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FROM: ANDY DIX – PRESIDENT, BRITISH PRECAST CONCRETE FEDERATION

News release from the British Precast Concrete Federation

Martin Clarke awarded OBE in Queens Birthday Honours

June 15, 2013



Martin Clarke, Chief Executive of the British Precast Concrete Federation, has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's birthday honours list for services to industry.

Martin has expressed great delight and surprise at the award. " I am overwhelmed at this recognition and especially delighted that the citation is for services to industry. This is a great boost for an unsung but critical British manufacturing industry."

He added "This honour is completely down to my wife and family who have supported me unstintingly throughout my career and my long absences at home and abroad. I thank them so much for their love and patience. It is a reward for the small team in the Federation and my member companies and for the 30,000 men and women across the UK concrete products sector and its supply chain who have worked so extremely hard at improving our safety record, our environmental impact and at improving our image and professionalism. The last five years of recession have been tough and challenging but we are coming through it in good heart and with great optimism."

Martin - of Coombe near Wotton under Edge in Gloucestershire - has spent over 40 years in the construction industry. He is married to Lynne with two adult children Catherine and Tom and has one grandson. He was born in West Bridgford, Nottingham and educated at Nottingham High School 1961-68. He started with ARC Concrete at their Chipping Sodbury pipe business in 1972 after spells at Exeter University and Hull University. Within the ARC Group he went on to complete 17 years in a variety of marketing and business development roles in the UK and overseas finishing in 1990 as Business Development Director of ARC Aggregates , by then owned by Hanson since 1989. He then moved to spend 12 years as Marketing Director of the British Cement Association before taking over as Chief Executive of the Leicester-based British Precast Concrete Federation in 2002.

He has been a passionate advocate for the British and worldwide concrete industry throughout his career.

Career highlights include

- Playing a key role in the overseas expansion of the ARC Group in the 70s and 80s into a major international aggregates and concrete business
- The formation of key alliances and trade bodies in the concrete industry in the 90s such as Britpave, Construct, Concrete Bridge Development Group, Basement Development Group, Traditional Housing Bureau and the Reinforced Concrete Council
- Editor and publisher of Concrete Quarterly magazine in the 90s; founder of the Lubetkin lecture series.
- Embedding safety, sustainability and innovation as the three principles of the British Precast Concrete Federation since 2002, with measured and significant improvements achieved by the industry.
- Joint founder of the Get Britain Building campaign in 2008/9

The President of British Precast Concrete Federation Andy Dix of Aggregate Industries said

“ This is a great way to start our 50th anniversary year ending May 2014. Martin fully deserves this recognition. He has worked tirelessly in the advancement of the concrete industry both in Britain and Europe. In particular I would highlight his effective work with his colleagues and the Health & Safety Executive in bringing the concrete products industry closer to our zero harm objective. As President of this very effective trade body I am personally delighted that Martin’s endless good work and leadership has been appreciated by our country in such an appropriate way.”

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For more information please contact British Precast President Andy Dix at andy@andydix.com

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Photograph: a higher resolution photo is available from mayuri.dhanak@britishprecast.org

Biographical note:

Martin Clarke is 63 on July 2 2013. He has a BA in Economics and Statistics and is a Fellow of the Institute of Quarrying. He is a Director of the Mineral Products Qualification Council, and a Board Member of BIBM, the European Precast Concrete Federation.

British Precast is the Federation for UK manufacturers of all types of precast concrete products – from paving, roof tiles and masonry to pipeline systems, railway sleepers and structural units. It was established in 1964 but its roots go back to the early 20th Century. More at www.britishprecast.org