

PRESS RELEASE
Outcry at false carbon footprint claims for manholes

The Concrete Pipeline Systems Association (CPSA) is again enraged at Dutch manufacturer Kijlstra's persistent misleading claims for their precast concrete manhole products.

In addition to CPSA's earlier declaration that Kijlstra's manhole products do not comply with industry specifications, it also believes that claims of a 65% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for the production and supply of Kijlstra's imported units compared with UK's traditional in-situ manholes are incorrect. CPSA believes that using accurate up-to-date information shows that UK traditional in-situ manholes can have 20% lower emissions than imported Kijlstra units. Furthermore, when using a UK manufacturer's own precast concrete manhole base systems savings of up to 42% can be achieved compared with imported systems.

CPSA explain that an in-depth study of the carbon footprint of precast concrete pipes and manholes was recently undertaken which includes a detailed analysis of UK manufacturer's production facilities and the emissions associated with their operations. The study should provide the construction industry with the most complete and accurate carbon footprint of UK produced precast concrete pipes and manholes and the Report is currently in the process of independent review by acknowledged industry experts. This information was used for the calculations above

On top of this, Kijlstra are also making claims that their manholes are already "Carbon Neutral". CPSA stresses that the sewerage and drainage industry have the right to learn when and how this was achieved, whether this was in accordance with PAS 2060: *Specification for the demonstration of carbon neutrality* and whether this involves purchasing of carbon offsets from other non industry-related projects.

Ends

Note to editors:

The Concrete Pipeline Systems Association (CPSA) is the main trade association representing the interests of the manufacturers of concrete pipeline and manhole systems in the UK. The association is active in research and promotion of the many technical, commercial and environmental benefits of precast concrete pipeline systems. CPSA is a product association of British Precast Concrete Federation.

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