

# Bulletin

INFORMED COMMENT  
FROM **BASA**  
THE BRITISH ADHESIVES  
& SEALANTS ASSOCIATION

## New year and a new look for the BASA Bulletin

We start 2017 with a new look for the BASA Bulletin, but we have stayed true to the publication's ethos – to keep you up to date with what's happening in the world of adhesives and sealants.

Although the look is different, the information and informed comment is still here, but presented in a way that's easier on the eye – and of course it will be a companion for the soon-to-be-ready new look website.

Synchronise your diaries for the year with our back page version, and stand by to make bookings at the events we have planned.

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## Three good reasons you should attend the BASA AGM this year

A high turnout is expected for this year's AGM and Industry Lunch, which packs three events into one!

Not only is it our AGM, but Grand National winning jockey Bob Champion, right, will be the guest speaker at the Industry Lunch, and the whole thing takes place at Leicester Racecourse against the backdrop of the season's final National Hunt meeting. Lunch will be a three-course affair, before an afternoon's racing. Reserve your place at: [www.basaevents.co.uk](http://www.basaevents.co.uk) Book in now!



Picture: Antonia Doyle Photography

# Which spec is right for your product?

**The 4Ward Testing team is expanding its repertoire of testing specifications to meet the demands of national and international manufacturers and suppliers of sealants and adhesives.**

The company is frequently asked to test sealants to BS EN 15651 1-4:2012, BS 5212-3:1990, BS EN 14188-2, BS EN 14187-9:2006, as well as the Federal Specification SS-S-200E, and for adhesives to the BS EN 12004:2007 + A1 2012 series of tests.

As a Notified Body (2538) and UKAS Laboratory (0307) it's able to test to all the specifications, but there is often a discussion as to which spec should be used, and any possible conflicts between these documents.

"We are fortunate enough to sit with the BASA Sealants Working Group, which is trying to support and inform companies of the most up to date specifications and discuss any anomalies that exist, iron out any ambiguities in the test methods, and ensure the interpretation of results are clear," said 4Ward's Paula Fountain.

"There are also many BSI mirror committees which we link into, that would welcome more industry members and which allows us access to UK experts and resolve any confusion that can arise as standards are not always standard!" Commonly asked questions include:

1. Why does the 14187-9:2006 contain a deformation



speed of  $0.010 \pm 0.002$  mm/min which is not achievable (to our knowledge) by any laboratory in Europe?

2. Why is the BS 5212-3:1990 being considered for withdrawal - as we are commonly asked to test to this method?

3. The use of NPD, for annex ZA required characteristics in the BS EN 15651 1-4:2012 allows for the continued use of existing products on the market.

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**4ward**  
TESTING

In my first Bulletin article of 2017, I would like to wish all BASA members a successful 2017.

We face uncertain times following last year's 'surprise' Brexit referendum result, the 'unexpected' US election result in November 2016 and a number of key European elections scheduled for 2017 so business will continue to face big challenges.

Our secretary Lorna is working with the Alliance of Chemical Associations (ACA) where she holds the position of Secretary, to ensure that we can try to influence the U.K. policy in the in the upcoming negotiations. I would like to thank the nine members who responded to our recent Brexit Impact Survey and appreciate that they have taken the time to give us the information needed. We are likely to have more surveys in 2017, so I hope that this support will continue.

BASA's focus in 2017 will be to promote the

Challenging year in turbulent times

2017 promises to be a challenging year for business, and I wish all BASA members success in the turbulent times we find ourselves in. Political challenges from the new US president with his protectionist stance, fallout from the Brexit vote and its effect on Sterling and the likely withdrawal from the single European market are all having an impact. BASA members will have to look at the implications for their business, but there are several 'technical' challenges too. I would encourage all of you (yes, even those who regard themselves as non-technical) to cast an eye over the technical section in the middle of this publication.

Many of these 'technical' issues will have a huge impact on your business in future years. Di-isocyanate restrictions, the impacts for epoxy-based adhesives and coatings with BPA's possible or probable classification as an SVHC (substance of very high concern), D4 and D5 in silicones, MIT/biocide reduction levels and the impacts on water based products, titanium dioxide and possible classification as a carcinogen are some of the topics gaining momentum and promising to cause BASA members a lot of headaches in 2017.

Through BASA's membership of the Alliance of Chemical Associations, we are joining forces with other UK Associations to make a larger impact with UK regulators, and through our FEICA membership we try to influence European thinking, but we come up against the lack of supplied members data to support our efforts.



Chairman:  
Mark  
Louch

From the  
Chairman

benefits of membership and to ensure that members take advantage of the programmes we already have and to look at what else we could offer.

As the subscriptions renewal comes round in April, it is important that all members feel they get value for money. I will be looking at this

and talking to members at this year's AGM at Leicester racecourse on 10th March, so I hope that as many of you as possible can make it on the day. The AGM is free to members, so I would urge you to attend and ask questions, particularly if you have ever questioned the value of your subscriptions. After the AGM we have the Industry Lunch and, as this bulletin is published, we still have tickets left for purchase. We are looking forward to hearing the after lunch speaker Bob Champion MBE and the full race programme of National Hunt Races after lunch is included in the ticket price.

Finally I would urge all members to support the various BASA events through the year, not for our benefit, but because the additional networking is really beneficial for your business, the information obtained at the technical events is incredibly informative and the benefits of actually being present to discuss with technical colleagues shouldn't be underestimated and finally the events are always really enjoyable.



Secretary:  
Lorna  
Williams

From the  
Secretary

Email: [secretary@basaonline.org](mailto:secretary@basaonline.org)

Data collection efforts

We will be improving our data collection process in place in 2017 with the use of Survey Monkey, but in order to protect your interests BASA needs each member to respond to the surveys.

They will be structured as simply as possible, and the first question will be to opt out if you have no interest, but I am aiming high – I would like to see 100% responses from members!

We will therefore be sending each survey to only a single representative from each member company, and we would urge members to be proactive and respond to each survey to confirm this, or to ask for the survey to be re-directed to someone else.

Good quality data (including recording no interest or no relevance from a member) is key to our ability to advocate more effectively

with regulators. Help us to maximise the benefits of your membership.

New website

By the time you read this, our new website will be almost complete, and MA Business have made many improvements. Members will be able to post content to the working pages to expand the dialogue with their peers.

We will be presenting a live demonstration of the site at the AGM, so if the National Hunt races, guest speaker Bob Champion and a presentation about R&D tax credits aren't enough to whet your appetite, then the new website demo and the opportunity to tell us what you want from BASA in 2017 should clinch it!

Bulletin circulation

Any member of BASA who wishes to receive their own copy of the Bulletin is invited to contact me (email address above) to have their name added to the circulation list.

Diary dates

Finally, don't forget to support not just the AGM and Industry lunch this year, but also consider the BASA Sports Day with a free-for-members Open Industry Forum the day after, and our Dinner Dance at the Chester Grosvenor Hotel, which promises to be a spectacular night.

Turn to the back page and make a note of the dates in your diary now, and don't forget to bookmark the events website [www.basaevents.co.uk](http://www.basaevents.co.uk) to make all your bookings.

# What spec for which product?

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4. Will a change to unglazed (from glazed) tiles alter the testing to BS EN 12004:2007?

5. Why is there not a UK supplier of concrete blocks made to EN 196-1:1994 for BS EN 12004:2007 +A1 2012 – should we all be shipping concrete across Europe at vast expense?

"We would be delighted to discuss any testing specifications, product developments, and CE

marking requirements, and we would be pleased to hear from you on any of these topics, which will allow us to feed back to industry groups and working parties that influence the testing of your products. Contact me at this email address: paula@4wardtesting.co.uk."

4Ward has laboratory facilities for the physical and environmental testing of most construction materials including rubbers, flooring, pipeline coatings and membranes to name a few.

## Window and door show could be a perfect fit for members of BASA

**Anyone not directly involved with the window, door, conservatory and related glazing industries could be forgiven for thinking the 'FIT Show' would have little to do with adhesives and sealants.**

But behind the acronym – Fabricator Installer Trade – is a key market for the products of BASA members pretty much at every link in the industry supply chain, say the show's organisers. With 15 exhibitors so far listing adhesives and sealants as art of their offer signed up at the time of writing and the FIT Show taking place in May 2017, there are plenty of suppliers put there for whom this sector is very productive.

Essentially the FIT Show represents the residential glazing sector including home improvements for private and social housing, refurbished and new house building. The home improvement market has always seen itself as quite apart from the building industry with the effect that the companies that manufacture and install the windows and doors see themselves as part of the same industry, generally working far closer together than other building related industries. Few other industries will see such a close relationship between suppliers and

customers at trade level.

