



***EAPA MAGAZINE ISSUE 48 - OCTOBER 2021***

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 48<sup>th</sup> issue of the EAPA Magazine.

I am honoured to give you the first words of this new issue, which comes after months of challenges but also in a moment, in which by the first time, we really start feeling the first signs of the "new-normality".

Over the next weeks, the EAPA Secretariat will be hitting the European roads (and airfields) to participate in the first face-to-face events since the beginning of 2020. Opatija (Croatia), Berlin (Germany), Madrid (Spain), České Budějovice (Czech Republic), Aachen (Germany), Antwerp (Belgium), Bled (Slovenia), Dresden (Germany), and Ankara (Turkey) are already in our agenda. And we cannot wait to meet the much-missed Members of our Asphalt family!

Digital technologies, such as videocalls, allowed us to continue working in such a hard period, while saving travel time and emissions. Through uncountable videocalls, our EAPA Committees and Task Forces have been developing topics such as asphalt re-use to maximise circular economy, warm mix asphalt to minimise emissions and energy consumption, low rolling resistance surfaces to reduce fuel consumption and emissions of combustion cars and expand the range of electric vehicles, e-highways to supply energy to electric vehicles, alternative binders to increase sustainability, high-performance pavements for vehicles with enhanced road requirements and Product Category Rules for the Environmental Product Declarations of asphalt mixtures.

We mastered the online meetings so much, that even by the first time in history, we delivered a completely virtual E&E Congress, which despite the circumstances, attracted almost 800 professionals from 48 different countries!! (More information on the next pages).

In total, we held 12 different sessions with 72 spectacular oral presentations plus poster, commercial and live sessions. If you asked me, one that was more memorable to me than the rest would be

the session on Future Leaders, which I had the absolute pleasure to moderate. This year, we granted 20 Delegate Passes for out-standing new professionals of the asphalt and bitumen sectors and we exchanged and engaged for one hour and a half to find out how we can attract new talent to our sector while retaining the professional assets that we already have. The main conclusion? Innovations, such as Asphalt 4.0 and green technologies can make our industry truly attractive for potential professionals, but most people are not aware of what we actually do.

At EAPA we understood that it is time to expand our communication, not only with our clients but also with our society and shift towards new and more effective channels, such as social media. This motto led EAPA to launch a series of initiatives over the last years, such as the renewal of our website and the creation of media channels on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and YouTube, on which we practically publish on a daily basis. In this regard, I am particularly delighted to present the new series of videos named "Generation asphalt", in which we try to explain the most attractive (while often unknown) aspects of our sector, in simple words.

I hope you enjoy all this communication material, including the present issue of our digital Magazine, which this time comes full of important news and updates. And I also hope that soon, you and I will be chatting about all these topics, out of the screen.

