

Newsletter

By Lindon Sear – Technical Director and Yvonne Cotterill – Administration & Marketing Officer



Autumn has blown in pretty swiftly which to some has come as a bit of a shock after the sunny times we have had of late – this also brings to mind that it's time for another UKQAA Newsletter.

WRAP/EA Quality Protocol – Unbound Applications

During the last few months there has been much activity on the Quality Protocol front, specifically in relation to the use of PFA for unbound applications.

A meeting took place in July to discuss the findings of the environmental risk assessment. Some of the leachates from PFA were problematical, but by using the right k_d values the problematical metals ceased to be an issue with the exception of CrVI as under the Groundwater directive this is not permitted to be released into groundwater. The EA could set a sensible MRV value (Minimum Reporting Value) which would solve the problem; however, they have referred the problems up to their board level.

This issue is common to many of the QPs presently being progressed. Though it was stated at the meeting that the EA & SEPA were agreeing suitable values for MRV. SEPA actually issued their values in June 2011, which both FBA and PFA would pass. It is very likely that CrVI will become a List 1 material in due course, because of the requirements of the Groundwater Directive.

MPA Aggregates Committee

Lindon attended his first meeting of this group for some years. In general the main concerns expressed were related to Regulated Dangerous Substances, Quality Protocols, REACH and the like. The only other topic was the delay in publication of the new aggregates standards, of which the conformity standard had failed its vote – this will delay publication further by approximately 12 to 18 months.

Out and About

Recently we have received 3 requests for lunchtime presentations on the uses of PFA so we have sent Lindon out and about conducting these. Lindon has also been invited to give an evening talk to engineering students at the University of Bolton. Should you wish such a presentation at your premises please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Future Events planned

LJMU – 11th International Conference – February 2012: An event hosted by The School of the Built Environment (LJMU). We are exhibiting here and Lindon is also presenting a paper. For the 2nd year running the venue will be the Britannia Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.

UK Concrete Show – Ricoh Arena, Coventry – February 2012: We are exhibiting here for the 2nd year running but for the 1st time Lindon is presenting in one of the shows seminar sessions.

Last year there were close on 2,200 visitors and 112 exhibitors and this year's show is planned to be 60% bigger so we are looking forward to a busy time again.

Ecobuild 2012 – March 2012: Once again we have booked a stand here so please come and visit us at ExCeL in the Docklands area of London. There will be in excess of 1300 exhibitors, free seminars, the Ecobuild Conference and live demonstrations.

Last time there were concerns regarding overcrowded trains on the Docklands Railway but the organisers have been assured extra trains will be available for next year's show.

University of Dundee – 8th International Conference – July 2012: We are exhibiting here and Lindon is presenting a paper co-authored with Jodie Guest (Hanson) within one of the 6 conference themes.

Dundee hope to attract in excess of 250 visitors from over 40 different countries. The conference theme is "Concrete in the Low Carbon Era".

UKQAA website

As you may have noticed, Lindon was very busy late summer redeveloping the UKQAA website – we hope you agree that it was time well spent.

UKQAA Membership

We are very pleased to welcome new Associate members IIT Ltd (International Innovative Technologies). They are a new-technology development company specialising in design, precision engineering and manufacture of a range of high output mills, classifiers and cyclones.

Bob Coombs (RWE) - Retirement

Bob Coombs of RWE retires at the end of this year after 32 years of contribution to the ash industry. Bob was special guest at the recent UKQAA Annual Dinner which was re-named "Bob's Escape Dinner". We thank Bob for all his help and support over the years and wish him a very happy retirement.

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