Adhesives and sealants are used extensively at every point in the supply chain: hot melts in the production of the insulated glass units that are crucial not just to the fundamental construction of windows and doors, but also to their performance; adhesives in some elements of frame manufacture; and of course, sealants are a crucial part of the installation of every window and door installed, if sometimes used a little overzealously.

Many of the exhibitors showing adhesives and sealants will be specialist distributors for BASA members products, with others through white labelling. But crucially this key sector for the adhesives and sealants industry is relatively stable and, perhaps in fits and starts in this post-Brexit era, it is growing. Brits love their homes and continue to spend an extraordinary amount of their disposable incomes – and sometimes money they don't have – on keeping up the appearance if not the performance of their 'castles', the latter largely determined by the Building Regulations. As an exhibitor or visitor, there are opportunities for BASA members at the 2017 FIT Show. [www.fitshow.co.uk](http://www.fitshow.co.uk)

## Joint seminar will go 'beyond the basics'

BASA and the Society of Adhesion and Adhesives will work together to present a one-day seminar on 23rd March. Taking place at the Society of Chemical Industry in London, it will be called:

*Adhesion, Adhesives and Sealants: beyond the basics, a training seminar for those working in the field,* and will present an intermediate level review of the subject.



The meeting will cover adhesion science, the design, formulation and performance of structural and non-structural adhesives and sealants and pressure sensitive adhesives.

There will also be consideration of surface and interface engineering, testing and durability and life prediction, along with a review of the developing subject of adhesion in nature and synthetic biology approaches to adhesion. Lunch and refreshment breaks are included which will give ample time for discussions.

Full details of the event and how to book can be found here: [www.iom3.org/society-adhesion-adhesives/events](http://www.iom3.org/society-adhesion-adhesives/events)

## BASA co-signs letter to Chemical Unit boss

BASA has co-signed a letter to Mr Robin Foster, Head of International Chemicals Unit, with the British Coatings Federation (BCF) and the UK Cleaning Products Industry Association (UKCPI) about the significant consequences to setting a Specific Concentration Limit of 15ppm for MIT.

The Commission's approval of the proposed SCL, and subsequent restriction by the authorities on the use of MIT, will result in major uncertainty for European producers of water-based mixtures such as paints, detergents and sealants and adhesives, with respect to bacterial attack. More details are on the Health & Safety area of the our website.

## CSA Flexible relaunched

Granfix's flexible adhesive for calcium sulphate floors and plaster walls, CSA Flexible has been re-launched with an improved formulation and is now rapid setting. Granfix, an Instarmac brand, offers premium tile adhesives, grouts and ancillaries to professional tile fixers, contractors, retailers, specifiers and architects.

**INSTARMAC®**

## Adshead Ratcliffe is acquired by US firm

The US group CARLISLE® has taken over 100% of shares in Adshead Ratcliffe, a subsidiary of Arbo Holdings Limited. Martin Blunden of Adshead Ratcliffe & Co Ltd said: "We are pleased and proud to be part of the CARLISLE® CM Europe, and ready to embrace new commercial opportunities that joining the European EPDM market leader brings. Together we can offer the best sealing solutions to our customers."

**ARBO**

## Does the future of adhesives lie with Synthetic Biology?

Have you ever thought about creating adhesive materials that combine the tenacity of barnacles and the resistance of bacteria that live in sub-sea volcanoes at extremes of temperature and pressure?

BASA attended a recent two-day showcase event organised by the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) of the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) on Synthetic Biology for Armour and Materials at Birmingham University. Synthetic Biology is a platform technology that seeks to create new industrial processes capable of producing and using a wider range of bio-based feed-stocks. This can generate a greater diversity of materials and products and innovative solutions exploiting the resilience and diversity present in the natural.



# CLP Update...

By Gill Pagliuca of Denehurst Chemical Safety Ltd, first published for Croner on January 5th 2017

## Identifying relevant ingredients for mixture

When classifying mixtures which ingredients need to be taken into account? Do all ingredients need to be considered? What if they are present in only very small amounts? How small is too small to bother with? These questions are commonly asked by those classifying mixtures. In this article, Gill Pagliuca of Denehurst Chemical Safety Ltd explains the rules for what ingredients need to be considered when classifying a mixture. When considering the classification of mixtures, using the ingredients to derive the classification, there are two important concepts that need to be grasped.

- 1. Cut-off values
- 2. Concentration limits

Cut-off values are defined in the CLP Regulation as "... a threshold of any classified impurity, additive or individual constituent in a substance or in a mixture, above which threshold these shall be taken into account

Gill has over 20 years experience of working in the area of chemical hazards and regulatory information. She advises clients on UK and EU regulations covering the supply and transport of chemicals, including REACH, CLP, DSD/DPD, ADR, etc. This includes providing public and in-house training, preparation of required documents, including safety data sheets, product labels and IUCLID dossiers. She has also been involved in the development of several guidance documents for REACH and CLP implementation, and contributes regularly to a number of publications in this area.

for determining if the substance or the mixture, respectively, shall be classified". In other words, if an ingredient or impurity is present below the cut-off value for a particular hazard, it can be ignored for the purposes of determining the classification of the mixture for that particular hazard. Concentration limits are defined in the CLP Regulation as "... a threshold of any classified impurity, additive or individual constituent in a substance or in a mixture that may trigger classification of the substance or the mixture,

respectively". In other words, the concentration limit is the concentration at which an ingredient or impurity will actually result in the mixture being classified for that particular hazard. Table 1.1 of CLP Annex I, Part 1 contains a table of generic cut-off values to be used for determining which ingredients need to be considered for certain health hazards, such as:

- acute toxicity
- skin corrosion/irritation
- eye damage/irritation
- hazards to the aquatic environment

For all other health and environmental hazards, the cut-off values to be used are the generic concentration limits for classification given in the relevant chapter in Parts 3, 4 and 5 of Annex I.

These different approaches reflect that the types of hazard covered by Table 1.1 are those that are generally considered to be additive and several substances in a mixture with the same type of hazard will act together to exert a cumulative effect for that hazard. For the hazards where the cut-off value to be used is the same as the concentration limit, this reflects that these hazards are generally not additive but are substance specific, and each substance with a particular hazard has to be considered on its own merits and not added together with other substances also classified for the same effect. For example, if there are two substances in a mixture classified for long-term chronic toxicity (STOT RE), where one causes liver damage and the second causes lung damage, these two substances must be considered independently and not added together.

Table 1, left, shows a list of the generic cut-off values while Table 2, facing page, shows the generic concentration limits to be used. For substances to which an SCL has been applied, either in Annex VI (a harmonised classification) or in the Classification and Labelling Inventory (set by industry, either as part of a registration dossier or in an individual notification) the cut-off value is the lowest of either the SCL of the generic cut-off value for those hazards that are listed in Table 1.1 (additive hazards). For substances with an SCL that applies to non-additive hazards, the SCL is also the cut-off value. However, for sensitisers, the SCL needs to be divided by 10 to derive the elicitation threshold for the

Table 1 Hazard Classes and Generic Cut-off Values for Additive Effects

Hazard class and category	Generic cut-off value	Remarks
Acute toxicity, Category 1, 2 and 3	≥ 0.1	
Acute toxicity, Category 4	≥ 1	
Skin corrosion/irritation, Category 1, Subcategories 1A, 1B, 1C and Category 2	≥ 1	Or < 1% where relevant, see 3.2.3.3.1. This reference states that the "relevant ingredients" of a mixture are those which are present in concentrations of 1% or greater, unless there is a presumption that an ingredient present at a concentration of less than 1% can still be relevant for classifying the mixture for skin irritation/corrosion
Serious damage to eyes/eye irritation, Category 1 and 2	≥ 1	Or < 1% where relevant, see 3.3.3.3.1. This reference states that the "relevant ingredients" of a mixture are those which are present in concentrations of 1% or greater, unless there is a presumption that an ingredient present at a concentration of less than 1% can still be relevant for classifying the mixture for skin irritation/corrosion
Hazardous to the aquatic environment — Acute, Category 1 and Chronic Category 1	≥ 0.1	Or < 0.1% where relevant, see 4.1.3.1. For substances classified as Aquatic Acute 1 or Aquatic Chronic 1, and which have been assigned an M factor, the cut-off value is to be divided by the M factor (0.1/M)
Hazardous to the aquatic environment — Chronic Category 2, 3 and 4	≥ 1	
Hazardous for the ozone layer	≥ 0.1	

# e classification

application of EUH208.

No cut-off values apply to physical hazards, as these types of hazard are not normally derived by reviewing the ingredients, but need to be determined by testing.

When using software to classify mixtures, it is important to realise that many software programmes will automatically apply cut-off values to the classification process, unless instructed otherwise. This can sometimes lead to classifications that are different to those calculated by hand if not aware that some ingredients may have been ignored by the programme.