Breixo Gomez  
EAPA Technical Director



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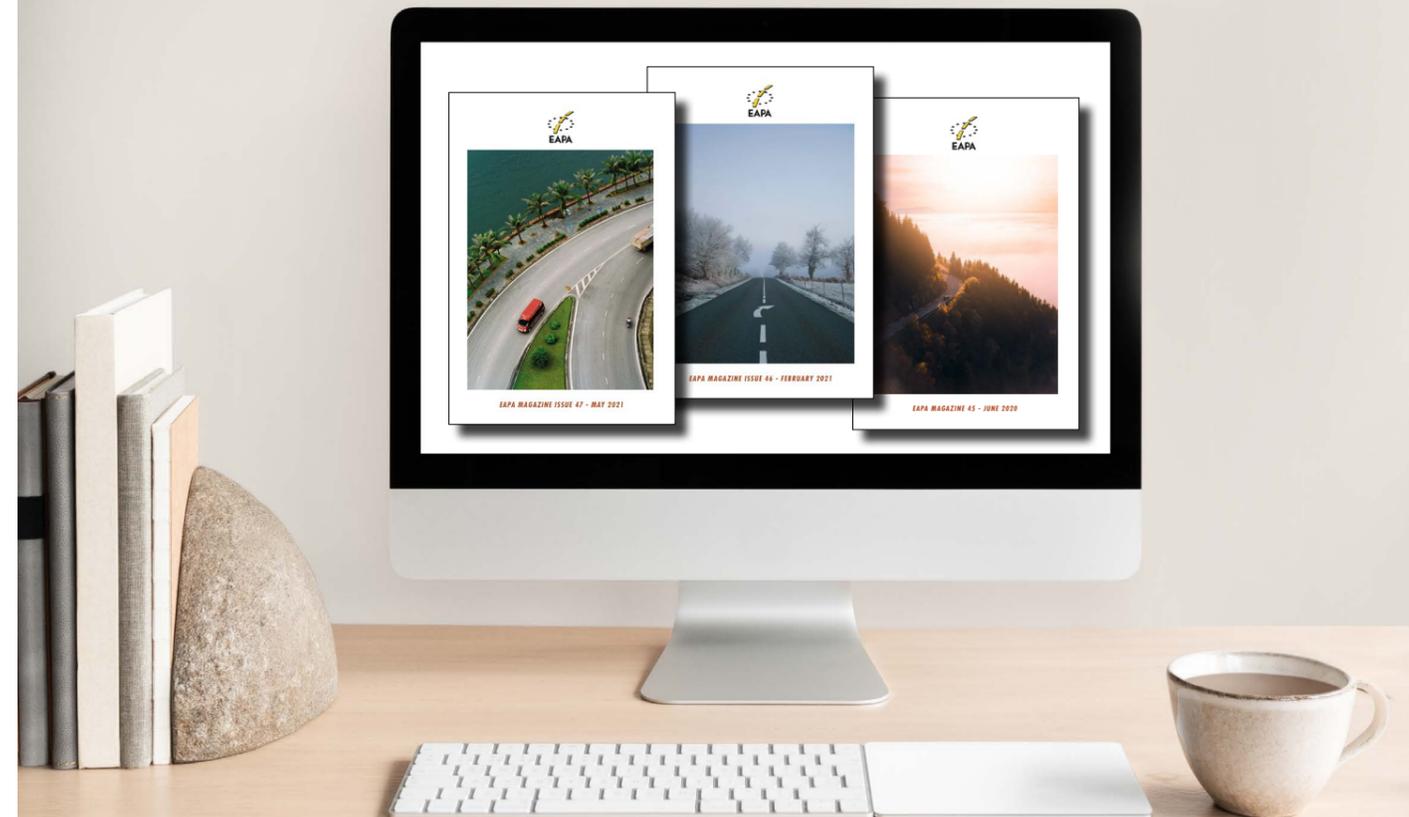
EAPA has currently released issue 48 of its Magazine. It started out as a Newsletter and grew out to becoming a full Magazine (30+ pages) over the years, as the popularity and number of readers grew. The EAPA Magazine goes out to the EAPA Members and Asphalt friends that have subscribed for EAPA information. The Magazine is sent via email as digital document to almost 2,000 subscribers. The Magazine is also placed on the EAPA website and information about the Magazine is shared on EAPA's social media channels such as Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook. The Magazine is free of charge for the readers. Only EAPA Members and members of EAPA members have the opportunity to advertise in the magazine. The size of the magazine is 210 x 297 mm and you can purchase full page or half page adverts.

Next releases in 2022 are planned for:

Issue No.	Release Date	Advertising Deadline
#49	10 Feb 2022	28 January 2022
#50	02 June 2022	20 May 2022

For more information and costs please contact EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher.

E-Mail



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## EAPA NEWS

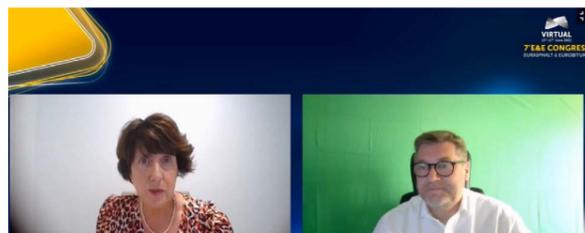
### 7<sup>TH</sup> E&E CONGRESS

The virtual E&E Congress 2021 was successfully delivered.

Close to 800 bitumen and asphalt professionals from five continents and 48 different countries attended the 7<sup>th</sup> E&E Congress, an innovative and highly interactive online event which provided excellent learning and networking opportunities for delegates, exhibitors, speakers and sponsors. The congress was again jointly organised by EAPA and Eurobitume, the European Association of Bitumen Producers.

