

# Hopes for my next year as president of the CFA

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can change.

Recently, I was lucky enough to attend a parliamentary reception in my capacity of president and connect with other industry bodies that directly and indirectly impact on flooring. Construction is a complex sector and it is important that we have a voice at the level where regulation and standards are made and set respectively.

Talking of events, it was nice to attend the **CFJ** awards as we so rarely celebrate what is good about our industry preferring to

focus more on the problems and issues. The awards were a nice showcase for what we represent and importantly what we contribute. We need more of this!

For the year ahead, I will continue to try and get around as many of the regional meetings as possible as I do see them as important, although specifically one area I'm going to concentrate more on is environmental issues and what we can do to improve things there.

Irrespective of global warming I do believe that we are

consuming resources at a too high a rate to be sustainable and anything we can do to address this has numerous benefits that stretch far beyond that of any impact on the climate but do include sound economics.

I firmly believe we should be looking at ways to reutilise things when and where we can and I will come back to this topic in a future column.

On a final note, I do hope my second year will see me preside over our emergence from the so called 'credit crunch,' which unfortunately has probably

impacted on just about everyone and perhaps more so the construction sector.

Sadly, I have no solution for this downturn and it will be just something we' all have to ride through, but we have to be optimistic – we are hearing of 'green shoots' and perhaps the only certainty of a downturn is the following upturn, which I hope won't be too far behind.

Maybe a bit of positivity is what we need for the year ahead; it won't be easy but I do know that when we do get through it we'll be stronger industry.



## FITA courses

### Basic carpet fitting

(5 days) Jul 20, Sep 14; Nov 2

### Intermediate carpet fitting

(4 days) Jul 6, Sep 21, Nov 9;

### Advanced carpet fitting

(4 days) Nov 30;

### Essential wood fitting

(3 days) Jul 27, Oct 7, Nov 25;

### Intermediate wood fitting (3 days)

Jul 13, Sep 2, Oct 19,

Dec 7;

### Solid wood sanding and finishing

(2 days) Jul 16, Sep 28,

Nov 17;

### Laminate & floating wood

(2 days) Jul 30, Oct 5, Nov 23;

### Domestic vinyl fitting

(2 days) Jul 23; Sep 16, Nov 4;

### Safety and smooth vinyl (commercial) fitting

(4 days) Jul 13, Sep 28, Nov 16,

Dec 14. Also courses in

Manchester on Jun 29, Sep 7,

Oct 26, Dec 14; **Luxury vinyl tile fitting** (4 days) Oct 12;

### Estimating and planning

(2 days) Jul 21; Sep 14, Nov 2;

### Damp testing floors

(1 day) Jul 3; Oct 13, Dec 1;

### Subfloor preparation

(2 days) Sep 21, Nov 9.

Courses are at Loughborough unless otherwise stated. Please enquire about course fees when booking. Check out the FITA website for the latest course information.

■ T: 0115 950 6836

■ www.fita.co.uk

## NVQ COURSES

**FITA** offers NVQ training via **EWPA** and **OSAT**.

■ T: 0115 950 6836



maintaining standards in flooring installations

Floortrain (GB) is a registered City & Guilds assessment centre for NVQs in textile, impervious and wood flooring. Full funding is available in 95% of cases. Training packages are offered to intermediate or advanced levels. Contact Dominic for details:

■ T: 01709 780505

### FERFA

Courses include In-situ resin flooring apprenticeship scheme; prepare and profile substrates apprentice scheme; work-based recorders (half-day training session); assistance with obtaining NVQ level 2 In situ resin flooring. ■ T: 01252 714250

### Flooring Assessments

offers on-site assessment for floorcovering City & Guild NVQ at all levels, including CSCS cards and training to up-skill in carpets, impervious and wood flooring:

■ T: 07515885912

■ dave@flooringassessments.com

■ www.flooringassessments.com

### Bostik Flooring Academy

St Helens College offers training in floorcovering NVQ Levels 1, 2 and 3 and construction diplomas for two years on a day release basis, plus On Site Assessment and Training (OSAT) for experienced workers and the Experienced Workers Practical Assessments (EWPA) for CSCS cards. ■ T: 01744 623640

### Scotland floor training

Construction skills/SQA approved centre for textile, impervious and wood. We come to you! On site assessments & apprenticeships for SVQs & CSCS. Contact Nellie or Rory: ■ T: 01870 602525

■ www.floortraining.co.uk

■ E: rory@floortraining.co.uk

### COLLEGE NVQ COURSES

NVQ floorcoverings (levels 1, 2 & 3) offered at Thomsit Centres & OSAT for experienced workers.

