

## FP McCann Sign British Precast Sustainability Charter



**Martin Clarke, Chief Executive British Precast and Secretary to the Concrete Pipeline Systems Association (CPSA), welcomed FP McCann's decision to commit to British Precast's Sustainability Charter.**

**Eoin McCann, Chief Executive of FP McCann, signed the charter on 11th December 07.**

FP McCann became the ninth British Precast member to sign the charter since its launch in last November. The charter commits companies to address 16 different sustainability principles. It is part of the wider 'More for Less' sustainability strategy programme aimed at the precast concrete industry. The programme considers other measures including a certification scheme, a sustainability best practice forum, and a Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) benchmarking and improvement scheme. Francis McCann, Marketing Director at FP McCann, commented, "We as an organisation have worked hard to achieve our third part accreditations for quality, environmental and health and safety management systems and continue to

strive for improvement. This can only be achieved with a quality workforce and to this end we have been re-accredited with the Investors In People Standard".

He confirmed that this came as the next natural step for FP McCann as the company has always given great regard to sustainability and environmental principles.

Martin Clarke has no doubt that CPSA has a competitive advantage over other competitors in the market as concrete pipes offer the required sustainable and environmental advantages of long service life, high volume capacity, recyclable content and a moderate carbon footprint: "CPSA is committed to the Sustainable Development cause, and the new Sustainability Strategy should raise the bar and set the benchmark throughout the water industry".

## Website Updates

**NEW!**

### Factsheets

New factsheets have just been added to the CPSA website. They range from a number of articles, bulletins, and information sheets from organisations and trade associations around the world demonstrating the strengths of concrete drainage products and exposing a number of problems associated with alternatives in the market. The factsheets currently include publications from the American Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA) and the Concrete Pipe Association of Australia (CPAA). The factsheets can be downloaded from the following link:

[www.concretepipes.co.uk/downloads/factsheets](http://www.concretepipes.co.uk/downloads/factsheets)

A number of CPSA factsheets are being prepared, these will also be available for download from the website in the next few months.

## CPSA 6 point plan online

**NEW!**

A new press release has been added to the CPSA Website outlining the CPSA 6 point drainage action plan. The document currently includes some basic information on the plan as addressed by Andy Goring, Managing Director of Milton Precast and Chairman of the CPSA. The 6 point drainage action plan can be found on the following link:

[www.concretepipes.co.uk/news/index.html](http://www.concretepipes.co.uk/news/index.html)

# Members Update

## Severn Trent approve elliptical pipes



After many rigorous manufacturing and installation tests, Severn Trent has joined other water companies and given its seal of approval to Stanton Bonna's elliptical concrete drainage pipes for use in adoptable sewers.

The pipes can be used for sewers, drainage or attenuation tanks and can be installed in either a horizontal orientation (as shown here) or in a vertical orientation. With a captive

gasket joint for rapid installation and ex-stock availability, elliptical pipes are fast becoming a product of preference for specifiers and contractors alike. The versatility of the pipe is demonstrated here as it is installed under a gas main, with minimal depth of cover under traffic loading and at a shallow gradient while still delivering improved flow rates and self cleansing velocities.

## CPSA to release a number of publications in 2008

The first quarter of 2008 will see two new CPSA publications. "Load Security of Concrete Drainage Products" is an A5 Health & Safety general guideline publication expected to be released in the next few weeks. There will also be an information sheet on service life requirements, entitled "Service Life of Concrete Pipeline Systems".