For substances that have corrosive and irritant effects, there is often a need to apply so-called “expert judgment” when dealing with mixtures that may contain several ingredients with similar effects below the cut-off value, but that when added together may exceed classification thresholds. For example, a mixture that contains several corrosive ingredients at a concentration of between 0.5% and 1% may have a total concentration of such ingredients of 1% or more. If one of the ingredients was present at this concentration, the mixture would be classified as irritant, however, because all ingredients are below 1%, they could be ignored as they are below the cut-off value. In some cases, companies deliberately formulate in this way, keeping concentrations below cut-off values to avoid unwelcome hazard labels, and this can be a legitimate strategy to use. However, consideration also needs to be given to the note applied to the cut-off value, that says where substances can be presumed to have an effect even at lower concentrations, the cut-off value may not be appropriate. If several similar substances are included in a mixture at low concentrations then consideration should be given as to whether the cumulative effect of these substances may actually mean that the mixture is more hazardous than might be presumed otherwise and a classification of at least irritant may be appropriate.

In exceptional cases, the possibility of additive effects may also need to be considered for effects generally considered non-additive if there are two or more substances in a mixture that act by very similar mechanisms. In such cases, expert judgment may again be required.

## Conclusion

Not all hazardous ingredients in a mixture need to be considered if they are present at low concentrations. In general, simple rules can be applied to identify the relevant ingredients that need to be used to determine the classification of a mixture. Care should be taken, however, when there are several ingredients in a mixture that act in a similar way and could together exert an effect greater than expected when considering each ingredients individually.

**Table 2 Hazard Classes and Generic Concentration Limits for Non-additive Hazards**

Hazard class and category	Generic conc. limit	Remarks
Respiratory/skin sensitisation, Category 1A	≥ 0.1	A lower threshold applies for the elicitation of allergic reactions in people already sensitised to the substance, triggering the use of the special labelling phrase EUH208. The elicitation threshold is 1/10th of the classification threshold, giving a generic value of 0.01% for Category 1A and 0.1% for Category 1/1B. Ingredients must also be listed on the safety data sheet (SDS) at this lower elicitation threshold
Respiratory/skin sensitisation, Category 1/1B	≥ 1	
Germ cell mutagenicity, Category 1A and 1B	≥ 0.1	In some jurisdictions, a lower limit of 0.1% applies for classification and labelling. In the EU, although the higher values applies to classification and labelling, these ingredients must be declared on SDSs at the lower concentration
Germ cell mutagenicity, Category 2	≥ 1	
Carcinogenicity, Category 1A, 1B	≥ 0.1	
Carcinogenicity, Category 2	≥ 1	
Reproductive toxicity, Category 1A, 1B and effects on or through lactation	≥ 0.3	
Reproductive toxicity, Category 2	≥ 3	
Specific target organ toxicity (STOT) — single exposure, Category 1	≥ 1	
STOT — single exposure, Category 2	≥ 10	In some jurisdictions, a lower limit of 0.1% applies for classification and labelling. In the EU, although the higher values applies to classification and labelling, these ingredients must be declared on SDSs at the lower concentration
STOT — single exposure, Category 3	≥ 20	
STOT — repeated exposure, Category 1	≥ 1	A pragmatic default GCL of 20% is suggested in 3.8.3.4.5, although a lower or higher specific concentration limit (SCL) may be used where it can be justified
STOT — repeated exposure, Category 2	≥ 10	
Aspiration hazard	≥ 10	In some jurisdictions, a lower concentration limit of 1% applies for classification and labelling. In the EU, although the higher values apply to classification and labelling, these ingredients must be declared on SDSs at the lower concentration

# Feica launches new logo and plans Sardinia event

FEICA, the Association of the European Adhesive and Sealant Industry, has updated its logo, right, marking the most significant change in the Association's visual identity in twenty years.

The Association's European Executive Board approved the logo towards the end of last year, satisfied that it preserves FEICA's heritage and projects the image of an engaged and active association.

FEICA's President, Steve Kenny of H.B. Fuller, said: "We have opted for a modern feel for our new logo which perfectly reflects the association's past, present and future. FEICA strongly believes in innovation, sustainability and new technologies, and this streamlined image



illustrates that FEICA is a forward-looking association built on the solid foundation of strong and responsible European regulatory work since the early 1970s."

FEICA Secretary General Philip Bruce added: "We are very proud of our updated identity, which will be evident in all communications with immediate effect. It is the right image for the direction we are heading in."

## Why BASA members should attend this conference in 2017

The 2016 FEICA European Adhesive & Sealant Conference and EXPO in Austria last September was a great success, and drew a record number of sealants professionals.

FEICA President Steve Kenny of H.B. Fuller opened his first FEICA Conference as President by welcoming the new Secretary General Philip Bruce, and said: "The pace of change in the industry continues to accelerate, generating both challenges and opportunities for us all". Mr Bruce said: "The FEICA Conference and EXPO is the perfect platform for the Association to showcase what it focuses on, working hard to deliver a beneficial economic and legislative environment for our industry in Europe, and to inform and educate our members and other key stakeholders."

BASA's FEICA membership continues to provide great value for money for our members, and allows us to maintain our effectiveness with a minimised resource pool.

## Poison centres take centre stage at OTF

BASA's Open Technical Forum held at Croner House in October 2016 was a great success, thanks to the availability of an excellent venue, accomplished speakers and relevant topics.

Members commented on the quality of the speakers and topics as they were informed about the latest position regarding Poisons Centres legislation by NCEC. This was followed by two great presentations by Croner on the services available to members via BASA's Croner membership.

The use of Croner House for BASA's Open Forums is a new idea and members commented after the event that the venue allowed for excellent networking opportunities, with the usual areas for posters presented by BASA's working group Chairs informing members of the current hot topics and work programmes. Croner's presentations on the Croner-i Portal in the morning and Legislation in the afternoon gave members a taste of the services provided by Croner to BASA members, and has increased member participation with Croner. This was a very successful day, and we will ask Croner to host future events for us.

• More information about poison centres is available in the Health and Safety section of our website, as well as that of ECHA, which can be found here: [poisoncentres.echa.europa.eu](http://poisoncentres.echa.europa.eu)

## FEICA 2017 Sardinia, Italy

### FEICA European Adhesive & Sealant Conference and EXPO 2017

13-15 September 2017  
Forte Village, Sardinia



#### Driving Innovation

Year-on-year, FEICA attracts a record number of industry leaders to discuss market drivers and trends, innovation, sustainability and technological advancements.

The FEICA Conference and EXPO is firmly established as the premier event for Europe's adhesive and sealant industry, providing essential insights into the key issues affecting the industry and great networking opportunities for formulators, raw materials suppliers and customers.



#### The adhesive and sealant industry's essential event

13, 14 & 15 September 2017

- **Network** with other professionals in the adhesive and sealant value chain.
- **Understand market dynamics**, market trends and emerging economic developments that could impact your business.
- **Tap into your end-users' needs** and learn what downstream users expect from you.
- **Expand your knowledge** of the advances in key technologies and applications from research and development professionals at the cutting edge of innovation.
- **Take the pulse of the most relevant industry trends**, covering the full range of adhesive and sealant technologies, applications and markets.
- **Learn about raw material supply chain trends** and what your equipment suppliers have in store for you.
- **Get informed** about regulatory changes that are coming your way and their impact on your business.

#### EXPO

13, 14 & 15 September 2017

The Table Top Exhibition opens on Wednesday 13 September at 15:00 and runs until Friday 15 September at 14:30.

[www.feica-conferences.com](http://www.feica-conferences.com)

# One stop shop for BASA members

If you have been following our series of articles in the Bulletin you will have seen Chemical Search International (CSI) has been working alongside BASA to supply recruitment and training services to members. As far as recruitment is concerned we offer a full range of professional options depending on the position you are looking to fill. Being specialists in the chemicals sector we have unrivalled knowledge, experience and contacts to find the very best people.

With training we offer cost effective personal development workshops, and were delighted to have run the first of these, Building Effective Working Relationships, in November last year to a group of BASA members. This is a lively and interactive one-day workshop and participants came away with a clear plan on how to be more effective in developing relationships both within the organisation and with other key stakeholders such as customers and suppliers.

Further workshops for BASA members are planned in this series including Effective Customer Communication and Leading Your Team through Change.

For 2017 there are two further exciting developments planned which CSI would like to announce. Firstly the formation of ChemExec®, a global executive network for



by Dr David Barkel, FRSC

Principal Consultant,  
Chemical Search  
International

chemicals, materials, natural resource and bioscience professionals. ChemExec® differs from established professional networks in being faster, simpler and more direct, not to mention being exclusive to our sector. The network starts life with close to 40,000 existing contacts and we hope you will find it valuable.