### Northumberland:

Graham Cunningham ■ T: 07976 539154

### Leicester:

Martin Coles ■ T: 07836 622811

### Accrington & Rossendale :

Brian Enderwitz ■ T: 07976 353920

### Yale, Wrexham:

Steve Davies ■ T: 07984 002632

### Acton & West London :

Jim Gallagher ■ T: 07768 745787

### National Construction College, Erith.

Malcolm Harrison T: 01322 349638

## Fitting courses



The Academy of Flooring Skills

### THE ACADEMY OF FLOORING SKILLS (TAOFS)

established by John Roberts has a training centre in Pentlow near Sudbury, Suffolk.

Courses on moisture surveying skills are being planned. The scheduled dates can be changed to suit five or more people and one-to-one tuition can be arranged on request. Check website for wood courses dates in Cornwall. ■ www.taofs.co.uk

■ M: 07831584334

■ E: john@jrroberts.co.uk

■ T: 01162608873

### O2H2 Flooring Consultants

Seminar dates this year include:

Understanding carpets Jul 13-14;

Oct 5-6; Estimating & planning Jul 15-

16; Oct 7-8. Course fees (per

seminar) are £275 (plus VAT). Both

courses booked together are £500

(plus VAT). ■ T: 01386 422256

www.o2h2flooringconsultants.com

### HCTS MERSEY ACADEMY

Apprentice training for NVQ for local CITB and a few non-CITB employers, plus day release courses for local

flooring firms. Shirley Ashcroft

■ T: 0151 289 9090

### CERAMIC ADHESIVES

**ARDEX** Luke Kingston

■ T: 01440 714939

**BAL** Amy Rushton

■ T: 01782 591123

**BOSTIK** Gary Hardy

■ T: 07735 271664

**INSTARMAC** Paul Luff

■ T: 01827 872244

**MAPEI** Graham Baldwin

■ T: 0121 508 6970

### PALACE CHEMICALS

Stewart Hagger or Jim Percival

■ T: 0151 486 6101

### CLEANING

**IIRCR UK** ■ T: 01763 208222

Carpet Cleaning Technician **Oct 27-**

**28.** Commercial Carpet Maintenance

Technician **Jul 14-15; Nov 17-18.**

Courses at Royston, Cambridgeshire

(Alltec Network) T: 01763 208222

Instructor is Paul Pearce (Country

House Carpet Care)

E: paulpea@btopenworld.com

### CLEANING SYSTEMS UK

Sandy Pearson ■ T: 0800 163555

■ sandy@cleaning-systems-uk.com

**DR SCHUTZ** Richard Nelson

■ T: 01296 437827

■ richard@dr-schutz.com

### NATIONAL CARPET CLEANERS ASSOCIATION

Carpet cleaning **Aug 21-22, Nov 6-7.** The course is led by

NCCA directors Paul Pearce and

Pawlo Woloszyn, experienced carpet

cleaners. ■ T: 0116 271 9550

■ www.ncca.co.uk

### PREMIER PRODUCTS

Cleaning, floor preparation and

maintenance courses. Contact

Maureen Scott. ■ T: 01242 537174

maureens@premierproducts.co.uk

**PROCHEM** Carpet cleaning courses:

(2-day) **Sep 29-30; Nov 24-25.** (1-day)

**Jul 14, Sep 8, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 8.**

Hard floor cleaning: **Sep 16, Nov 11.**

■ T: 020 8974 1515

■ www.prochem.co.uk/training.htm

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**Training directory**

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**PROCLEAN** David Jenkins  
 ■ T: 02380 660977

**WOOD FLOORING**

**BONA:** Introduction to basic sanding: **Jul 16, Aug 13, Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 12, Dec 17**; Finishes for timber floors: **Jul 23, Sep 24, Nov 19**; Success with timber floors: **Aug 7, Oct 9, Dec 4**; Floors in educational establishments: **Aug 18, Oct 30**; How to service your Bona sanding machine: **Oct 23, Dec 8**.

■ www.bona.com  
 ■ T: 01908 399740

**JUNCKERS** Steve Maltby  
 ■ T: 01376 534700

**GRUNDORF TERHURNE**  
 ■ T: 01562 861351

**KÄHRS** ■ T: 023 9245 3045

**OSMO** Training is offered on floor preparation, methods of application of Osmo products and maintenance.  
 ■ T: 01296 481220

**TIMBER FLOOR TECHNOLOGY**  
 ■ T: 01255 224776

■ E: info@timber-floor-technology.co.uk

**RESILIENT FLOORS**

**ALTRO** Two-day resilient flooring courses. ■ T: 01462 707600 Two-day courses on resin flooring: Debbie Kavanagh ■ T: 01300 320620