Themed 'Asphalt 4.0 for future mobility', the virtual congress took place between 15 and 17 June 2021 and included 21 engaging technical, commercial and special sessions delivered by 118 speakers in two parallel auditoria. A big added value for all participants was the possibility of using the virtual platform to access all the congress contents, at any time until 15 September 2021. This was particularly popular with participants who either wanted to attend two sessions that were running at the same time, were unable to attend a session when it was delivered or did not have the opportunity to visit a stand during the congress.

The event was opened by Frédérique Cointe, the immediate past-President of Eurobitume. Then, the current Eurobitume President, Frank-Michael Biel, continued by emphasising the challenging times which everyone is experiencing and how they have provided a platform for the bitumen and asphalt industries to show their adaptability and innovation. He added that an excellent example was how the congress was transformed into a virtual format, which retained many of the benefits of



Frédérique Cointe and Frank-Michael Biel

a traditional physical congress as well as offering many new positive elements.



### INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

During the Congress, the very well-attended technical and commercial sessions attracted over 500 online participants at their peak. The ability to select specific presentations to view between the parallel sessions provided more flexibility than previous congresses.

The new session 'Future leaders', which enabled future and current industry leaders to exchange thoughts and experiences was extremely appreciated by all the participants, as well as the Communications Workshop, which offered a different dynamic to the overall programme content.



Mats Wendel



Knut Johannsen



Breixo Gomez

Both of these sessions were highly interactive and received great participation.

### EXHIBITOR BOOTHS

Embracing a new concept of virtual booths, exhibitors experienced more than 34,000 visits across the 37 booths during the three days of the congress.



### E-POSTERS

The cutting-edge research in the e-poster area was very popular, with 198 technical posters grouped under 10 broad headings:

- Asphalt mixture performance and testing
- Asphalt production, paving and compaction techniques
- Binder performance and testing
- Bituminous emulsions
- Case studies and non-highway applications:

- Success and failure from real practice
- Future roads and mobility
- Health and safety
- Maintenance and rehabilitation
- Sustainability and environment
- Warm mix asphalt / Low temperature asphalt

### CLOSING SESSION

François Chaignon, former president of EAPA and current President of SFERB at Routes de France, commented: "The virtual platform worked very well, we had the keynote speakers of the conference in the opening session, technical presentations in two parallel rooms, live sessions with the communication workshop and insights from a panel of future leaders for the first time, commercial sessions and the e-posters hall as well as a networking area. Almost all of these were delivered in the highest possible quality and the figures speak for themselves".

Juan José Potti, current President of EAPA and ASEFMA stated: "During the Congress I especially liked the very high level of technical content in the technical sessions. Daily sessions were informative and dynamic, thanks to all the interactions in the chats and social media. I also appreciated the results from the live and technical sessions related to Asphalt 4.0, with more than 15 communications presented related to this theme. I sincerely believe that we are taking a great step forward for the sector. From my point of view, it is urgent and very necessary that the digital transformation will be a reality in our activities."



François Chaignon



Juan José Potti

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EXHIBITORS/ SPONSORS SURVEY

1. The quality of scientific and educational content was rated as high, very high or excellent by 95%
2. 80% rated the virtual congress experience as fully or partly meeting their expectations.
3. Exhibitors acknowledged the excellent preparation and support they received in developing content for the virtual platform and the effectiveness of the platform used for the exhibition.
4. Networking was rated not as good as compared to physical exhibitions, with only 40% feeling it was adequate or better.

## CONGRESS FEEDBACK

To help improve future E&E congresses, important feedback from this congress was gathered through surveys conducted among Participants, Exhibitors and Sponsors.

