

LAFARGE CEMENT'S CAULDON WORKS WINS RESOURCE RECOVERY PLAUDITS

Glacier and Sapphire support alternative fuel drive

Lafarge Cement Cauldon Works' 130-strong team has won a UK Performance Award for 'best use of alternative fuel' after becoming one of the top ten performers of all Lafarge sites worldwide.

For the past 14 years the site has been developing its use of alternative waste-based fuels as part of its drive for increased sustainability in its operations, with support from Lafarge Cement's resource recovery businesses, Glacier (which sources alternative raw materials and waste-derived fuels), and Sapphire (which facilitates collection and processing of waste tyres for use as fuel in cement kilns).

Cauldon now uses a combination of traditional fossil fuels – coal and petroleum coke, with scrap tyre chips and Processed Sewage Pellets (PSP). The company is also permitted to use Recovered Fuel Oil (RFO) and has submitted an application to the Environment Agency to use Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF).

The Works produces up to one million tonnes of cement a year for customers across the Midlands and Northern Home Counties, and along with other Lafarge operations is dedicated to seeking ways of making cement manufacture more sustainable.

"The use of these fuels offers many benefits: it's a way of making positive use of suitable waste materials; it reduces the need to extract and transport virgin fossil fuels - at the same time as it enables the plant to maintain its environmental performance," said Jamie Randall who heads up Lafarge Cement's resource recovery businesses.

Cauldon Works manager Nicolas Maes said his team was committed to keeping up the good performance: "We are now very much at the forefront of cement plants in the UK in terms of the range and amount of waste-derived fuels we are using. This year we aim to reach over 45% substitution of traditional fuels with these more sustainable materials."

Lafarge Cement played an important role in the development of a new Code of Practice for the use of Waste Derived Fuels. Led by the British Cement Association, the Code was launched in early 2008, replacing the Substitute Fuels Protocol and complementing the Waste Incineration Directive (WID). Lafarge was the first company to apply the Code of Practice with this application to use Bio Mass Carbon Neutral fuels at its Cauldon Works.

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The Performance Awards cover a number of categories and are presented by Lafarge's UK Executive to Works across the UK – they are backed up by Divisional (global) and regional performance awards, with recent UK successes including:

- Cookstown - best time without an LTI (2nd in entire Cement Division, 1st in Western Europe region)
- Visible and Felt Leadership – Best safety initiative for Lafarge Cement UK, 2nd in entire Cement Division
- Aberthaw - best improvement in kiln reliability (1st in Western Europe region)
- Caudon – best improvement in control room operation (1st in Western Europe region).

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Notes to editors:

- Lafarge Cement is the country's largest cement maker, supplying Blue Circle brand cements to customers across the UK. The company has seven cement works, complemented by a network of 12 depots and terminals around the country.
- Lafarge Cement is part of the Lafarge Group, the worldwide leader in building materials with 85,000 employees in 75 countries. Lafarge holds top-ranking positions in each of its three Divisions: Cement, Aggregates & Concrete and Gypsum.
- Caudon Works has capacity to make up to one million tonnes of cement a year and distributes it to customers in the Midlands and as far South as the Northern Home Counties. The Works employs over 100 people and contributes over £11 million to the local community.
- Sapphire is a Lafarge-Michelin joint venture. It offers a sustainable solution to the processing of used or end-of-life tyres in the UK by providing them for use as an alternative fuel for the cement industry, managing the used tyre supply chain to:
 - facilitate collection of end of life tyres from all sources including wholesalers, vehicle dismantlers and local authority schemes;
 - bring tyres to a Sapphire processing centre via a regional collector network;
 - produce a specific grade of chipped tyre proven to be the best size for combustion in the cement industry.
- Glacier is a wholly owned Lafarge Cement company specialising in resource recovery through the cement manufacturing industry. Glacier uses sophisticated analytical methods to develop the use of substitute fuels and raw materials. This ensures that emissions from the cement making process are not adversely affected and that the essential physical and chemical properties of the cement product are maintained.