

ROBERT PRICE BUILDER'S MERCHANT JOINS ETHICAL PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

Branches of Robert Price Builders' Merchants have committed to supplying only ethically sourced natural paving stone, as a member of a new Ethical Partnership scheme which encourages greater social responsibility within the hard landscaping market.

On Thursday, Robert Price was officially welcomed as a member of the Ethical Partnership scheme, which has been launched by Stonemarket, one of the UK's leading suppliers of high quality hard landscaping products.

Robert Price's Sales Director, Malcolm Jones says, "We are delighted to become a Stonemarket Ethical partner, as this contributes towards our commitment to offering environmentally-friendly and sustainable products. As people are becoming more aware of the origin of the products they are choosing, we feel it is important to help our customers understand how they can choose more ethically sourced building materials.

Part of the code is the elimination of child labour and therefore all of Stonemarket's supply chain is independently audited to ensure that no child labour exists."

Tim Rushton of Stonemarket explains, "In a market in which the vast majority of stone sets bought in the open market are made by children, there's no point in us being a 'little bit ethical'. By buying our Stonemarket products you can be totally confident that the product is ethically sourced and that no child labour has been used in the production of the stone."

Products endorsed by the Stonemarket Ethical Partnership scheme offer valuable reassurance for customers that they are not buying from local, unaccredited importers who are often selling cheap natural stone, which is made in illegal quarries and associated with many kinds of human rights abuses.