

RMP Acoustic Consultants, Napier University, 42 Colinton Road, Edinburgh EH10 5BT

## BPC & RMP host conference on new Section 5 Building Regulations



On 11 June 2008, in response to Scottish Government proposals and the compliance guidance given in the Technical Handbooks, the Building Performance Centre (BPC) of Napier University and RMP Acoustic Consultants hosted a dedicated sound insulation conference.

The Scottish Government is considering proposals to amend the Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004. It aims to improve the sound insulation performance of separating walls and floor constructions in new build housing and extend the regulations to cover non-domestic buildings.

Around 100 delegates from major construction companies, building control bodies and architectural firms attended the conference to discuss the proposed changes. Various presentations detailed the implications the new regulations may have on builders, product manufacturers, construction designers and consultants.

For more information download the presentations from our website at [www.rmp.biz](http://www.rmp.biz)

## Architecture Scotland Annual '08

'Prospect' magazine has just released its latest Architecture Scotland annual. We are pleased to



announce that RMP were acoustic consultants on a number of projects featured in this year's annual: Hazelwood School for the Sensory Impaired in Glasgow, Queen Margaret University Campus in Edinburgh, the Glasgow Beatson Cancer Research Institute and EHQ Offices in South Gyle.

## BPC joins the Scottish Construction Industry Low Carbon Steering Group

The housing sector is responsible for approximately 30% of all carbon emissions in Scotland. It is estimated that by 2050 new build constructions will account for over 30% of all housing. The construction industry now faces a challenge to develop innovative and practical solutions for future low and zero carbon targets.

Napier University's Building Performance Centre, has been invited to join the Scottish Construction Industry Low Carbon Steering Group which brings together industry and Government experts. Our specialist research Centres for Infrastructure, Timber Engineering and Advanced Materials and the Scottish Energy Centre will continue to play crucial roles in developing innovative and practical solutions for future low and zero carbon construction targets for 2013 and 2016.



## Edinburgh Trams Project

RMP is to offer advice on controlling construction noise and vibration as the tram works progress through Edinburgh city centre, along Shandwick Place, Haymarket, Princes Street and St Andrew's Square.

The new high-quality tram network opens in Edinburgh in 2011. The first tram line will be the £498m Phase 1a running from Edinburgh Airport to the city centre and onto Newhaven. The scheme aims to reduce car journeys, ease congestion and improve air quality in Scotland's capital.



## CSCS Cards



We are pleased to confirm that every member of RMP's consulting staff now holds a CSCS card.

The CSCS was set up to help the construction industry improve quality and reduce accidents. CSCS cards are increasingly demanded as proof of occupational competence by contractors, public and private clients

# RMP takes to the Sea



RMP took advantage of the calm seas this summer to visit remote parts of the UK as part of its consultancy work.

The Isle of Man Government invited RMP to make a presentation to the building industry of the island; to cover the implications of the new building regulation requirements and the use of the Robust Details Scheme. The regulations were adopted earlier this year, but have not yet been implemented to allow the industry time to react. The presentation in Douglas helped heighten awareness and give the builders and designers an overview of what was required and how the regulations would be enforced.

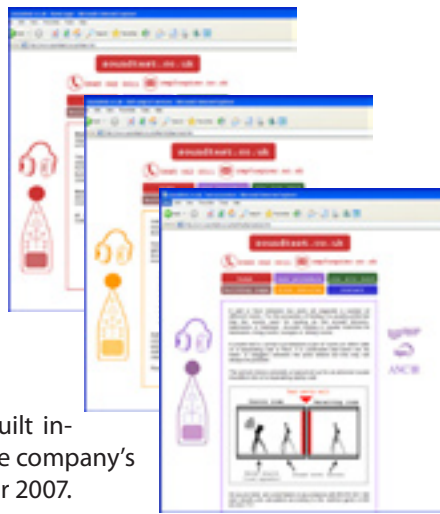
On the next visit, to the Orkney Islands, RMP concentrated on the provision of standard consultancy services to Orkney Islands Council Building Control. RMP had previously provided pre-refurbishment testing and offered advice on dealing with noise complaints. The consultancy was then asked to verify the enhancement of the level of acoustic insulation throughout the council's housing stock. RMP used this opportunity to update Orkney Island Council on the proposed changes to the Scottish Building regulations.

## www.soundtest.co.uk

In June RMP re-launched [www.soundtest.co.uk](http://www.soundtest.co.uk) a website fully devoted to sound insulation testing. The new site provides all the information house builders, developers and architects need to organise and prepare for sound insulation testing. It also gives an overview of the building regulations relating to sound insulation testing in Scotland, England and Wales, detailing the testing procedure and site requirements.

The new look of the site was designed and built in-house by Magdalena Rosinska to accompany the company's website [www.rmp.biz](http://www.rmp.biz), re-launched in December 2007.

We are also developing a website devoted to air tightness testing ([www.airtest.org.uk](http://www.airtest.org.uk)). This is the latest service in the RMP portfolio which we provide in conjunction with Building Test Services. Watch this space!



## Staff news

RMP continues to establish its position as the leading acoustic consultancy in Scotland with 15 consultants.

We have welcomed three new staff members to our team this year:

Juliette Paris, our Acoustic Consultant, joined us from Mott MacDonald in September. Juliette specialises in acoustic modelling, industrial noise and vibration advice and mitigation methods.



In October we welcomed Mark Irish, our new Senior Acoustic Consultant. Mark has seven years experience in industrial and building acoustics field. He previously worked in a senior consultancy role in the Building Acoustics group at Heggies.



Caron Ormiston joined the support team in April after working as a Design Assistant at Standard Life. Caron helps with the design and production of RMP promotional materials.



For detailed staff profiles please see our website: [www.rmp.biz](http://www.rmp.biz).

## Morningside Church

RMP has been asked to contribute to a feasibility study for a new Edinburgh concert hall. The proposal is to convert Morningside Church into a recital, rehearsal and teaching space, complete with mid-sized auditorium, reception foyer, bar area, green room and instrument store.



Richard Murphy Architects led the architectural study on behalf of Napier University. RMP is utilising the market leading 'Odeon' auditorium design software to compare and comment on the layout options - the acoustic quality of the hall is a client priority. This approach allows the designer to compare the acoustical quality of different designs, optimise layouts, and even listen to a virtual performance.

### Principal Consultants

Prof Robin Mackenzie / Richard Mackenzie

### Senior Consultants

Mark Irish / Dr Sean Smith / Chris Steel / Tim Waters-Fuller

### Consultants

Melissa Lewis / Scott Lothian / Clement Luciani / Daniel Lurcock / Russell Macdonald / Roddy Mackenzie / Juliette Paris /

Dr Elena Prokofieva / Nicola Riddoch

### Support Staff

Magda Rosinska / Caron Ormiston / Scott McCall



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