

SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARD WINNER  
TITANIC BELFAST



PLANNING AND EXPERTISE OF THE TEAM BEHIND IRELAND'S LARGEST CONCRETE POUR IS RECOGNISED...

# TITANIC TEAM wins award for a titanic effort!

The team behind the organisation and placement of the largest concrete pour ever to be placed in Ireland were the clear winners in the Special Category section of the awards.

This record-breaking achievement at Titanic Belfast – formally known as Titanic Signature project – was, quite literally, a titanic undertaking for the team involved. Yet it was fitting that it signalled the start of a project that is set to be Northern Ireland's most talked about attraction.

Noel Molloy, Project Director, Harcourt Construction and Matthew Rodden, M.R. Concrete, collected the award on behalf of the entire team that included main

associates Harcourt Construction, MR Concrete, RPS and TODD Architects as well as main suppliers Lafarge Cement, Grace Construction Products, CES Quarry Products and Stoneyford Concrete.

The record-breaking concrete pour was to form the basement slab for Titanic Belfast. It started at 5pm on December 4, running through to 2pm the following day. The continuous pour by CES Quarry Products and Stoneyford Concrete saw 4,200 cubic metres of concrete laid 8m below ground level across an area of 3,800 square metres near the slipway at the 185-acre Titanic Quarter development in Belfast city centre.

Over 100 men from five different companies

worked in shifts throughout the night on Friday on the historic pour, which involved 50 concrete trucks delivering circa 250 cubic metres of concrete per hour – or one load every two minutes.

But you don't complete a record-breaking pour of this nature without proper planning and teamwork.

This concrete placement involved the largest logistical and planning exercises for a concrete pour ever likely to be seen, with everything planned down to the smallest detail to ensure that everything ran smoothly. But it didn't stop there. After this successful pour, the team went on to subsequently place pours of 1,500m<sup>3</sup>, 3,000m<sup>3</sup> and 1,000m<sup>3</sup> over the next three months, all with the same level of planning and expertise and commitment.

Presenting the award, Chairman of the Concrete Society, Northern Ireland Region, Roy Browne, said, "It would be difficult to host our first awards event without including this extraordinary achievement. This was a truly titanic project that highlights the expertise in our industry."



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## Facts about Ireland's largest single concrete pour

- On the evening of the pour, over 700 loads of concrete were delivered to the site at an average of one truck load every two minutes.
- Eight concrete pumps were used, while more were kept in reserve, just in case.
- The concrete was designed using eco-friendly CEMblend 50 cement, helping not only to reduce heat development but also to help improve the eco rating of the project.
- The concrete included waterproofing and super plasticising admixtures to aid workability and help the concrete cope with marine conditions. Fibres were also added to increase the durability of the concrete slab.
- Over 100 sets of cubes were taken by Construction Testing Services Ltd.
- And after placement, 4,000m<sup>2</sup> of insulation was used to protect the slab from the effect of thermal cracking and thermo couples were installed to help monitor temperature variations within and the base.

## PROJECT PARTNERS...

THE SUCCESS OF THE LARGEST CONCRETE POUR IN IRELAND AT TITANIC QUARTER WAS ONLY POSSIBLE DUE TO THE HARD-WORKING COMPANIES LISTED BELOW WORKING TOGETHER PERFECTLY...



**HARCOURT CONSTRUCTION** - The design and build contractor behind Titanic Belfast was charged with overseeing the overall project.  
Site Management Office, Sydenham Road, Belfast, BT3 9DJ  
T: 028 9040 9960 - F: 028 9040 9979  
E: [info@harcourtconstruction.com](mailto:info@harcourtconstruction.com)  
[www.harcourtconstruction.com](http://www.harcourtconstruction.com)



**M.R. CONCRETE LTD** - Supplied the eight concrete pumps to place the concrete, with more pumps kept in reserve, as well as the concrete gang that placed the record breaking pour.  
154 Ardanelee, Culmore Road, L'Derry, BT48 8RT.  
T: 00353 749320790 - F: 00353 749363819  
E: [info@mrconcreteltd.com](mailto:info@mrconcreteltd.com)  
[www.mrconcreteltd.com/contact](http://www.mrconcreteltd.com/contact)



**LAFARGE CEMENT** - The concrete was designed using eco-friendly CEMblend 50 cement supplied by Lafarge Cement, helping not only to reduce heat development but also to help improve the eco rating of the project.  
Lafarge Cement Ireland, Lafarge House, Gotto Wharf, Northern Road, Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast, BT3 9AL.  
T: 028 9035 7120 - [www.lafargecement.co.uk](http://www.lafargecement.co.uk)



**GRACE CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS** - The concrete pour included waterproofing and super plasticising admixtures supplied by Grace Construction Products. The concrete pour included Adprufe waterproofing and ADVA super plasticising admixtures.  
C/O Unit 42 O'Casey Avenue, Parkwest Industrial Estate, Nangor Road, Dublin 12, Ireland. Tel: +353 1-401-0222  
Email [paul.osullivan@grace.com](mailto:paul.osullivan@grace.com)  
[www.graceconstruction.com](http://www.graceconstruction.com)



As Civil and Structural Engineers for the iconic project RPS was responsible for the structural design and detailing of the concrete basement  
**RPS Belfast, Elmwood House, 74 Boucher Road, Belfast, BT12 6RZ**  
T: 028 9066 7914 - : 028 9066 8286



**STONEYFORD CONCRETE** - Stoneyford Concrete utilised all its skills to deliver this record-breaking concrete pour.  
50 Stoneyford Road, Lisburn, BT28 3SP  
T: 028 9264 8600 [www.stoneyford.com](http://www.stoneyford.com)