

Newsletter

Latest News

New members: Firstly we would welcome Trelleborg Fillite Ltd as new affiliate members of the UKQAA.

Since the last newsletter in January, it seems to have been an extremely busy time with numerous meetings, initiatives, new projects, etc. One of the busy areas has been in UKQAA publications.

Publications: The newest publications due in the immediate future will be the two new grouting Case Studies;

1. [Bilston Urban Village:](#)
2. [Northwich Salt Mines:](#)

Also in progress are revised versions of datasheets 6.6 and 6.7 on the use of Fly Ash in Hydraulically Bound Mixtures for use in road construction. These encompass the revisions to the Specification for Highways Works and the new design methods for hydraulically bound mixtures. The revised versions will be available on the UKQAA web site. However, it is not intended to print them as the whole of the 6 series datasheets on road construction will be reviewed in the next few months in order to simplify them.

REACH

REACH, though of major interest to many companies has temporarily gone into the 'all quiet on the western front' drawer. The Reach Implementation Procedures (RIPs) should be published on 1 July 2007. However, the more one is involved with REACH ones realises it is a complex system and not written in clear, concise English – an issue with many EU initiatives. As a result the REACH explanatory document posted on the web site is continually being updated. This is now in version 'April V2'. It is clear that down stream users will not have to do anything.



Figure 2 - Unloading 2000 tonnes of PFA a day at Northwich

The importers/producers of a chemical, e.g. the power stations in the case of ash products, are responsible for pre-registering the product. The production of the Chemical Safety Report (CSR) will be carried out by a single body in most cases, in our case it is likely to be ECOBA. Eventually Safety Data Sheets (SDS) will be produced from the CSR in due course. In the interim SDS are still required for so called 'Dangerous' chemicals, e.g. those that already have safety datasheets are now required to under REACH. As ash products are classified as 'non-hazardous', they do not currently require SDSs, but you will find all the information required in UKQAA Technical Datasheet 9 and further information is given in HSE "Pulverised Fuel Ash – Criteria Document for an occupational exposure limit".



Figure 1 - Bilston Urban Village

Out and About

We have purchased a new stand for exhibitions, which is lighter. The graphics produced by Yvonne, the Marketing and Administration Officer have turned out to be excellent. At the end of March, we exhibited at the Institute of Concrete Technology Annual Conference. While all of the delegates are well aware of PFA it is useful to find out what is happening technically within the concrete industry. The ICT is being merged with the Concrete Society.

Standardisation work

The development of standards is a large part of the work of the UKQAA. This process seems to increasingly be carried out by electronic mail with relatively few meetings taking place. While this is convenient in many senses, there is a risk of not thoroughly reviewing documents and commenting on them. The UKQAA is represented on 19 differing committees; these are mainly associated with concrete, cement and cementitious products. However, in recent years we have increasingly become involved with environmental and sustainability committees.

Sustainability, the environment and all that...

The Concrete Centre Sustainability Forum: The Concrete Centre has had a Sustainability Forum for sometime. This is currently trying to get the concrete industry and materials supplier (including PFA) to adopt ISO 14001 Environmental Management schemes. In fact most of the UK power stations have some form of environmental management scheme



Figure 3 - The rare orchid that grows on PFA

and of course now covered by IPPC in compliance with the Environment Agency's requirements.

WRAP/BREW/EA Quality Protocol for PFA: This is designed to produce a protocol that defines a point at which PFA ceases to be a waste. However, as the definition of waste in respect of PFA has been in dispute between the Electricity Supply Industry and the Environment Agency for a considerable period of time, this issue has complicated the process, but work continues and there may be a draft protocol for public comment available later this year.

UKQAA and Sustainability: We have now included a sustainability web page on the UKQAA site, <http://www.ukqaa.org.uk/EnvirAndSustain.html>, which explains the benefits in using ash products in construction. This will be developed further in time and a printed version will be produced as datasheet 9.1 in due course.

And finally ...

This newsletter is a shortened version of a more detailed newsletter restricted to the members of the UKQAA. If you have interest in becoming a member please see our web site which has details of joining as an affiliate or associate member. NB: Membership is only open to corporate bodies – we do not have personal membership categories.

The UKQAA is primarily a source of information to all users of UK coal fired power station ash products. If you have a question, a problem, or similar you think we can help you with please do not hesitate to contact us. If we are unable to answer a question we probably know somebody who can. The only issue we cannot address is price, for which you should consult the appropriate members of the UKQAA.

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