Become an Executive Member and you get unlimited access to our entire membership network where you can advertise events, jobs and communicate with like-minded professionals. This will be hosted on our new website which will be launched in 2017. We will also be using ChemExec® as our branding of recruitment and training services supplied to BASA.

Secondly we are very pleased to announce that CSI has teamed up with RandDTax, specialists in supporting companies to obtain UK R&D Tax Credits. These are available for any company that invests in attempting to advance the capability of science or

technology to create better products, processes, services, materials or devices. We are hoping that this will appeal to BASA members, many of whom are engaged in this activity. Over recent years RandDTax have helped around 750 UK companies with over 3,000 successful claims to HMRC resulting in more than £50 million in Corporation Tax relief or cash credits. They are justly proud of a 100% success rate in claims submitted. The funds obtained can be used for any purpose.

RandDTax can help BASA members in these situations:

- Members who have not yet claimed, to recognise, scope and claim for qualifying R&D activities;
- Examining and rectifying previous claims made to identify the many situations where members may have under claimed;
- Giving members an alternative consultancy service where they feel their existing R&D Consultancy is either charging too much, or they are unhappy with the service levels;
- Helping where previous claims have become embroiled in HMRC enquiries.

As we move into 2017 we are delighted that CSI is a one-stop shop for support in recruitment, training, quality professional networking and funding for R&D. Contact David Barkel [djb@chemicalsearch.co.uk](mailto:djb@chemicalsearch.co.uk) with any queries.

## Carroll sings Instarmac's praises

A community project headed by mosaic artist Tracey Cartledge has been completed using Instarmac adhesive and grout.

Chorlton Central Church commissioned the striking external focal point to be designed by Tracey, who holds weekly mosaic classes at the church. Manchester-based tiler and Instarmac advocate Andy Carroll was asked to support the mosaic installation with his expertise and product knowledge.

Extended set tile adhesive, UltraTile ProFlex SP+ES was used to fix the mosaic tiles creating a piece which was inspired by a Bible passage centered upon the themes of peace and harmony. This adhesive is a firm favourite of Andy's, boasting a 2 hour pot life, an application thickness of 3mm to 20mm and a S1 classification making it ideal for use on timber floors.

Flexible grout Granfix MAXIGROUT XTRA was used to finish the piece off.



This product is available in a choice of 9 colours including Tracey's selected Grey. It boasts mould and water resistant properties, and can be used with underfloor heating. MAXIGROUT XTRA is fast setting and suitable for wall or floor joints up to 20mm.

For further product information including the datasheet please visit [instarmac.co.uk](http://instarmac.co.uk) or to place an order call 01827 871871.

**INSTARMAC®**

## Scigrip agrees distribution deal with Euroresins

SCIGRIP has agreed a distribution partnership with Euroresins UK Ltd, a distributor of products to the composites resins industry, which maintains a strong sales presence across Europe.

The arrangement is effective immediately and will offer UK customers rapid and easy access to the most advanced methyl methacrylate (MMA) adhesive technologies than ever before. SCIGRIP's range of MMA products offer a combination of strength, toughness, ease of use and are already successful in numerous challenging applications.

"The composites market demands prompt, reliable and efficient solutions. We view our partnership with Euroresins as a positive and progressive move toward the increased use of MMA technologies throughout UK manufacturing", remarks Tim Johnson, SCIGRIP's European Sales and Marketing Manager.



## Scigrip acquires Glue Boss

Scigrip has acquired Glue Boss Inc, the Indiana-based manufacturer of StoneBond and other high performance surfacing adhesives.

Headquartered in Elkhart, Indiana, Glue Boss is an established name in the manufacture and supply of surfacing adhesives with its SeamPro, SeamBoss and StoneBond brands, known for high strength and reliable bonding of quartz, granite, marble, sintered stone, porcelain and acrylic surfaces.

# Technical Working Groups – 1



**BASA Technical Officer:**

Jim Palmer



The Environmental Working Group has updated its name and remit to include sustainability as a key topic for the association. The group will continue to monitor, review and inform members of environmental changes, legislative updates and implications of new regulations/guidance for members, in addition to communicating future considerations and best practice tools.

## SUSTAINABILITY

### Waste and Waste Management

WM3 continues to be reviewed and the EC waste guidance is currently being discussed by the commission. We are currently waiting to see if there are likely to be any changes. The Environment and Sustainability Group will continue to monitor.

Also, just a reminder that from the 1st April 2016, two processes changed which may affect members waste management systems:

- 1) A premises is no longer required to register with the Environment Agency including those who produce or store more than 500kg of hazardous waste per year
- 2) As premises registration is no longer required, the format of consignment note codes has been changed so that the first six characters (normally the premises registration number) must be replaced by the first six letters or numbers of the business name. It is the responsibility of the waste producer to ensure consistent use of the organisation name on all consignment notes with all waste contractors used. The EXEMPT code cannot be used.

Further information and examples are available on the EA website.

### Energy

The first deadline for ESOS (Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme) was 5th December 2015 and companies that qualify must carry out these assessments every 4 years. If you qualify for ESOS and your organisation is fully covered by ISO 50001, you don't need to carry out an ESOS assessment. You just need to notify the Environment Agency that you are compliant with ESOS. For further information about whether you qualify for ESOS and the assessment required, please go to <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/energy-savings-opportunity-scheme-esos>

### 14001 Standard

Deadline for transition to the new BS EN ISO14001:2015 standard is 15th September 2018.

### Environmental Product Declarations

This edition of the bulletin contains an article on Model EPD's and the advantages when compared to the other types of EPD available.

The Environment and Sustainability Working Group has this as a key work item and is currently preparing a position statement in support of the FEICA Model EPD's.



**Chairman:**  
Jenny Barnett



## Environment & Sustainability

### ENVIRONMENT

#### Environmental Permits

As of the 1st February 2016 you may be required to complete a risk assessment if you do not currently hold an environmental permit. For further information see: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/risk-assessments-for-your-environmental-permit>

#### Aerosol F-Gases

As you will be aware, HFCs with global warming potentials higher than 150 have been banned in 'novelty' aerosols or signal horns since 2009. The EA define novelty aerosols as aerosols sold for entertainment or decorative purposes e.g. 'silly string'.

2018 changes - From 2018 HFCs with a global warming potential above 150 will be banned in technical aerosols. Technical aerosols are generally used in industrial and manufacturing processes.

The ban won't apply if HFCs are required to meet national safety standards or the aerosol is used for medical applications.

More information can be found on the EA website: [www.gov.uk/guidance/bans-on-f-gas-in-new-equipment](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/bans-on-f-gas-in-new-equipment)

#### COMAH Flood Defence

The Environment Agency has released a guidance document to aid sites regulated under OMAH and EPR to prepare for flooding and ensure that flood defence plans are in place. For further information see: [www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/439863/LIT\\_7176.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439863/LIT_7176.pdf)

#### Environmental Working Group Members

If you are interested in joining the Environment and Sustainability Working Group, please get in touch with either me or Lorna Williams. The committee meets twice per year on average and combine our meeting day with the Health and Safety Working Group as we have many topics that cross over between the two groups. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2017.

If you have any particular topics that you would like us to review, then please get in touch and we can add to our meeting agenda.

## TSC overview

At the beginning of another year let me start by thanking all the chairs and working group members for their continued support, commitment and enthusiasm on behalf of the wider BASA membership. It is solely due to their hard work in the regulation, standardisation and many other technical areas that we are able to influence the direction of developments for our industry, without their input we would be more than inadequately represented.

At the last TSC meeting in December we discussed plans for the coming year, including a change to the format for the Open Technical Fora to widen their appeal to those working in the industry beyond the technical community. So, as an experiment, the next one is planned to sit alongside the annual sports day in June instead of the more usual spring date.

Another major interface between BASA and its membership is the website and plans are nearing completion to overhaul its appearance, accessibility and functionality and the new website should be launched early in the year.

The coming year will present many challenges, not least influenced by the changing political landscape but, whatever Brexit eventually looks like, we will undoubtedly be trading with Europe and the rest of the world, so the BASA technical community continues to be active in providing UK industry views and positions on a wide range of issues to UK Government and, through FEICA, to the European Commission. In the reports below, elsewhere in this Bulletin and on the BASA website you can learn more about the more significant issues affecting our industry.

I hope you will agree that we are well positioned for the year ahead and continue to be sufficiently 'fleet of foot' to deal with any necessary changes in the representation of our industry.

If you would like to know more about how you can become involved and what levels of commitment are required please do not hesitate to contact the BASA secretary or me.

### ECHA updates

Uncertainty still remains over what exactly the chemicals regulatory sector might look like in the wake of Brexit. From recent published news we know DEFRA expects continued compliance with EU chemicals legislation, including: REACH, CLP and the BPR. DEFRA has explicitly stated that the REACH registration deadline, 31 May 2018, should be complied with.

