



## LYTAG – THE SUSTAINABLE AGGREGATE

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Recognition has grown that offsite is an attractive choice for construction projects where time is precious,

sustainability credentials are key and health and safety is a priority. These advantages can be amplified through careful material choice, such as using lightweight secondary aggregate in precast concrete to form lighter and more sustainable concrete units.

LYTAG is a secondary aggregate manufactured from the pulverised fuel

ash (PFA) produced by coal-fired power stations so it not only diverts ash from landfill, but also reduces the demand on quarried aggregate. Concrete made using LYTAG aggregate is around 25 per cent lighter than natural aggregate, but offers the same structural integrity, and therefore offers advantages in terms of design flexibility, logistics and handling. Using lightweight precast units can enable a structure to be built on reduced foundations, encompassing greater span widths and carrying more floors

whilst decreasing the need for costly support work. Lighter concrete can also allow the casting of larger precast units, which are more cost effective to transport and crane into place. All these factors can reduce costs and help to speed up the construction process. At the All England Lawn Tennis Club, a project was launched in 2006 to expand Wimbledon's famous Centre Court and build a retractable roof to allow play during increasingly wet summers. The structure and its foundations needed to be able to carry the weight of the extension as if not, significant work to strengthen the existing building would be required. Contractor Galliford Try, chose to use Tarmac to manufacture the precast concrete units, using LYTAG lightweight aggregate. By specifying LYTAG, it was possible to produce units around 25 per cent lighter than would have been achievable by using traditional concrete.

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