

Welcome

Dear Member,

I take the opportunity to welcome you all to the latest edition of the Batched on Site Association's Newsletter.

We recently had a stand at the UK Concrete Show which was manned by a number of the Committee members for the second year running. We met a number of familiar faces during the two day event in Coventry, along with a selection of new interested parties. Hopefully the net effect of the show will be to bolster both our membership size and our national profile.

The Association's principal objective is still to ensure the status of batched on-site machines as 'mobile plant', preserving benefits such as lower vehicle excise duty, the ability to operate to design weights and exemptions from EU Drivers' Hours Rules and the Operator Licensing regime.

To this extent, there appears to be little further development, at this stage, on the Department of Transport's consultation on MOT's which the BSA responded in March 2010. We will keep members posted.

Our latest committee meeting has just taken place in April of this year, where we discussed and assessed the outcomes of the UK Concrete Show amongst other things. More information to follow. The next AGM will take place on the 20th November 2012 at 2pm at Corby Holiday Inn which is when the new membership year starts.

Tom Baker
Chairman

UK Concrete Show 22 & 23 February 2012 in Coventry

On Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th February 2011, the BSA exhibited at the UK Concrete Show at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. This was the second event and was well supported by the concrete industry, with almost 200 exhibitors and over 3500 visitors. Alongside the various exhibitors, there were regular seminars and work shops spread over both days.

The general consensus seemed to be that it went well and the view of the Chairman was that 'everyone appeared to enjoy themselves and the people who attended were pleased to be there. There was a good positive atmosphere'.

Website



The Association's website is now live and can be found at www.batchedonsite.org - it is intended that this be a simple vehicle for the association to provide information to members

going forward. It is intended that newsletters, updates and meeting minutes will be available on the site.

Tell us About it!!!

It is useful and interesting to hear some of the concerns and problems which operators are experiencing. A lot of people are not sure of the legal status of their operation. It seems sometimes the various departments we all have to deal with make up and change the rules as and when it suits them.

Let us know any time you have a dealing over your Volumetric with the authorities, whether that be the Police, VOSA, DVLA etc. If the Association is kept updated on all issues, when they happen, it is in a far better position to generally assist members.

Please get in touch with us to get clarification on any problems you may have to keep us informed of any precautions you may have coming up. We, as an association, can't fight the case for you but with our wealth of knowledge we can advise and tell you who we think the best people are to fight it for you.

Dates to Remember

BSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 20th November 2012 at 2pm

Location: Corby Holiday Inn
Geddington Road, Corby, Northants. NN18 8ET

Driver Sleepiness

Falling asleep at the wheel and sleep-related vehicle accidents (SRVAs) have become increasing causes of serious road crashes amongst our roads. Surveys from the UK police forces show that 15-20% of all road accidents are down to SRVAs, higher than the percentage for drink related accidents. Mortality rates associated with the 'silent killer' are particularly high: predominantly they happen at high speeds and on major roadways when a driver does not try to avoid a crash due to their decreased sense of position. As well as causing a dramatic drop in reaction times, sleep reduces vigilance and causes deficits in information processing: vital elements one must have in driving.

Sleepiness does not occur spontaneously, there is a preceding feeling of fatigue from which someone may attempt to combat in rolling down their window to feel the cold air, stretching or turning up the radio to increase awareness. These methods are extremely limited in prevailing as they are only preventing the eventual moment when one is asleep. Sleepiness has the potential to cause increased confidence in one's driving ability, an effect similar to many illegal drugs. SRVAs are more likely to end with serious injuries than the 'average' road accident.



Those with an early commute, men aged 30 years or younger and drivers from skilled manual occupations are all at a higher risk due to their increased exposure to driving or the time in which they drive, the body's natural biological clock is certainly influential. Most SRVAs happen between 02:00 and 07:00 and between 14:00 and 16:00.

Naps of less than 15 minutes and doses of caffeine are now recommended in the Highway Code to avoid falling asleep at the wheel. Drivers are advised to get off the road, park up and nap.

A report commissioned by the Department of Transport on driver sleepiness concludes that driver education, linked to greater public awareness of potential dangers of sleepiness, together with greater employer responsibility with regard to their employees' fitness to drive, present the best approaches for reducing sleep related crashes.

Volumetric Operator recently won a prestigious contract to save the historic Chester

Chester's walls were built to protect the City of Chester. Their construction was started by the Romans when they established the fortress of Deva Victrix between 70 and 80 AD. The walls were later re-constructed using sandstone, but were not completed until over 100 years later.

Every year thousands of tourists visit Chester to see the famous walls, unaware that parts of the walls' foundations are beginning to crumble.

Maintaining the structure of the walls has been an ongoing concern. That's where a local company with their Volumetric mixer came in. The walls were underpinned in many places using a specific mix design.

Most of the work was carried out behind the scenes and out of public view, meaning that the bustling city of Chester, and its many visitors, were completely unaware of the important restoration project. This ensured that the tourists and the local communities will be able to enjoy the historic sights for many more years to come.

Disclaimer

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