

Legato® Interlocking Blocks Deliver Concrete Results for IMERY'S Furzebrook Facility

Elite Precast Concrete's Legato® interlocking concrete blocks have helped transform storage operations at IMERY'S Furzebrook facility in Dorset, providing a durable and flexible solution to longstanding infrastructure challenges.

The site, which stores dense ball clay used in the manufacture of ceramics and other industrial products, was experiencing increasing operational difficulties as ageing steel columns and timber sleeper retaining walls approached the end of their service life. The deteriorating infrastructure was reducing storage capacity, increasing maintenance requirements and raising the risk of material cross-contamination.

To address these challenges, IMERY'S appointed RSG Structures, led by Director Gareth Neale, to develop a robust replacement solution capable of accommodating demanding operational requirements while minimising disruption to ongoing production.

Engineered for Strength and Flexibility

The project required the construction of containment walls up to four metres high, capable of retaining dense clay materials while accommodating additional surcharge loads. The complex building layout, uneven floor levels and integration with the existing steel frame added further design challenges.

RSG Structures selected Elite Precast's Legato® interlocking concrete block system as the preferred solution due to its strength, flexibility and ease of installation.

Manufactured to a compressive strength of 50N/mm² and designed in accordance with BS EN 1992-1-1 standards, the modular blocks provided a long-term retaining solution while allowing seamless integration with the existing structure. Steel plates were incorporated where structural supports interrupted wall lines, ensuring continuity throughout the storage bays.

Gareth Neale, Director of RSG Structures, commented:

"With Elite Precast blocks, I can put designs together for a multitude of different loads, heights and wall lengths, giving clients a practical and highly adaptable solution."

Minimising Downtime Through Phased Construction

A phased construction programme was implemented to ensure unaffected areas of the facility remained operational throughout the works. This approach enabled IMERY'S to maintain production while infrastructure upgrades were completed, significantly reducing disruption to day-to-day operations.

The modular nature of the Legato® system also accelerated installation compared with traditional retaining wall construction methods, helping the project team maintain programme targets and deliver the scheme efficiently.

Delivering Measurable Benefits

Following completion, the upgraded storage facility has delivered a range of operational improvements, including:

- Improved separation of material grades, reducing the risk of cross-contamination.
- Enhanced product quality through better material management and storage integrity.
- Increased storage capacity and more efficient handling processes.
- Protection of existing steel columns from impact damage, extending the life of critical infrastructure.
- Reduced maintenance requirements and improved long-term operational resilience.

Collaboration Drives Success

The success of the project was underpinned by close collaboration between multiple specialist partners:

- **RSG Structures** – Project lead and installation
- **CLP Structures** – Structural design expertise
- **TR King** – Steelwork
- **Evabuild** – Groundworks
- **Elite Precast Concrete** – Legato® interlocking walling blocks

The IMERY'S Furzebrook upgrade demonstrates how innovative precast concrete solutions, combined with expert engineering and collaborative project delivery, can generate significant operational and commercial benefits.

By utilising Elite Precast's Legato® interlocking concrete block system, the project team has created a stronger, safer and more efficient storage facility, supporting IMERY'S' operations for many years to come.

For more information about Elite Precast's Legato® interlocking concrete block system, call 01952 588885 or visit www.eliteprecast.co.uk.