

CRA SUSPENDS FOUR MEMBERS

Following its declaration that all full members must have achieved Quality Assurance accreditation to environmental standard BS EN ISO 14001 by the end of June 2011, the **UK Concrete Repair Association (CRA)** has suspended the membership of four of its members until the 30th September 2011.

Should any of the four full members still not comply by the end of September, they will be excluded from CRA membership altogether.

This is a strong message from the Association, which is keen to further enhance standards within the concrete renovation sector of the construction industry. Currently, 90% of the CRA's full membership has achieved the standard, which henceforth becomes a fundamental condition of membership.

BS EN ISO 14001 specifies the requirements for an environmental management system (EMS). It provides a framework around which an organisation can control the environmental impacts of its activities, products and services and to continually improve its environmental performance. Thus, it applies to those environmental aspects that the organisation can control and over which it can be expected to have an influence.

BS EN ISO 14001 is applicable to any organisation that wishes to (1) Implement, maintain and improve an environmental management system, (2) Assure itself of its conformance with its stated environmental policy, (3) Demonstrate such conformance to others, (4) Seek certification/registration of its environmental management system by an external organisation and (5) Make a self-determination and self-declaration of conformance with this international standard.

The CRA was formed 23 years ago specifically to set high standards of workmanship and technical competence in this specialist construction area. The Association believes that by setting such self-regulating standards and procedures, engineers, surveyors, authorities, clients and other specifiers are able to confidently select from established professional organisations for concrete repair and related projects.

In addition to demonstrating a proven track record and overall proven ability, as well as to conforming to the Association's Codes of Practice and to its training requirements, each full specialist contractor and product manufacturer member is also obliged to be Q.A. Accredited to BS EN ISO 9001 as an essential requirement of membership.

Individuals responsible for concrete renovation projects should regularly access the CRA's website, which includes a complete list of members, as well as useful guidance information. The website can be found at: www.cra.org.uk

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Notes to Editor

(1): For further information, a high resolution pic, or the above text in 'Word', please contact:

Laurie Perkis, INITIAL CONTACTS, Tel/Fax: 023 8073 8953. Email: initialcontacts@btinternet.com

(2): Please arrange for a copy of any published item to be posted to: INITIAL CONTACTS, 21 Gannet Close, Southampton S016 8ET

(3): Reader enquiries should be e-mailed to: publications@cra.org.uk