## USA Earth Tube Case Study



The use of concrete pipes as natural ventilation and conditioning systems in buildings and developments is a new concept. CPSA covered the story of the Butterfield Business Village in the autumn 2006 issue. The concept is gaining more popularity with ACPA reporting on a new project in Pennsylvania, USA where concrete pipes were used as earth tubes for a new tropical conservatory at the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh. Six 300 feet long ducts of 24 inch diameter (DN 600) concrete pipes were installed. The pipes were buried 15 feet, where the earth maintains a steady temperature of 12°C all year, ensuring a supply of warm air in the winter, (and vice versa in the summer) to the LEED® certified conservatory throughout the year. For more details please use the following link: [www.concrete-pipe.org](http://www.concrete-pipe.org)

## Murray Howitt of Stanton Bonna completes a charity South Pole expedition



**‘Do Something Different’ was this year’s Children in Need theme, and that is exactly what Murray Howitt of Stanton Bonna, member of CPSA is doing – by walking to the South Pole in January.**

As part of a team of novices, led by Polar experts, Murray set out to complete the polar attempt made by Sir Ernest Shackleton 100 years ago. Shackleton got within 180km of the South Pole before being forced to turn back or die of starvation.

Murray Howitt, Marketing Manager for precast concrete manufacturer Stanton Bonna, explained, “Needless to say this is the first time I will have attempted such an extreme challenge. Having been fortunate enough to be selected for this expedition, I have decided to use this amazing opportunity to raise funds for Children in Need.”

Murray and his team successfully reached their goal of the South Pole on the 23rd of January 2008.

Title sponsor Lafarge Cement UK and key sponsors, Arcelor Mittal Kent Wire, IHS and ASDA Foundation are all helping to fund the expedition. To find out more about Murray’s challenge or to donate to the fundraising effort visit the expedition website,

**[www.southpole08.com](http://www.southpole08.com)**

## CPM Shortlisted for Sunday-Times / Bank of Scotland Top Entrepreneur's prize



**CPM, the Somerset-based concrete pipe manufacturer and member of CPSA, were one of five South and South Wales private businesses shortlisted last year for the Bank of Scotland and Sunday Times nationwide competition for top entrepreneurs.**

The competition looks at the most gifted, inspired entrepreneurs around the country. The winning prize was a £25 million funding package.

CPM is known for its innovation-driven products and ability to penetrate niche markets, and their investment plans have

definitely pleased the judges from Bank of Scotland Corporate. The plans included a proposal for an additional production facility for the company's bespoke products at its plants in Mells, Somerset, Goole and at Newmains, Scotland.

The range, which has been recently developed, includes water attenuation systems for flood prevention, flow control, water treatment and rainwater harvesting and recycling. The company's Redi Rock system – a turnkey package for retaining walls – has had sales of £1.5m this year.

Started by four previous employees of ARC Pipes who acquired the business off Hanson Building Products in 2004, CPM Group's business has been streamlined and is growing rapidly, says Philip Boon, co-founder and chairman of CPM. As well as upgrading production facilities for its special range, it also plans to update equipment for making core products at its Mells plant and to buy the freehold of the Newmains site. Phillip comments "The company is proud of its green credentials and is working to expand its range of environmental products to further growth."

# Events update

**"The Winning Choice" proves very popular with water industry engineers**



With 18 road-shows and in-house presentations in the last three months, the CPSA's "The Winning Choice" presentation is without doubt one of the most popular CPD choices for engineers in the water industry.

The newly revamped CPD certified presentation targets Water Companies, Governmental Authorities (Councils, Housing Associations), Consulting Engineers, Contractors, Developers and Builders Merchants. The presentation offers extensive advice to engineers on how to reduce the risks associated with design and specification of new sewerage and drainage systems: detailing the characteristics of precast concrete pipeline systems, as well as offering a comparison with alternative materials in the market.

The presentation also offers a brief historical review covering concrete pipe developments from 1875 to the present day and details on the stringent European and British Standards to which CPSA members' products are made and the variety of tests conducted to ensure the quality of pipes and manholes leaving the factory. Some of the latest developments in the sector on Sustainability and Research & Development are also included. The main presenter is Tony Elliot, Technical Manager at Milton Precast Ltd who has 50 years experience, and is supported by a number of CPSA Technical staff.

Please contact Mamta Chudasama on 0116 253 6161 or via email at [info@concretepipes.co.uk](mailto:info@concretepipes.co.uk).

