



Comment

Contract Flooring Association

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The president: Terry Wolfe

# 'The pinnacle of my career in this wonderful industry'

THE AGM of the Contract Flooring Association will take place this month. It will mark the conclusion of my two years as president. My successor will be elected.

Can it possibly be two years since I was looking forward to assuming the chair of the CFA?

In April 2006 I was looking forward to the AGM with considerable excitement. I hoped that I would be worthy of this honour, which I view as the pinnacle of my career in this wonderful flooring industry.

When I was elected to the chair in May 2006, although Richard Wollerton had been ill, he seemed much better, and the prognosis was good. I looked forward to having him at my side, to help and guide me, as he had guided presidents in the past.

Sadly, this was not to be; as the year progressed, Richard's health got worse, with absences or hospitalisation, and his eventual demise in February 2007. The effect of this was to cause a much greater involvement for me in the day-to-day running of the association.

We are deeply indebted to Helen, Sally and Carol who worked tirelessly during this period, and the months preceding the appointment of our new chief executive, to ensure the continual

smooth running of our association.

I must also pay tribute to the outstanding support I have received from the CFA Council. I know it is invidious to mention names, but I must publicly thank David Hibbert of F Ball and Co for his support during the time we were without a CEO and for his work on the sub-committee that eventually appointed Richard Wollerton's successor.

The sub-committee did their job extremely well, and we were fortunate in securing Richard Catt to take over as our CEO. Richard has taken on a terrific challenge with this job, but we are already seeing the results of his initial efforts.

Richard took over in October 2007, and I immediately felt the effect of his presence at the helm. As I step down as president, I should like to thank Richard for his outstanding work, assure him of my continued support and wish him every success.

When I took over as president, I said that during my period of office, I wanted to promote greater awareness of regional meetings. I was slightly thwarted in this aim by some poor attendances, leading council to cancel all regional meetings until our new CEO was appointed and able to appraise this subject.

Notwithstanding this, I attended an excellent dinner in Southampton with our southern region, some very interesting talks in the north and a terrific trade show in the south east.

A significant change that occurred during my term of office, was our cancellation of our PR contract with an outside agency and the formation of our in-house PR committee.

This small band of hardworking council members has produced some wonderful adverts (I am sure you have all seen the Why Gamble? And the mouse with the cheese, to cite but two) and I think these adverts and leaflets are raising the associations profile throughout the industry.

As I hand over to my very likely successor, John Alcock, (currently vice president of the CFA) what legacy am I leaving him? Well, he is taking over an association that is stronger and more vibrant.

You will already have seen the first CFA members newsletter, and other innovations are in the pipeline.

With John as president, supported by our strong council and guided by our new CEO, the next two years should prove an exciting period for the Contract Flooring Association to the advantage of all its members.



The chief executive officer: Richard Catt

# Have your say on British Standards under review

ONE of the roles the CFA carries out for members is providing representation on British standards committees. We are very fortunate in having support from many quarters including very knowledgeable people from manufacturing members.

At our last manufacturer's meeting, we were very pleased to have a presentation from Bob Mabbutt of CFA member Bostik. Bob has always been a great

supporter of the CFA and is also very active on British standards committees for the British Adhesives and Sealants Association. We have many new faces at manufacturers meetings and so Bob agreed to give a broad overview of the operation of British Standards committees.

I certainly learned a lot and wondered how many other members would benefit from a quick summary. Essentially, each

standard has a committee that comes together when it is decided that it needs reviewing. The committee is given a committee number (who's derivation I have yet to unearth) with BS8203 having the working committee number of PRI/60.

The committee has a chairman who heads the review, with committee members working together to update or entirely re-

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