

# READY MIX LIMITED, ALMOST 50 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE.



Since 1969, Ready Mix Limited has been delivering high quality, cost effective building solutions in Barbados. Our 50th Anniversary is coming up in 2019, and Ready Mix Limited is looking towards new, more sustainable processing and construction methods for the growing expectations of our clientele and the ever evolving technologies of the industry, as well as a recycling initiative. We take this opportunity to thank our loyal customers who have supported us over the years. We have watched homes and businesses we helped to build, succeed and thrive, just as we have done - brick by brick and strength by strength.

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## READY-MIX LIMITED

Ready Mix Ltd, Lears, St. Michael. www.readymixbarbados.com



## Barbados' Construction Staple

**READY MIX LTD** has been fulfilling the construction industry's concrete demands in Barbados since 1969. Over this course of time, the company has prided itself on their ability to deliver high quality, cost-effective designs to their clients, with dedicated customer service. With their 50th anniversary approaching in 2019, management at Ready Mix Ltd has been on the lookout for new, more sustainable processing and construction methods for the growing expectations, and ever-evolving technologies of the industry. Their first stepping stone was in the manufacturing of their own type M sand (medium graded) in partnership with CO Williams Asphalt and Quarries Ltd. The process manufactures a cleaner product with fewer impurities in comparison to the natural brown sand.

### Concrete - Sustainable material benefits

The majority of individuals look towards concrete as their primary building material. While some may argue on the topic of CO2 emissions generated through manufacturing and transportation energy, this is heavily outweighed by the long-term sustainable benefits this material has to offer.

#### Such benefits include:

- Resource efficiency: concrete is made from limestone, one of the most abundant minerals on earth
- Durability: concrete has a lengthy lifespan, meaning less energy spent on rebuilding and ability to better withstand natural disasters
- Thermal mass: this cuts costs on mechanical heating and cooling bills
- Reflectivity: white painted concrete roofs reduce heat island effect, creating cooler environments.
- Recycling: concrete can be recycled and repurposed for a multitude of projects.

The Ready Mix family is set on growth and new ideas, stating that with our changing environmental conditions, recycling concrete is a 'step in the right direction' for both the company and Barbados.



### Looking into the future for Ready Mix: Lightweight Concrete - Benefits and Feasibility

Among the company's interests is the possibility of manufacturing lightweight concrete at the plant - a material so far not utilised in the island. Lightweight concrete has the potential to be a more economical and environmentally friendly option for both client and distributor. While the material unit price is higher, this is more than offset by the overall reduction in required concrete volume, weight (lightweight concrete is typically between 25 and 35% lighter than standard weight concrete), foundation requirements, and structural steel reinforcement systems, allowing for longer deck spans and shallower excavation.

The need for lightweight concrete was first exemplified on the island at the Port Ferdinand Marina project where a mobile bridge was required to connect the ports lagoon and the sea for passing vessels while maintaining the structural integrity of the coast road. The bridge's design incorporated lightweight concrete at the road's surface to limit deck weight and hence reduce pressure on respective motors and machinery, as well as negate the need to excavate deeper into the ground.

### Recycling - Creating Environmental Consciousness

Top of the agenda as the company moves forward is the potential for recycling concrete. Their consciousness of the quantities of concrete that go to waste into landfill has stimulated interest in investing in the proper machinery for recycling. This can be done with hard or soft concrete by using a portable crusher or separator to allow recycled concrete to be processed on site, or at Ready Mix's central location.

#### The following are a few benefits of recycling concrete:

- Reduce construction waste and extend life of landfills for additional years
- Recognised by the LEED to earn points towards certification
- Recycled concrete can substitute virgin aggregate and therefore reduce environmental cost of natural resources
- Reduced disposal costs
- Recycled concrete can be used in the building of artificial reefs

Written by Michaela Gomes