



## **Press release**

13<sup>th</sup> March 2009

### **Sustainability Matters 4 issued**

The UK's precast concrete industry continues to make great efforts to reduce its impact on our precious environment, as highlighted in the latest *Sustainability Matters* report from British Precast.

The report is the fourth *Sustainability Matters* to be produced by British Precast as part of its More from Less programme to develop a more sustainable precast concrete industry. It sets out the sustainability issues for the precast industry, the sector's commitments to tackling the issues, and chronicles progress made so far.

And despite the current recession, *Sustainability Matters* shows that the precast concrete sector remains committed to a green agenda.

The report features articles on a number of schemes within the More from Less programme, including:

#### **Responsible Sourcing Certification Scheme**

British Precast was one of the key stakeholders who helped to develop the BRE Environmental and Sustainability Standard BES 6001, which provides a standard for the assessment of responsible sourcing applicable to all construction products. Following its launch in October 2008, British Precast produced guidance on achieving the certification associated with the standard.

#### **The Sustainable Construction Strategy for the UK Concrete Industries**

Launched in July 2008, this strategy establishes a common vision for the concrete industry, and a set of strategic objectives and commitments that will benchmark industry performance and demonstrate continuous improvement for the future in delivering sustainable construction.

#### **Sustainability Charter**

Since the charter was launched in November 2007, 18 member companies of British Precast have made a formal declaration to go beyond legislation and take voluntary actions to make their products and operations more sustainable. A set of performance requirements are monitored by British Precast and companies that meet the criteria are awarded charter status.

## **Sustainability Best Practice Awards**

British Precast continues to promote and encourage best practice in sustainability by organising annual Sustainability Best Practice Awards for all members. Entries demonstrate projects that cover such areas as minimising waste and pollution, recycling, reducing greenhouse gases and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, improving the efficiency of the supply chain, working with the community and reducing energy use.

*Sustainability Matters* is available as a hard copy from British Precast or can be downloaded on the homepage of [www.britishprecast.org](http://www.britishprecast.org).

## **Notes to editors**

For a high-resolution image of the front cover contact Chrissie Walton on 0116 222 9849 or email [chrissie.walton@britishprecast.org](mailto:chrissie.walton@britishprecast.org).

## **About British Precast**

The British Precast Concrete Federation (BPCF) is a world class trade association representing the £2.6bn UK concrete products industry, including the UK's producers of a wide range of products and services, and the supply chain that supports them. We have 150 members, including business, academic and association bodies, as well as 13 product groups. Our main aims are to promote precast concrete in the construction sector, and to develop our members' interests through our team of dedicated professionals who have extensive connections with organisations in the UK and worldwide.

## **Further information**

Chrissie Walton  
**Marketing Manager**  
British Precast  
60 Charles Street  
Leicester  
LE1 1FB  
[www.britishprecast.org](http://www.britishprecast.org)  
Direct dial: 0116 222 9849  
Mobile: 07979 969498  
Fax: 0116 2514568  
Email: [chrissie.walton@britishprecast.org](mailto:chrissie.walton@britishprecast.org)