In order to retain consistency, ECHA appointed Andreas Herdina to lead on matters relating to the referendum. His task will be to ensure that ECHA takes a "single consolidated position" towards British companies and staff and that he acts as a reference point on Brexit matters. Regarding Brexit and what this means to UK industry and future legislation BASA will continue to monitor the situation and will advise accordingly as the negotiations progress.

### SVHC updates

The Member State Committee unanimously agreed on the identification of four substances of very high concern (SVHCs): bisphenol A, PFDA, PTAP and 4-HPbl. The majority of the MSC's members also supported the identification of an environmental endocrine disruptor PTBP and a respiratory sensitiser TMA as SVHCs.

Meting at Helsinki just before Christmas the Committee unanimously agreed on the SVHC identification of:

- 4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol (bisphenol A) (EC 201-245-8; CAS 80-05-7), proposed by France, due to its toxic for reproduction properties;
- nonadecafluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) and its sodium and ammonium salts (EC 206-400-3; CAS 335-76-2), proposed by Sweden, due to their toxic for reproduction and persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) properties;
- 4-heptylphenol, branched and linear (4-HPbl) (EC -; CAS -), proposed by Austria, due to their endocrine-disrupting properties for the environment, and
- 4-tert-pentylphenol (PTAP) (EC 201-280-9; CAS 80-46-6), proposed by Germany, due to its endocrine-disrupting properties for the environment.

ECHA included these substances in the Candidate List in January 2017.

### REACH updates

ECHA has published the draft of the Community rolling action plan (CoRAP) for 2017-2019. Member States are planning to evaluate 117 substances between this year and 2019. The 22 new incorporations to the list include potential endocrine disruptors, carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic (CMR) and persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) substances. ECHA encourages registrants of the listed substances to start coordinating their actions and to contact the evaluating Member States. The final plan will be adopted in March. Link to draft CoRAP:

[echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13628/corap\\_list\\_2017-2019\\_en.pdf/c2ea7854-606f-448f-9072-42ce2437dcd7](http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13628/corap_list_2017-2019_en.pdf/c2ea7854-606f-448f-9072-42ce2437dcd7)



Chairman:  
James  
Follows



## Health & Safety

### Poison centres

In autumn last year EU countries voted in favour of a Commission proposal which will improve the availability of information on chemicals, needed in case of poisoning. This harmonisation will lead to better health protection for users of our products and at the same time save producers and importers of chemical mixtures approximately €550 million annually.

The two main elements introduced by the Implementing Regulation described are:

- 1) Harmonised format for submitting information to appointed bodies. A common EU format will gradually replace the current national information requirements. Information to be provided relates to the chemical composition of hazardous mixtures, identity and concentration ranges of ingredients, and the product category according to a harmonised European Product Categorisation System (PCS).
- 2) Unique formula identifier (UFI). The UFI is a unique code to be printed on the label of the product. It will create an unambiguous link between a mixture placed on the market and the information on that specific mixture submitted to poison centres, so that the chemical formulation of the product can be precisely and rapidly identified. A precise identification is necessary to provide appropriate curative measures in the case of an emergency call.

Unique formula identifiers are needed for hazardous mixtures intended for consumer use, and for professional and industrial uses, respectively. Companies do not need to generate the codes yet, but it is a good idea to start preparing, because there is quite some involvement in populating data on the system and you need to make sure that the identifier will fit on the label of your mixture. There are two ways to generate the UFI. ECHA's website hosts the UFI generator, a web-based tool, which will allow you to insert your company's VAT number and a formulation code that you have given to your formulation. The tool will then create the identifier for us. Alternatively, we can integrate the UFI generator directly into our own IT-system. This could be particularly useful and efficient for

companies managing large numbers of formulations and that need to create many identifiers.

We can already now get the developer's manual from ECHA's Poison Centres' website and start planning how to make the generator part of your own system.

Importers and downstream users submit a notification on hazardous chemical mixtures to poison centres in the harmonised format with all the required information including:

- 1) The chemical composition of the hazardous mixtures;
- 2) The UFI;
- 3) Identity and concentration ranges of ingredients;
- 4) The product category according to the harmonised European product categorisation system.

Phased deadlines for the submission of information applied from 1 January in a stepwise manner, depending on the intended use of the mixture:

### Timescale for compliance:

Consumer uses: 2020

Professional uses: 2021

Industrial uses: 2024.

The Implementing Regulation is expected to come into force in 2017. ECHA have produced a website which will help check with the relevant Member States what our current legal obligations are.

More information including online tools can be found following this link:

<https://poisoncentres.echa.europa.eu/support>

### Update on Current Isocyanate Restriction Intentions

The German restriction proposal for isocyanates did not pass its conformity check mainly because there was insufficient information about the intended training schemes. The earliest the revised dossier would be revisited by RAC is at its 40th meeting which is provisionally scheduled for 6-17th March 2017. This means that the public consultation will not start until mid-March at the earliest if it proceeds.

### Want to be involved?

Remember to visit [www.basaonline.com](http://www.basaonline.com) for updates, or if Health and Safety is a subject that interests you and you want to be at the forefront of legislation, then why not join the working group?

Please see the last minutes for the Health and safety working group on the BASA website – members' area for other topics the group is working on. Contact the secretary for more details.

### HSW group current hot topics

REACH ED and Sensitising Chemicals  
Poison Centre Requirements  
REACH – SVHC updates  
Biocidal Products Regulations

# Technical Working Groups – 2

## Proposed REACH restriction dossier reflects industry's commitment to safe use of diisocyanates

On 7 October 2016, German REACH competent authorities submitted a restriction dossier to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) proposing risk management measures to ensure safe handling of diisocyanates at the workplace. The dossier calls for a mandatory training scheme for the industrial and professional use of diisocyanates but also allows applying for exemptions from this restriction.

ISOPA and its partner organisations, representing industrial and professional users of diisocyanates at European and national levels, are committed to the safety of workers handling diisocyanates.

**NEXT STEPS:** Going forward in the legislative process, a public consultation of six months will be launched by ECHA which allows for comments to the proposal. The whole decision-making process under REACH will take approximately 1.5 - 2 years, after which the regulation is expected to be adopted by the European Union. For the implementation of the regulation a transition period is expected to be fixed to adequately allow introduction of the measures throughout the whole supply chain.

## Titanium Dioxide – A recap

The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational health & Safety (ANSES), has submitted a proposal to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to classify TiO<sub>2</sub> as a category 1B carcinogen with Hazard Statement H350i: May cause cancer by inhalation.

The rationale behind the ANSES is based on 'lung overload' studies of rats that were originally raised in the review conducted by the International Agency for research on Cancer (IARC) in 2006.

In a position paper the TDMA (Titanium Dioxide Manufacturers Association) & CEFIC state, that in their opinion, guideline studies on well characterised TiO<sub>2</sub> show no results that would provide evidence for classification. Many epidemiological studies, covering approx. 24,000 workers over many years in different working sites, have shown no evidence of adverse health impacts upon humans. No classification for TiO<sub>2</sub> can be justified.

In addition to the above, BASA are to lend their support (Name & Logo) to a Position Paper prepared by the Alliance of Chemical Associations (ACA) regarding the 'Economic Impact of French proposal to reclassify Titanium Dioxide as a carcinogenic substance'. The paper lists the role and importance of TiO<sub>2</sub> to various industry sectors. Information on its importance to the Sealants & Adhesives industry has been submitted for inclusion.

## BIM

BIM is a process for creating and managing all of the information on a project – before, during and after construction. The output of this process is the Building Information Model, the



Chairman:  
Anthony  
Thresh

Hodgson  
SEALANTS

## Sealants

digital description of every aspect of the built asset and is starting to transform product demand within the construction and supply industries. Many national house builders are now mandating BIM compliance.

Providing well-structured digital information on your products in this format will become more important. There are several organisations looking at providing proprietary software aimed at translating technical product details into BIM components. BASA is considering inviting one of these to present on BIM at a future OTF (Industry forum).

## EU-Model EPDs - Templates available for 'authorisation of use' and 'manufacturer's compliance'

FEICA has published Model Environmental Product Declarations for the products of its members used in the construction sector. The FEICA Model EPDs will lead to significant cost and time savings for members. The FEICA Model EPDs may only be used by FEICA direct and National Association members (and therefore BASA members). In this regard, you may be asked by third parties to provide proof that you are authorised to use the FEICA Model EPDs and, your customers may ask for a declaration of compliance of your products.

