

GRC at the crossroads

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Summary

GRC is a high quality material that offers a number of advantages over other materials and forms of construction. As the World focuses more on sustainable construction with improved demands on reliability, increased safety and low costs of ownership, increased opportunities may exist for GRC products in the international construction market place. The principal aim of this paper is to encourage the various sectors of the GRC industry to examine their future. It is hoped that the paper will stimulate debate and discussion during and after the conference. The author has over 30 years experience in the construction industry working as a consulting engineer, for public sector organisations and in the academic world. He has worked in the UK on a number of civil and structural engineering projects and as a specialist adviser on repair and strengthening schemes in S.E.Asia and Australia. He is not employed specifically in the GRC industry but has an interest in the material as a professionally qualified civil and structural engineer. From this perspective he carried out a "Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats" (SWOT) analysis of GRC. The results of the SWOT analysis are presented in the paper and a number of suggestions concerning the future are made with a view to stimulating debate and discussion.

Keywords: GRC products, (SWOT) analysis.