

## **ICL INQUIRY STATEMENT**

### **BRIAN NEALE**

1. I now work as an independent consultant, having formerly been a Principal Specialist Inspector of Health and Safety with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). I am a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, a Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers and now an Honorary Fellow of the Demolition Engineers after qualifying as a Fellow.
2. I have worked in the construction industry for over forty years, becoming chartered over thirty-five years ago. Early experience included working with two contractors, a consulting engineering practice, Government Departments and the UKAEA. I left HSE in March 2004 after working continually with the organisation since joining them in 1977. I worked principally on various aspects of construction health and safety and also on safety of the built environment, including safety of structures. Whilst at HSE I was employed in regional field support groups and also in central technical policy roles which included contributions to the preparation of standards and guidance for industry. My work also included investigation of unplanned collapses of buildings, some where there were fatalities.
3. I was a member of the Standing Committee on Structural Safety (SCOSS) for six years until 2001. At the Institution of Civil Engineers I lead on the series of International Forensic Engineering Conferences which have so far been held in 1998, 2001 and 2005. I have been involved in the preparation of publications, together with others, for organisations including the Institution of Structural Engineers, including two of which are currently in preparation. These are a new version of Appraisal of Structures, and a new document on Risks in Structural Engineering. Additionally, I have chaired national and international standards on demolition and also on structural loadings.

4. In early September 2004, I was telephoned by Keith Wilson, a manager of a specialist group in HSE, to tell me aspects of HSE's involvement with the incident at ICL Plastics, Maryhill, Glasgow on 11 May 2004, and to discuss the possibility of my working with HSE and HSL as an Independent Consultant to comment on a number of aspects of the building and the catastrophic collapse of much of the structure. On 16 September 2004, HM Principal Specialist Inspector of Health and Safety Russell Breen telephoned me to discuss the incident further and to arrange a meeting to discuss various aspects and my potential involvement. The outcome was that we agreed to work together and a contract was put in place by HSL in January 2005.
  
5. My involvement, including the brief, meetings and visits, together with considerations are documented in my final report for the Health and Safety Executive dated 30 November 2005 and titled "Building collapse at ICL Plastics, Maryhill, Glasgow" [ICL/ 7540-7614].

I confirm that the contents of this statement are true

Witness signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_