**AMTICO** Resilient fitting courses. Marie Lane. ■ T: 0121 745 0821

**FORBO** has one-day installation courses. ■ T: 01592 647396

**NORA RUBBER FLOORING**  
 Shaun Howarth ■ T: 01455 200500

**KARNDÉAN** Basic course (3 days) **July 20-22**. ■ T: 01386 820170

**MAPEI** ■ T: 0121 508 6970

**POLYFLOR** ■ T: 0161 767 1111

**TARKETT TRAINING ACADEMY**  
 ■ T: 01622 854040

**SURFACE PREP**

**ARDEX** Luke Kingston  
 ■ T: 01440 714939

**F BALL** ■ T: 01538 361633

**LAYBOND** Martin Cummins  
 ■ T: 07740 278631

**INSTARMAC** Karl Brannigan  
 ■ T: 01827 872244

**MAPEI** ■ T: 0121 508 6970

**SPE** ■ T: 01673 860709

**THE PREPARATION GROUP**

Introduction to surface preparation **Jul 2, Aug 5, Sep 2**; floor removal processes **Jul 7, Aug 20**; know your surfaces **Jul 9, Aug 18**; advanced operators **Jul 29, Aug 26, Sep 16**; polishing & grinding techniques **Aug 12, Sep 10**; machine operation & maintenance **Jul 15-16, Sep 22-23**; general maintenance (½ day) **Sep 8**.  
 ■ T: 0870 224 3606

**UZIN** Kenton Penny  
 ■ T: 01235 534106

**FLOORING GUILD**

■ T: 0800 072 3223  
 ■ www.flooring-guild.co.uk

● CPD courses ● CPD courses ●

Flooring firms offering CPD courses:

- Altro ■ T: 01462 489568
- Amtico ■ T: 0121 745 0821
- Antron ■ T: 07876 577317
- Ardex ■ T: 01440 714939
- ASCER ■ T: 0207 467 2385
- BAL ■ T: 01782 591100
- Ball & Young ■ T: 01536 200502
- Bona ■ T: 01908 399740
- Bonar Floors ■ T: 01773 744121
- Brintons ■ T: 01562 635110
- Burmatex ■ T: 01924 276333
- Desso ■ T: 01235 554848
- Dulux Trade ■ E: dtc@ici.com
- FeRFA ■ T: 01252 739149
- Flowcrete ■ T: 01270 753000
- Forbo ■ T: 01592 643777
- F Ball ■ T: 01538 361633
- Florprotec ■ T: 01325 269800
- Gradus ■ T: 01625 428922
- Heckmondwike ■ T: 01924 410544

- Interface ■ T: 01274 690690
- Instarmac ■ T: 01827 872244
- Isocrete ■ T: 01270 753000
- Junckers ■ T: 01376 534700
- Gerflor ■ T: 01926 401500
- Isocrete ■ T: 01270 753000
- Kingspan ■ T: 0870 7894000
- Laybond ■ T: 07740 278631
- Mapel ■ T: 0121 508 6970
- Matworks ■ T: 01924 413634
- Milliken ■ T: 01942 826073
- Maxit UK ■ T: 01928 515656
- Nora Flooring ■ T: 01455 200500
- Paragon ■ T: 0845 601 0431
- Polyflor ■ T: 0161 767 1111
- Rehau ■ T: 01989 762600
- Remmers ■ T: 0845 373 0103
- Sika ■ T: 01707 394444
- Tarkett ■ T: 01622 854040
- Thortex ■ T: 01609 780170
- Westex Carpets ■ T: 01274 861334



**Preparation Group acts to boost training initiatives**

THE **PREPARATION GROUP** has played a major part in formulating the criteria for producing modules for the NVQ Level 2 qualification. Its national training director, John Glew, was the first person from within the surface preparation sector to qualify as an assessor for the NVQ Level 2 – to prepare and profile substrates. Training is a high priority

**ABOVE: Ivan Maddison (left) and Lee Ford of The Preparation Group, among the first candidates to be awarded the new NVQ Level 2 qualification**

for The Preparation Group and for FeRFA, giving ample proof of the benefits members derive from their commitment to qualifying their workforce.

Until recently the surface preparation industry had no independently recognised training qualifications – despite preparation being key to the success of flooring operations.

To remedy this, Tracey Glew, md of The Preparation Group, worked with FeRFA and ConstructionSkills to gain recognition for this specialist skill area, resulting in the introduction a NVQ Level 2 in August 2007.

The Preparation Group received FeRFA's Trainer of the Year Award 2008/9. The company continues to commit to training by qualifying all its experienced operatives to NVQ Level 2 and putting newcomers through the apprenticeship scheme, thus promoting a fully CSCS carded and qualified workforce. (See course details in panel above left)

■ T: 0870 224 3606

**THE GLUES BROTHERS** by Bob Lawton