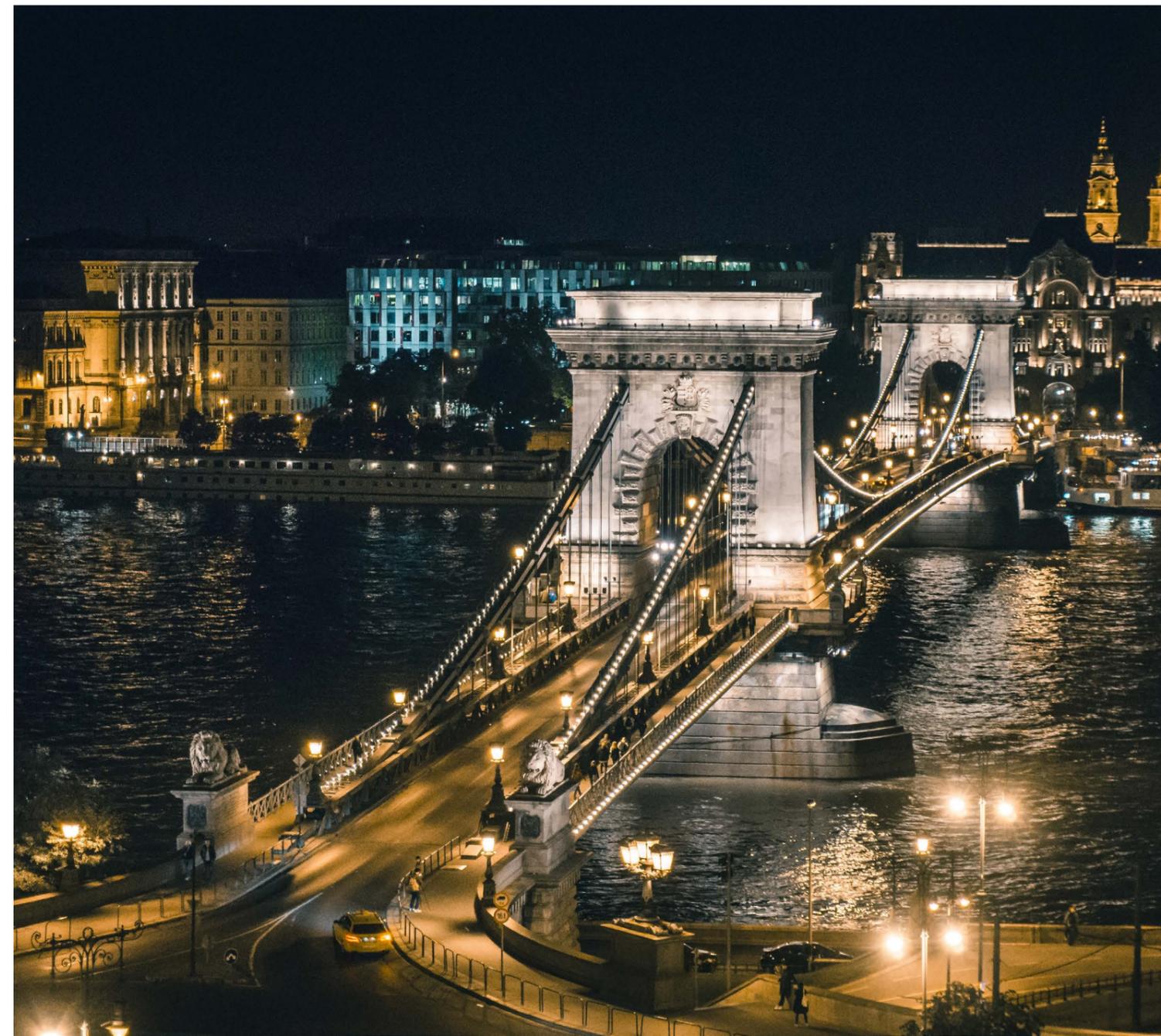
### Key highlights from the participants survey

1. Quality of speakers/panellists in the Opening session and Technical sessions was perceived as very good or excellent by majority, especially the technical sessions.
2. High rating for the quality of scientific and educational content
3. The accessibility of the Congress through the platform and user-friendly navigation was very high, and in most cases excellent!
4. However, the ability for networking was seen as slightly weaker. Most participants felt it was good or at least adequate, but not excellent – this reflection was also highlighted in general feedback.

## ANNOUNCEMENT E&E EVENT 2022 AND E&E CONGRESS 2024

Building on the success of the inaugural, highly-interactive Event in 2018, please make a note in your calendars that the **2<sup>nd</sup> E&E Event** will be held physically in the beautiful city of Vienna in **November or December 2022**. The exact dates and venue will be announced shortly when key details have been confirmed.

Following on from this year's virtual E&E Congress, it is also confirmed that the next **8<sup>th</sup> E&E Congress**, will take place in **Budapest** in **May/June 2024**. Further details will also be communicated as soon as they have been finalised.