FEICA has developed two templates to accommodate such requests which can be accessed via the FEICA website together with the guidelines to use the FEICA Model EPDs. However, it has become apparent that a number of large distributor organisations are taking the view that model/generic EPDs may be inappropriate or misleading, allowing products with inferior environmental performance to hide behind those with better performance, and are therefore pushing for product specific EPDs. This may cause issues for many SMEs as the process of producing product specific EPDs can be very time consuming and expensive. BASA are exploring avenues to address these views and may include this as a topic at a future OTF.

If you do not have FEICA website access, then you will need to get it. To get access to the FEICA Extranet send an email with your contact details (name, email address and BASA

Member Company name) to [extranet@feica.eu](mailto:extranet@feica.eu). Please also copy [secretary@basaonline.org](mailto:secretary@basaonline.org) with your request so we have a record of the applications. Your login will come from FEICA.

## CEN and ISO standards

The European Commission has issued a new standardisation request to CEN to cover national regulations which have become pertinent following the change from Essential Requirements 3 of the CPD to Basic Works Requirement 3 of the CPR dealing with hygiene, health and the environment. This necessitates a revision to all existing hENs developed on the basis of mandate M/124.

In the annex of those harmonised standards to be revised are Standards for Joint Applied Sealants and Fillers (Hot Applied, Cold Applied and Preformed), EN 14188 parts 1 to 3, which will be reviewed by CEN TC 227 WG3 (mirrored by B 510/3 at BSI). Some members have issues with these, and specifically BS EN 14188-2 relating to specification for Cold Applied Sealants and their threshold values, but we are trying to address these via B/510/3 and via direct contact with TC227 WG3 to make sure UK Sealant Manufacturers are represented.

## SWG – next meeting

The next Sealant Working Group meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 26th April 2017 at a venue to be confirmed.

## Different Legal opinions on the need of the Ü Mark for flooring and parquet adhesives

Whilst we eagerly await the final drafts covering indoor air requirements for harmonised standards under the CPR BWR3, the German DIBt has dropped the need to assign the Ü Mark for all harmonised standards. However, flooring adhesives covered under the standards EN 14259 – Adhesives for floor covering, essential characteristics and EN 14293 – Adhesives for bonding parquet to subfloor, essential characteristics; are currently in the process of becoming harmonised.

This has raised the debate whether these still require approval by the DIBt. The German association for adhesives (IVK) has requested a legal study into this and has also put forward a further counter argument that adhesives covered by the Emicode licence should still be exempt... unfortunately, until CE marking is applied to these adhesives, there still remains a need to apply to the DIBt for the Ü Mark for these adhesives.

## Wood adhesives

The last meeting of CEN/TC193/SC1/WG12 was held last September in Milan. The following key points being raised:

- **Classification of wood adhesives for non-structural timber products for external use.** A new standard is being developed for wood

### PWG Membership

We would like to formally welcome Andrew Walker to the Group and thank Simone Wubbe for taking on the role of Deputy Chair. Active participation of our members helps strengthen BASAs impact on the Adhesive Industry and its relationship with FEICA. Anyone that would like to join the Packaging working group is asked to please get in touch with Lorna Williams.

### Mineral Oils

A study on "Accumulation of mineral oil saturated hydrocarbons (MOSH) in female Fisher 3444 rats: Comparisons with human data and consequences of risk assessment" was published October 1st 2016 in Science of the Total Environment. The study being authored by members of the Official Food Control Authority of the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland, Toxalim INRA France and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health with two of the co-authors being members of the European Food Safety Authorities expert panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, Flavorings and Processing Aids (CEF). Their conclusions were that tissue concentrations are under-estimated and call for more attention to be paid to the composition of the hydrocarbons, warranting a re-evaluation of the current acceptable daily intake.

In addition the "Commission



Chairman:  
Andy  
Steward



## Packaging Adhesives

Recommendation (EU) 2017/84 on monitoring of mineral oil hydrocarbons in food and in materials and articles intended to come into contact with food" was published on 17th January in the official Journal, and does precisely what the title suggests.

As a result of the ongoing pressures on Mineral oils in the food supply chain FEICA have drafted a guidance on Mineral Oil in adhesives. They have also drafted a brief position paper on Mineral oil which responds directly to the demands from the French market and is supposed to help the French national association (AFICAM) with their

advocacy with distributors such as Carrefour and Leclerc. These will be made publicly available on the BASA website in due course.

We would like to draw members attention to a conference entitled NIAS and MINERAL OILS in FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS in Munich 29th-31st March 2017

### Borates

Last bulletin we reported on the addition of the boric acid and borates to the 6th list of substances on the candidate list that was intended for prioritisation for authorisation in July 2015. The EA have since reported that the commission have postponed any decision on boric acid and borates regarding authorisation (REACH Annex XIV) for the time being due to their current work load. This means that any predications for a sunset date are null and void and that the dead line for members to make an authorization application will be far beyond 2019.

### Other

The packaging group continues to monitor migration, NIAS (non-intentionally added substances) and recycling, and will keep you updated with any changes that arise.

### PWG next meeting

The next packaging working group meeting is on 23rd March at Croner, Hinckley.



Chairman:  
Neil  
Sanders



## Building Adhesives & Construction

adhesives which are intended for bonding items used in exterior applications. Round robin testing is on-going to find a conditioning cycle which will distinguish adhesives suitable for exterior conditions from those which are unsuitable. A survey will be conducted in members' countries to determine what adhesives are currently used in this area and for what applications.

• **Introduction of a test standard for wood adhesives bonding using compressive loading.** A new European standard being developed by combining ISO 6238 and ASTM D 905. The creation of this standard will provide a method for determining the minimum pressing time needed for bonding

wooden articles. Development is currently a pre-work item with the emphasis firstly on creating definitions.

### Screeds

The final draft of the revised EN 13813 is currently out for review.

### Ceramic Tile Adhesives

The last meeting of CEN/TC67 3 was held in Finland during last September. The following points were raised during that meeting:

### VOC's and CTA's

The working group are maintaining their stance given to the CCMC (CEN CENLEC Management Centre) that VOC's for tile adhesives are not relevant since the adhesives are located underneath the tile. An interesting point, which could be valid for all covered adhesives, and it will be interesting to see what response is given to this argument.

### BS EN 12004-1 revision

At the meeting, changes were proposed by the Spanish delegate with respect to changing testing from glazed porous bodied tiles to un-glazed porous tiles (ie. an unglazed BIII dust pressed tile).

It was previously reported that BASA carried out RRT around 8 years ago, and found that, when using porous tiles without a glazed surface, a reduction in performance was observed for some dispersion-based adhesives.

There was also a proposal to reduce the test tile size from 50mm to 30mm in facial area. Any proposed changes to the test tile should require an extensive evaluation before approval.

### BS EN 13888: Parts 1&2 – Grouts for tiles

In line with the Vienna agreement, the Committee decided to include a fast setting category for Grouts for Tiles (as outlined in ISO 13007-3).

Currently the requirement under 13007-3 is for a compression strength of  $\geq 15$  N/mm<sup>2</sup> (under standard conditions) after 24 hours. The compressive strength of a rapid setting grout after 24 hours would therefore be the same as the 28-day compressive strength required for a standard setting grout.

BASA members surveyed before the TC67 meeting questioned the 15 N/mm<sup>2</sup> requirement. A request for RRT has been issued.

Other matters at the meeting included a proposal by the Portuguese to introduce a new category of grout for external facades, which was rejected, and a proposal by the Turkish mirror group to indicate the chemical resistance of reaction grouts.

The minutes covering all these points may be found on the website.

# The case for model EPDs

With the broad range of materials, products and technologies within the adhesives and sealants industry each with a variety of end users and applications, there is generally no single product for a given requirement, **writes Jenny Barnett, Chair of BASA's Environment & Sustainability Working Group.**

Couple this with the selection of Environmental Products Declaration types available and there is little in the way of consistency and standardisation. So where does this leave the adhesives and sealants industry?

Let's begin by looking at the types of EPD that can be completed:

**Product Specific EPD:** In this scenario, the individual product that requires an EPD is chosen by the manufacturer. An expert (in-house or external consultant) will be required to calculate the overall product environmental impact taking into account the impacts of each component. This EPD will then require third party verification to validate the calculations. The resulting EPD is then only valid for that specific product with that specific formulation and therefore will need to be updated (and re-validated) following any formulation or supplier change and/or at least every 5 years.

**Average EPD:** This EPD is based upon product formulation and process data for defined applications. Product data is collected and average environmental impact calculated usually by trade associations. The resulting data is reported as an industry average life cycle analysis. To ensure that this is reflective of the industry 70% of the market data is required which is difficult to achieve and due to the broad range of formulations for similar applications this gives a broad range of environmental data. As worst case is not applied to this, it can be misleading and EPD's may not be accepted. In addition, the EPD is only valid for products which have contributed and therefore is not valid for new products or new participants.

