compartmentalisation and other fire safety measures, and that “*training [should] be standardised and made mandatory*”. A new training standard, ‘**Understanding Fire in Buildings**’, has now been agreed with CITB and an e-learning course will be made available to the whole industry by June 2022. There will be an assessment process within the course and the results will be recorded on both the CITB Training Register and cards carrying the CSCS logo. Additional fire safety questions will also be included in the Health, Safety and Environment Test.



## Get advice and guidance with HSE publications

**HSE offers a wide variety of publications containing advice and guidance for workers, employers and the general public.**

Like all HSE publications, our health and safety guidance leaflets are free to download on [HSE's website](#).

You can also buy hard-copy versions of many of these titles, such as legal guides, through the [HSE Books website](#).

Here are a selection of some of our most popular publications:

- [First aid at work \(L74\)](#)
- [Working with display screen equipment \(INDG36\)](#)
- [Safe use of lifting equipment \(L113\)](#)

## SITUATIONS VACANT





## FeRFA are recruiting for a new Chief Executive Officer

This full time position involves the day to day management of FeRFA, its activities and its future strategy for growth. As training development and delivery, technical guidance and member support are all key elements of this role, we are seeking candidates with extensive experience of the resin flooring sector. The role is home office based but involves daily communication with the Secretariat provider.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity and/or require further information, please contact [mark@ferfa.org.uk](mailto:mark@ferfa.org.uk).

The closing date for applications is **Friday 26th November 2021**.

## TRAINING NEWS



## NEW MEMBERS

**We are currently inviting applications for our 27th Group**

**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.

**FeRFA would like to welcome our new members:**

**PSC FLOORING LTD**

PSC Flooring Ltd are industrial flooring experts, operating throughout the UK, with over 30 years' experience in the application of resin floors, polyurethane flooring, and epoxy floor coatings. We offer a total industrial flooring contractor package, encompassing site survey, specification, surface preparation and product installation. PSC Flooring have laid thousands of square metres of resin flooring systems throughout the UK including epoxy floor coatings, screeds and anti-slip systems, Heavy-duty polyurethane resin flooring screeds and Heavy-duty cementations pump screeds. Servicing the Pharmaceutical, Food & Drink, Automotive, Engineering, Warehousing and Electronics Industries ensuring the highest standards in safety, quality and customer care.

Click [here](#) for further info



## ROBEX CONTRACTING LTD

We specialise in a wide range of flooring and wall solutions, including anti-slip. Our products are used for many applications, from hotels and restaurants, car parks, tourist attractions, warehousing, manufacturing and production facilities, to sports and leisure centres. We offer a fully integrated service where we manufacture, supply and apply Robex products. With our MMA products being quick setting, we are able to cover floors, walls and roofs overnight, which allows normal activities to resume the next working day with no break in continuity. With our one-stop-shop and your own project manager with responsibility for your project, you can rest assured that Robex Contracting will take care of all aspects of the contract from start to finish.

Click [here](#) for further info



## MEMBER CASE STUDIES





### **Shorade Accident Repair Centre – Vehicle Workshop Flooring**

**PSC Flooring** were called in by Shorade Accident Repair Centre located in Cannock, Staffordshire servicing the Midlands, Worcestershire and Bristol for Prestige vehicle paint and body work. Manufacturer approved by Rolls Royce, Bentley, Lamborghini, McLaren, Porsche, Tesla, Mercedes Benz, BMW, Mini and Volvo.

The 1430 square metre busy workshop floor had an existing epoxy resin floor surface, that although was in good condition for its age required resurfacing to give the high end look the client wanted.

The existing resin floor surface was thoroughly cleaned and prepared using the totally enclosed double headed diamond grinding floor preparation machine for the main and handheld 110v diamond grinder for the edgework.

The area was vacuumed clean to remove all residue and dust and repairs were made to damaged localised concrete, holes and large cracks as required using epoxy screed and resin filler.