## Industry Relations

### ACPA 100th Annual General Meeting

The America Concrete Pipe Association is holding its 100th Annual General Conference at La Costa Resort and Spa in Carlsbad, California. The event will take place on **16th – 19th March 2008**.

### ACPA opens membership to US Engineers

To mark the American Concrete Pipeline Association (ACPA) 100-year relationship with America's engineering community, and due to the high demand for concrete pipes and culverts for public works in the United States, the ACPA has decided to open its membership to professional civil engineers from throughout the country. The new Professional Membership category includes all individuals, firms, partnerships or corporations actively engaged in specifying, designing, consulting, or providing any other professional services to the concrete drainage and box culvert industry. This is a major step for the ACPA that will see its message reaching wider audiences across the supply chain.

Details of the new "Professional Membership" category can be found at the ACPA's website at: [www.concrete-pipe.org](http://www.concrete-pipe.org)



# Factsheet

## What do you know about the CPSA 6 Point Drainage Action Plan?

**With a sewer and drainage network covering 302,000 km in length, the UK has one of the largest networks in Western Europe. However, following the latest flooding events it is clear that the volume capacity of the network, and its ability to cope with sudden floods and concentrated rainfall, will have to be increased.**

After a record-breaking summer of floods and a series of sewage overflowing and pollution incidents in 2007, followed by well over 100 flood warnings in January 2008, the UK is faced with the challenge of upgrading the sewerage and storm drainage network to support public health, housing and commercial growth as well as coping with higher, more concentrated rainfall and run-offs thought to be caused by Global Warming and Climate Change.

The CPSA's call for a 6 point drainage and stormwater action plan was made in August 2007. The plan calls for new measures to increase the volume

capacity of the current sewer network by 50%, increase of the drainage network capacity by 100%, increase the service life requirements for sewer and drainage infrastructure assets to over 100 years service life, abolition of combined sewer and stormwater systems, and more focus on maintenance and gully emptying. The plan also calls for the storm and sewerage network to be thoroughly surveyed and the performance of different pipeline materials to be rigorously investigated.

Andy Goring, Chairman of CPSA, has been championing CPSA's drainage campaign for the last four months. He believes that the major incidents of flooding and sewerage overflowing should come as wake-up call to the infrastructure community and that ownership of the problem may be diffuse. Andy told us that "The Government has a clear role to bring all stakeholders together to solve it".

CPSA intends to raise more awareness on the issue in 2008 as the threats

become more evident. As Martin Clarke, Secretary of CPSA, puts it "What happened last year was a wake-up call for more investment in the sector... this is now an agenda that definitely needs acting on sooner rather than later".

**Below are the 6 points of the CPSA 6 Point Plan:**

The national storm and sewerage distribution network to be thoroughly surveyed and a national infrastructure investment programme undertaken; an initial sample survey should be carried out to look at the relative performance of different pipeline materials.

Sewerage system capacity to be increased by a minimum of 50% on all new schemes to allow for housing growth.

Local Authorities, Highways Agency and other asset owners to re-focus attention on gully emptying and the clearing and improvement of run-off bottlenecks

Durability of new pipeline systems to be set at a minimum of 100 years

Combined sewers carrying storm water and sanitary sewage to be separated as far as possible with combined sewer overflows minimised as far as possible and eliminated completely in coastal and other highly sensitive areas

Capacity of all new and refurbished storm drainage systems in the UK to be at least doubled from now to allow for the higher intensity of rainfall and the need to remove run-off water much more quickly and efficiently.

More information on the CPSA 6 point action plan can be found on the CPSA Website:

**[www.concretepipes.co.uk/news/index.html](http://www.concretepipes.co.uk/news/index.html)**

**More stories and articles from the CPSA can be found on [www.concretepipes.co.uk](http://www.concretepipes.co.uk)**

If you would like further information on any aspects of concrete pipes we would be happy to talk to you.



CPSA is a product association of the British Precast Concrete Federation

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