

CRA AGREES COMMON HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

The recently established **Concrete Repair Association (CRA)** Health & Safety Committee, comprising individuals from contracting and manufacturing members who are responsible for such matters on a day-to-day basis, has established a common Association H&S policy.

In addition to member companies displaying a commitment to high standards of H&S performance, in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act, the CRA has created a list of aims and objectives that all members will be encouraged to adopt.

Among the primary elements is a commitment to foster employment of a skilled and competent workforce, through regular Health and Safety training. This includes monitoring to ensure that wherever possible members employ CSCS card holders and achieve registration with recognised accreditation bodies such as the Contractors Health and Safety Assessment Scheme (CHAS). The new common policy also encourages members to ensure the vetting, approval and employment of only 'competent' sub-contractors to undertake non-concrete repair works, such as scaffolding and temporary works etc.

As well as promoting an increased H&S awareness amongst management and workforces, plans include the posting of information relating to common concrete repair hazards and recognised methods of avoidance and control, on the CRA website. The CRA Committee will also adopt a proactive stance with regard to Health & Safety Executive (HSE) initiatives. It will enter into dialogue with HSE representatives and bring attention to HSE and other trade/supplier organisation's literature, training courses, etc.

In order to promote the reduction in accident incident rates throughout the industry, the Committee also plan to collate accident statistics relating to concrete repair works undertaken by members and monitor trends in the reporting of accidents and dangerous occurrences. In addition, it intends to identify the most environmentally-friendly products and processes available and encourage their use where ever practicable.

The CRA believes that the new initiative on H&S issues will prove of assistance to many clients, engineers and specifiers.

Between them, CRA members account for the vast majority of concrete repair and associated work in the U.K. All are listed in a handy one-third A/4 size Members Directory, copies of which can be obtained from Association House, 99 West Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7EN. Tel: 01252 739145. Fax: 01252 739140. Email: info@associationhouse.org.uk Website: www.cra.org.uk

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Notes to Editor

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