



The activities of the Swedish Aggregates Producers Association are divided into three activity programmes:

1. Social contact – organised in the board's Social Committee
2. Technical Development – organised in the board's Technical Committee
3. Industry and Association Development – organised in the board's Programme Committee

Our activities are built on the needs of the members, where everyone is given the opportunity to raise and pursue issues of public interest through active involvement in the association.

SBMI offers its members:

A clear voice to authorities – when necessary

SBMI is working to ensure that extraction requirements are more predictable and similar throughout Sweden and that the application process is quicker. When this is not the case, SBMI can take on the county administrative boards better than individual companies, as SBMI does not risk any reprisals.

Opportunities for competence development

SBMI organises courses in many areas every year; basic courses, extraction permits, production, product knowledge, etc. More courses are planned – for more information visit www.sbmi.se. Courses are only open to member companies and authorities. These courses provide member companies with a unique opportunity to grow and develop.

Opportunities for further training

SBMI organise two to three industry days per year, to provide members with more in-depth information about current issues. Industry days are often organised in conjunction with other events, for example machinery trade fairs or exhibitions.

Part of a competent network

SBMI can be described as a large network. The MinBaS research project is helping to increase and develop knowledge with the support of the government's research investments. In SBMI's work committee, cooperation and development are taking place through members of different companies.

Continual information

SBMI publishes a member newsletter called 'KrossOrdet', which contains news in brief from SBMI and the industry as a whole.

SBMI also provides news and other useful information through parts of its website www.sbmi.se that are password-protected, including:

- A handbook for more effective PR work
- A manual for extraction applications and the requirements that have to be met
- Information on new laws and guidelines, as well as technical news and research findings

- Important environmental judgements and an overview of the reasons why extraction applications are rejected
- Enquiries from Swedish and foreign customers
- Documentation from SBMI's conferences and industry days
- News from the EU and the industry in Europe
- In the future: a market place for second-hand machinery and machinery parts.

SBMI works for:

Improvements to current regulations

We have a strong industry voice in important issues and the more members we have in SBMI, the stronger we become. We are working to get rid of complicated laws and regulations that can also increase costs, e.g. in the Swedish Environmental Code, and to fight unnecessary fees and taxes that burden our members' activities, see below*.

Early influence on future regulations

Around 80 percent of all legislation in the environmental area comes from EU directives. This is why SBMI, through its European organisation UEPG, monitors the proposals that are put forward in the EU. It is easier to get views heard early on in the process, rather than trying to change decisions that have already been made.

Better image

SBMI wants to increase the understanding of the need for aggregates and the need for new quarries and pits. SBMI also wants to strengthen the relationship between member companies and society and develop the opportunities to create a good environment from used quarries.

Increased influx of young people into the industry

SBMI is working to ensure that upper secondary schools and high schools offer good training for future employees of our industry. SBMI also wants to increase the influx of pupils to this training and to make sure that newly qualified pupils want to come to our industry.

Better quality in the construction industry

SBMI is a member of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise. Along with a further 11 organisations, we are working to ensure safe and sustainable construction with high ethics and morals among member companies. SBMI is working with the certification company Nordcert, which is working for quality development in the industry. SBMI is also working with SIS (the Swedish Standards Institute) to develop Swedish standards.

Industry-adapted development

SBMI is working for better and more cost-effective production methods, particularly through its research programme MinBaS. SBMI is producing a document called ABM 07 Ballast to create a better basis for clear agreements between suppliers and producers.

* Here are some examples of reduced costs: in other activities in the mining industry, the tax on automotive diesel has been reduced for a long time. In 2008 the Swedish Tax Agency announced that quarries would also be covered by this regulation; SBMI has worked for this for a long time. SBMI has also been working to reduce extraction fees and to increase tax on natural gravel.