The client's chosen design required Resdev Pumatect high build, epoxy resin flooring system, gloss, in Light Grey Ral 7035 to gangways and Mid Grey Ral 7047 to work bays with a 100mm demarcation line in Resdev Pumatect V high build epoxy resin, white around each area, dividing the mid grey areas into defined work bays and highlighting the gangways.

Refurbishing floor surface to the workshop area, laying two coats of High Build epoxy resin coating system to the whole 1430 square metres and laying epoxy resin demarcation lines to 365 linear metres was completed in just 5 days.

Mr Steven Shore, CEO, Shorade Accident Repair Centre commented "From start to finish, the professionalism of PSC Flooring has been exemplary and our requirements for a high quality product and finish were managed well and all delivered on time."



### **Midland Service Garage**

**Abacus Flooring Solutions** has completed another fantastic project, delivering the benefit of the company's more than 30 years of experience to a motoring service garage.

Midland Service Garage is a family-run business based in Scunthorpe that provides vehicle servicing, repairs and MOT tests. They also provide diagnostics, clutches, welding, free local pick-up and delivery.

Director Darren Quibell explained: "We contacted Nick after seeing his work on LinkedIn.

We weren't sure what we wanted but Nick guided us through all of our decisions. We instantly knew that Nick wasn't there to sell us a product, but he sold us his experience.

From planning to finished article, Nick contacted us every day to make sure we were happy with the work and talked us through each step. The floor is unbelievable and has exceeded all expectations."

Abacus Flooring Solutions founder and managing director Nick Megson provided an insight into the process. He explained:-

"The first step for this project was for it to be surveyed. This included checking for damp and concrete strengths. We use the latest in Tramex equipment and a Schmitt Hammer to test the concrete. This ensures we can provide a detailed report and with our material suppliers and can agree on the optimum specification. Once this was all agreed, we prepared a quotation and agreed everything with the customer.

We replaced the vinyl in the canteen with a seamless, decorative flake system and offered to take the flooring up one block of the wall. This increases the aesthetics and makes it easier to clean. We also proposed to install hatching around the MOT Bay and, once all the new ramps are fitted, we will return to apply the coloured coatings under each one. This coloured coating will represent the corporate colours of the garage.

The existing concrete floor had previously been painted many times by previous tenants, in fact some areas had a significant build-up of paint. We had to mechanically prepare the concrete to remove all old coatings, whilst leaving a profile suitable to accept a resin coating.

Once the floor was fully prepared using single headed diamond grinders and then vacuumed the total area ensuring the concrete was free from any dust or debris. We then mixed and applied the resin coating using a squeegee and back-rolled to ensure the coating was fully applied as per the manufacturer's instructions. Prior to the application of the second coat, we carried out final filling and repairs to the day work joints within the concrete.

"The coating was supplied by **Resdev**, who have been manufacturing resin flooring products for over 40 years.

"We were very pleased with the results and delighted to hear that the customer is too."



## 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.



With over 325 years of innovation and passion,



Derbyshire Specialist Aggregates are a supplier of



We specialise in stocking products for the application of

Husqvarna Construction Products is a world leader when it comes to equipment and diamond tools. Husqvarna's floor grinders and dust collectors boast a unique balance between the machines power and design, and the tools speed and efficiency. Our range of floor grinders are available in a variety of sizes to suit your job, providing users with unsurpassed productivity and control for preparing, grinding, polishing concrete floors, as well as repairing and polishing terrazzo and other natural stone. With Husqvarna surface preparation machines and HIPERFLOOR, (Husqvarna's floor polishing system), you not only get a beautiful surface but also a high quality, hard wearing floor.

aggregates for the use in flooring and Resin Bound Systems. We supply high quality Aliphatic resin.

Click [here](#) for more info.

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. Reducing your overall carriage charges, administration costs and time when dealing with multiple suppliers.

Click [here](#) for more info.

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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.



## 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
- 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

## FeRFA Annual General Meeting 2021

The Annual General Meeting of FeRFA Ltd will be held at 12.00pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December virtually on Microsoft Teams.

Further information will be sent to all members' **Member Representative contact** by email in due course.

## 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 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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.



FerFA The Resin Flooring Association  
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