**Model EPDs:** Typical formulations are clustered by their chemical composition. EPDs for each type (Class) are then developed and third party verified in accordance with EN 15804 (EPD standard). The life cycle assessment for each EPD takes worst case scenario. Each

component for the EPD class is scored and therefore the highest scoring (worst case) product per class is calculated. The data is then used to develop the class Model EPD. For an individual manufacturer's product, the appropriate EPD is selected by the basic chemistry of the product. A check is completed to ensure that the application area is covered by one of the modules of the selected EPD. The product score is then calculated using the guidelines and calculator. A check is then made to ensure that the product score is below the maximum score for the selected EPD. If this is fine, then the Model EPD can be applied/used.

So as can be deduced from the above, Product specific EPD's are not always feasible for SME's and/or the Adhesives and Sealants industry due to the variation in products, the majority of manufacturers having a broad portfolio of products and frequent formulation changes. Cost and resources to produce these are high. For average EPD's worst case is not applied so they may not be accepted and validity is dependent upon initial participation and does not lend itself to innovation. This makes the case for Model EPD's as most relevant as the system is appropriate to the needs and structure of the industry and a set of 17 EPD's have already been developed and published for the following classes:

- Reactive resins based on epoxy (unfilled/solvent free, aqueous/unfilled, filled and/or aqueous and unfilled/solvent free)
- Reactive resins based on polyurethane (or silane modified polymers, filled or aqueous, solvent free and containing solvent)
- Mortar based products (modified mineral mortars group 1,2 and 3)
- Dispersions (dispersion based products – solvent free, classes A and B)
- Silicone based construction sealants

Further information:  
FEICA website: [www.feica.eu/our-priorities/key-projects/epds.aspx](http://www.feica.eu/our-priorities/key-projects/epds.aspx)  
ECO website: [www.eco-platform.org/list-of-all-eco-epd.html](http://www.eco-platform.org/list-of-all-eco-epd.html)  
IBU Website: [epd-online.com/Dashboard](http://epd-online.com/Dashboard)

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As the BASA Bulletin went to print we were about to hold a meeting of Feica's Sustainable Development Committee, which I shall review in the next edition.



Consultant  
**Tony Bingham**

The Sustainable Development page on the public access pages on the Feica website includes the Sustainability Agenda and Concept

## Sustainability

describing Feica's key objectives and projects, as well as the first of the promised Benefit Stories. I recommend you take a look at these examples and consider whether your company has such a benefit story that could help promote sustainable development in our industry.

[www.feica.eu/our-priorities/sustainable-development.aspx](http://www.feica.eu/our-priorities/sustainable-development.aspx)

## UK-made product used to install Australian cancer centre floor

Mapei has expanded its range of UK-produced flooring adhesives with the introduction of Ultrabond Eco V4SP to its Eco range – which was chosen to lay 60,000m<sup>2</sup> of vinyl flooring at the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) in Melbourne, Australia.



Ultrabond Eco V4SP is a multi-purpose high-performance professional adhesive for the installation of resilient floor and wall coverings. It is a low VOC product and can be used in residential and commercial environments such as hospitals, shopping centres and airports. Mapei UK's Resilient Product Manager John Monaghan said: "Ultrabond Eco V4SP gives a good initial tack and provides a very high peel strength, couple this with the product's extended open time, it is found to be extremely easy to apply."



# An economic view...

Roger Martin-Fagg • Behavioural Economist • [rmfagg@aol.com](mailto:rmfagg@aol.com)

## My predictions: Right or wrong?

Here in italics are the forecasts I made a year ago, and in keeping with tradition, the Headmaster's report.

*Although earnings growth slowed in November I expect earnings (ie wage growth plus overtime and bonuses) to be between 3% and 4%. This is because there are now two vacancies for every unemployed person. Employers will want to keep good staff and raise salaries to do so.*

**WRONG:** Earnings growth has averaged around 2.2%. Please note that if CPI inflation stays below 1%, then earnings growth at 2.5% or more will increase real wages at least in line with long run trend. Real wages grew on average 1.8% in 2016, this is below the long run average of 2.5%.

*I expect CPI inflation to be +1.5% by the end of the year (domestically produced goods and services rising by +2.5%, but Chinese origin goods falling by 5% due to a further devaluation of the Rmb.*

**Likely to be WRONG:** No data yet, but expect 1.3% year on year. Correct on China.

*I expect real GDP to be +2.2%. However if there is an early referendum in July with a vote to stay in, then I expect 2.6% as post vote investment spending will pick up again.*

**CORRECT** on GDP

*I expect nominal spending to grow by +3.7%; within this consumer spending will be +4.5%, investment spending will slow sharply by big corporates because FD's, after an unusual surge in optimism, are now reverting to type and have become more cautious.*

**WRONG:** nominal spending has averaged 2.7%, consumer spending has averaged 3.2% but correct on investment spending.

*The external trading account (the balance of payments) will be continue to be a drain in our flow of spending. And the uncertainty over Brexit weighs on funding and investment choices.*

**CORRECT**

*I expect base rate to rise in April by 0.25% and again in October by 0.25%. The reason is this: assuming the velocity of money is reasonably stable (ie consumer confidence doesn't collapse) then the rate of growth in liquidity today will drive nominal GDP within*

*nine months, and price increases within two years. I expect the Bank of England to argue in April that they are increasing base rate because liquidity growth (ie money held in current and deposit accounts plus national savings) will drive spending. They will also state that the weakness of sterling particularly against the dollar represents monetary loosening, and that an increase of 0.25% will strengthen sterling sufficiently to offset this. And as the economy moves towards full capacity prices will increase.*

**WRONG:** base rate fell to 0.25% as the Bank of England responded to the Brexit result.

*Sterling will be \$1.40 up until March, then \$1.48 before reaching \$1.50 by year end. Sterling will be €1.30 up until March then €1.36 before reaching €1.38 by year end. (assuming ECB continues its programme of QE) Please note the above assumes the Government is able to show the nation that the future of the UK is best served within a reformed EU. If it fails in this and there is a media frenzy for Brexit, we should expect a sterling crisis. Over the next six months, if the UK press and media report that an exit is a growing likelihood, then we must expect a sterling crisis. This would take sterling to \$1.20 or below and €1.10 or less. I do not usually recommend buying currency forward, but if you are exposed, do it now.*

**BROADLY CORRECT**

*House prices; Nationwide average +5%, London sub £3m +7%, but top end speculative property prices I expect to fall by another 10%. The bubble has been pricked by changed expectations from Russia, China and Hong Kong.*

**CORRECT** (at last got one right!)

*Government revenues should rise by £30bn and its spending by £20bn, thus the deficit will fall by £10bn but the Government will still be spending £50bn more than it is earning. This is still an expansionary fiscal stance, in no way can it be described as austere.*

**CORRECT**

*Over the past six years monetary expansion through quantitative easing in the USA, UK, EU and China has driven share prices above earnings growth (the evidence is higher than long run average P/E multiples). Apart from China and the EU, no further QE is*

*expected. Thus share prices will either stabilise and wait for profits to rise to justify the price or will fall to match the current level of profits. Given the return on bonds is so low it is likely that share prices will pause rather than crash. The FT 100 is down 5% for the year 2015, but this is almost all due to oil and mining stocks which have crashed.*

**WRONG**

*The oil price will stay below \$40 unless there is an unforeseen collapse in supply from the middle east due to Sunni v Shia or some other peculiar unknown! Some commentators are using the oil price as evidence of a sharp drop in demand due to faltering growth. They are wrong. Oil consumption in the USA rose 6% in 2015. The price drop is due to excess supply which is in turn due to Saudi Arabia determined to keep its market share. Eventually the Saudis will see their plan is a mistake.*

**Broadly correct.** The Saudis have seen the error of their ways and have agreed to cut production, pushing the price to \$50.

### Headmaster's Report

We are disappointed with this year's performance. Martin-Fagg was beginning to show some promise in 2015 which has evaporated. We are forever hopeful but maybe it is time to consider a different approach. We regret this boy is showing little or no interest in horticulture.

### Forecasts for 2017

**UK GDP:** 2.1%

**UK inflation:** 3% by year end, earnings growth, 2.5%

**Base rate:** 0.25%, but long run interest rate and mortgage rates up 1% due to inflationary expectations and Trump.

**UK Balance of Payments** deficit falls to 5% of GDP

**FT 100:** up 5% to 7,300

**FT 250:** no change on year

**UK house prices:** up 3.5%

**Consumer spending:** up 3.5% (credit card debt outstanding up 10%)

**Exchange rates:**

**£-\$:** 1.20; **£: Euro:** 1.25

**Unemployment:** 5%

**Oil:** \$50

● More of Roger's thoughts about Trump, technology, and the EU are available on the BASA website.

