To whom it may concern

Clarity about the requirements to become a member of the Concrete Manufacturers Association NPO and to obtain the CMA Certification Services mark of approval

ABOUT CMA MEMBERSHIP:
To become a voting member of the Concrete Manufacturers Association (CMA), a company must be producing precast concrete products. You can then apply to become a Producer Member of the CMA and the criteria for acceptance in the Association for a Producer Member, is that you must have the following:

- Production must take place in a purpose-built manufacturing facility;
- You must have a quality assurance system in place;
- Occupational health and safety procedures must be in place;
- You must have technical and engineering competence; and
- You need financial stability and environmental competence.

If the board of directors find any of the above not in place they have the prerogative not to approve your application.

ABOUT CMACS CERTIFICATION:
To obtain the CMA Certification Services mark of approval on a certain product, the applicant must comply with at least the following requirements:

- The applicant must have an intrenched quality management system and will be audited by an auditor against your system;
- The applicant must provide proof on consistent compliance of the product for which was applied with a specification such as the South African National Standards (SANS) specification.
- The applicant will be inspected against their quality management system and also tested for compliance of the product with regular inspections and testing;
- If any non-conformities are recorded during these audits the applicant will first have to proof corrective actions and preventive actions have been taken before the mark will be issued.

FOR THE END-USER:
To provide more clarity the end-user should request evidence of membership or mark of approval from the producer (supplier). The member of the CMA will have a membership certificate issued to them and should be able to provide a copy of this certificate at all times. The member’s name should also be on the list of members published on the website of the CMA and on the back page of the Precast magazine. CMA membership shows a precast producer’s commitment to the manufacture of quality precast concrete units. It shows that the producer is a professional outfit, hence belonging to a professional industry association.

End users must take note that a membership certificate is not a mark of approval and therefore the supplier may not claim that membership ensures compliance of any product with a specification.
(SANS). This certificate, of which an example is anchored to the end of this paragraph of the document, only shows membership of the Association.

The end-user that wants to buy a product that complies with a certain standard or specification should request evidence of the supplier’s mark certificate. The mark certificate will be issued by a different company and not the CMA. The mark of approval is issued by CMA Certification Services which is another registered company and a SANAS accredited services facility (same as the SABS). All CMA Certification Services mark holders’ names are published in the list of mark holders also available on the CMA website and should the suppliers name not be on this list, they are not a mark holder of the CMA Certification Services mark of approval. The mark of approval should also be available either on the product, on the packaging of the product or on the stationary that is going with the product (see attached certificate and mark of approval). Take note that it will clearly indicate on the certificate to which specification the product complies. If the supplier cannot provide evidence of the mark certificate the supplier cannot claim compliance of the product to the specification. A copy of the mark certificate is anchored to the top of this paragraph. It will show the specific description and the specification number to which a product complies, and also the different logo of the CMA Certification Services company.

If a supplier provides evidence of membership to the CMA and claims that the product complies with a certain specification it is false evidence and should be reported to the CMA immediately.

Be on the lookout for the CMACS Mark of Approval – an example anchored to this paragraph. When in doubt, please contact the Concrete Manufacturers Association.