# Rakem MD awarded Royal Society Fellowship

Rakem MD Kevin Rafferty has become a Fellow of The Royal Society of Chemistry. Kevin said: "I am very proud to achieve this status, Rakem is committed to supporting these essential associations. They provide a forum to discuss the pressing issues of the day such as material availability and quality. More importantly, they offer the chance to educate and inspire the next generation to become interested in the science vital for our future economic success." Fellows have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the chemical sciences; or to the advancement of the chemical sciences as a profession; or have been distinguished in the management of a chemical sciences organisation. Kevin is pictured receiving his Fellowship from Peter Stanton, President Elect of the Oil and Colour Chemist Association.



## Bond It ensures the writing's on the wall for Ramsgate

**Bond It's GB PRO advanced hybrid sealant and adhesive has been used in an historic public art project.**

Perfugium Miseris celebrates the maritime heritage of Ramsgate harbour in Kent, and has been created by Mooch – a creative practice specialising in public realm art and design.

A Latin phrase meaning 'refuge for those in need' Perfugium Miseris is carved into Ramsgate's Georgian lighthouse which has stood on the harbour's west arm since 1842.

Mooch has taken the same motto and turned it into a 1.2m high by 23m long lettering at the high tide mark on the east harbour arm facing out to sea. This lettering is clad in photoluminescent vinyl that makes the letters shine brilliantly in full sunlight before giving them a soft glow as daylight fades.

Twice a day, with the changing tides, the letters also disappear below the surface of the waves paying an evocative tribute to the countless lives lost at sea beyond the safety of the harbour walls, including the many victims of the Great Storm of 1703 – the only true hurricane to have hit British shores at full force, this storm cost thousands of lives



including those of almost 2,200 sailors who perished at nearby Goodwin Sands.

Bond It's GB PRO was chosen to fix the letters in place because it is high strength, waterproof and available in a transparent formula which minimises its visibility. GB PRO is also highly versatile and can be used for almost any sealing and bonding application.

The GB PRO used was supplied free to Mooch by Bowman BMC. This Ramsgate-based supplier of maritime paint and maintenance consumables is a regular supporter of charity initiatives that benefit the area.

Bond It Marketing Manager Kirstie Cooper said: "GB PRO is part of a growing range of hybrid sealants and adhesives from Bond It based on advanced polymer technology. Its use for Perfugium Miseris provides an unusual but highly effective demonstration of its versatility and performance, even under the most extreme and unusual conditions."

## BASA members can tap into cost-effective training courses

'Building Effective Working Relationships', the first BASA training workshop initiated under the Business Steering Committee and run at Croner House, was such a success that it was repeated last month.

The second workshop in a series of three, called 'Effective Customer Communications' will be run on April 3rd at Croner House, and the third, 'Leading Your Team Through Change', is scheduled for July 12th. BASA members should make sure that HR and Training contacts within their companies receive this information, and the workshop details will be posted on the website shortly. Run at a member's cost of only £300 for the day, these courses are a great benefit for our members.



## Instarmac fleet wins praise

Instarmac has earned silver accreditation under the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme for safety and efficiency improvements made to its fleet of 37 delivery vehicles.

FORS is a voluntary national accreditation scheme designed to help fleet operators improve performance and enhance safety. The scheme encompasses all aspects of safety and efficient operations.

Logistics Manager Andy Ryan said: "We are extremely proud of our FORS Silver award. At Instarmac we strive to provide the most up-to-date logistics technology and efficiency procedures. The FORS Silver standard required modifications to our vehicles such as side under run protection and close proximity sensors to notify the driver of vulnerable road users. We also monitor CO2 emissions to reduce environmental impact and developing driving efficiencies."



# The 2016 dinner dance in pictures

Were you there?  
Are you here?



# Planning ahead

1st March 2017

## CIA & Eversheds Employment Seminar Manchester

Half-day seminar on employment, immigration and IR law for the chemical and pharmaceutical sector.

Register: [events@cia.org.uk](mailto:events@cia.org.uk)

14th March 2017

## Responsible Energy Conference (Part of the SPICE<sup>3</sup> Programme)

Hilton Leeds City Hotel

Register: [events@cia.org.uk](mailto:events@cia.org.uk)

### BASA event: 10th March 2017

#### BASA AGM & Industry Lunch, Leicester Racecourse

Register at: [www.basaevents.co.uk](http://www.basaevents.co.uk)

9th-10th March 2017

## REACH 2018 SME workshop, Vienna

Register: [www.echa.europa.eu](http://www.echa.europa.eu)

15th March 2017

## Competence Management Course, Hilton Newcastle, Gateshead

Course for middle / senior managers with active responsibility for competency management.

Register: [events@cia.org.uk](mailto:events@cia.org.uk)

20th – 22nd March 2017

## Pro2Pac Exhibition, London ExCeL

Meet new and existing firms in the Food & Drink Industry Register: [www.pro2pac.co.uk](http://www.pro2pac.co.uk)

### BASA event: 23rd March 2017

#### SAA/BASA Spring Seminar: Adhesion, Adhesives & Sealants: Beyond the Basics, Society of Chemical Industry, London

Covering adhesion science, the design, formulation and performance of structural and non-structural adhesives & sealants and pressure sensitive adhesives. Register: [www.iom3.org/society-adhesion-adhesives](http://www.iom3.org/society-adhesion-adhesives)

30th March 2017

## DSEAR – Practical Application, Hilton Leeds City Hotel

Register: [events@cia.org.uk](mailto:events@cia.org.uk)

### BASA event: 3rd April 2017

#### BASA Training Workshop

"Effective Customer Communications" Croner House, Hinckley

4th-6th April 2017

## European Coatings Show, Nuremburg, Germany

The European Coatings Show plus Adhesives, Sealants, Construction Chemicals.

Leading exhibition for the coating and paint industry.

Register: [www.european-coatings-show.com/en](http://www.european-coatings-show.com/en)

25th-26th April 2017

## Chemical Watch Expo, Berlin

Dedicated exhibition and three tailored workshop streams focusing on preparation for the fast-approaching REACH 2018 registration deadline.

Register: [www.chemicalwatch.com/expo2017](http://www.chemicalwatch.com/expo2017)

15th-19th May 2017

## REACH 2018 intensive week, 5-day online training programme

Help with pre-31/5/18 deadline registration.

23rd-25th May 2017

## FIT Show, NEC Birmingham

Meet over 250 influential and knowledgeable manufacturers in glass and glazing Register: [www.fitshow.co.uk](http://www.fitshow.co.uk)

### BASA event: Tuesday 13th June 2017

#### BASA Sports Day, Macdonald Hill Valley Hotel & Spa; West Midlands Shooting Ground

A day's golf or shooting, then croquet & presentation dinner. Register at: [www.basaevents.co.uk](http://www.basaevents.co.uk)

### BASA event: 14th June 2017

#### BASA Open Forum Meeting, Macdonald Hill Valley Hotel & Spa, Shropshire

BASA's spring OTF has been replaced by an open forum the day after this year's Sports Day. Free-to-attend event will inform members about relevant technical and business issues. Book now alongside the Sports Day. Why not be at both?

### BASA event: 12 July

#### BASA Training Workshop:

"Leading Your Team Through Change" Croner House, Hinckley

13th-15th September 2017

## FEICA European Adhesive & Sealant Conference and EXPO Sardinia, Italy

Registration will open early 2017 at: [www.feica-conferences.com](http://www.feica-conferences.com)

10th-12th October 2017

## UK Construction Week, NEC Birmingham

FREE to attend for trade visitors. Nine shows: Timber Expo, Build Show, Civils Expo, Plant & Machinery Live, Energy, Smart Buildings, Surface & Materials Show and HVAC

Register at: [www.ukconstructionweek.com](http://www.ukconstructionweek.com)

### BASA event 25th November 2017

#### BASA Dinner Dance, Chester Grosvenor

Booking details to follow via the special events website: [basaevents.co.uk](http://basaevents.co.uk) (This year's event in pictures below and P15)

### BASA event: 7th December 2017

#### SAA Winter Seminar

Adhesives and Sealants in Manufacturing. Society for Chemistry & Industry, Belgrave Square, London. Submissions for papers are welcome. Submit title & abstract (up to 250 words) to [stephen.millington@artis.uk.com](mailto:stephen.millington@artis.uk.com) before 14th April. Details for registering will be available once the programme is set.

## The BASA Bulletin is published by

The British Adhesives and Sealants Association,

24 Laurel Close

Mepal, Ely

Cambridgeshire, CB6 2BN

Tel: 03302 233290

E-mail: [secretary@basaonline.org](mailto:secretary@basaonline.org)

website: [www.basaonline.org](http://www.basaonline.org)

## Future Bulletin submission deadlines:

13th April 2017

(for the May 2017 Issue)

31st August 2017

(for the October 2017 Issue)



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