## NEW EAPA PRESIDENTS

During the meeting of the EAPA General Council Assembly on 18 May 2021 the members of the Executive Committee elected a new Chairman and Vice Chairman, who also act as the President and Vice President of EAPA. The members of the Executive Committee unanimously elected Dr Juan José Potti and Dipl.Ing. Ralf Pomp as new EAPA President and Vice President for the period 2021-2023.

In this Assembly EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher summarised the main milestones achieved by former Francois Chaignon as President and thanked him for the hard work and commitment in difficult times. Mr. Chaignon thanked EAPA Members, Secretariat and Routes de France for the support.

Both were thankful for the trust that the EAPA members put in them and looked forward to their work for the Association with great pleasure. Juan José Potti gave an inaugural speech, in which he stated: "In the last 10 years in many countries the road network has been built and extended and our main interest is to show that this road network must be preserved and updated to meet new demands and, of course, to reduce the emissions of the vehicles that circulate on it."

[Read his full speech](#)

### DR. JUAN JOSE POTTI - PRESIDENT

Juan José Potti has been Technical Director at Eurovia (Spain) from 1984 to 2006, Manager of the Eurovia Pôle d'Émulsions since its foundation until 2006 and Project Coordinator for several R&D projects funded by the European Commission, such as OPTEL BRITE EURAM IV (1996-2000) and SCORE FP5 (2002-2006), among others.

In April 2006 he became the General Manager of the Spanish Association of Manufacturers of Asphalt



Mixtures (Asefma); in March 2012 he was elected President and therefore became the Executive President of Asefma @asefma\_es, a position he currently holds.

From 2008 to 2013 he was Project Coordinator of the most important R&D Bituminous Mixtures project founded by the Centre for Technological and Industrial Development (CDTI) (with a budget of more than 28 million euros) entitled [Proyecto FENIX](#).

Juan José Potti has been President of the Spanish Technical Association of Bituminous Emulsions (ATEB) @ateb until 2006 and an active member of several standardization CEN Committees, such as TC2227WG1, TC227WG2TG2 and TC336WG1. In 2018 he was named Honorary Member of ATEB. Since April 2009 he has been the Director of the technical journal "Asfalto y Pavimentación".

In 2009 he started digital activities on LinkedIn and in February 2011 on Twitter as @jjpotti; today he has more than 8,000 followers.

Currently he is Vice-President of the Spanish Road Association (AEC) @AECarretera, and President of the Spanish Road Technology Platform (PTC) @PTCarretera.



Juan José Potti became a member of the EAPA @eapa\_org. Executive Committee in 2009, he was awarded with the EAPA Asphalt Advocate of the year award in 2018 and was elected Vice-President of EAPA in June 2019.

You can get in touch with him via e-mail: [jjpotti@asefma.com.es](mailto:jjpotti@asefma.com.es)

### RALF POMP - VICE PRESIDENT

Ralf Pomp, was born 26.07.1962 in Mönchengladbach, Germany.

After finishing High School in 1981, Military Service for 18 months, studies for five years at the RWTH Aachen he finished as Civil engineer in 1987.

He had different internships in cement-, concrete- and road paving companies. He grew up in the family business from young years on, so he learned to operate cars, lorries, wheel loaders, mixing plants and repair those. Ralf Pomp entered professionally the Matthias Heyer Asphalt- and Concrete Mixing Group in 1988, first in the building materials laboratory, later in operations management, sales and since 1999 as CEO and shareholder. The Matthias Heyer Group is a family-owned asphalt- and concrete mixing and delivering company operated in the third generation situated in Wegberg in the very West of Germany.

He is a member of the regional board in DAV since 2005 and a Member of the EXCO/ Dir group in EAPA since June 2018.

Ralf Pomp is married for 26 years to Susanne Wenz and has three grown-up daughters in their studies. His hobbies are motorsports, oldtimer cars and aviation.

You may contact him via [ralf.pomp@heyler-brebag.de](mailto:ralf.pomp@heyler-brebag.de).

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### 25 YEARS OF THE SLOVENIAN ASPHALT PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION (ZAS)

A quarter of a century has passed since the inaugural meeting of the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association (ZAS) was held in the upper Radgona in 1996.

Therefore, on 22 June 2021, ZAS has prepared an event to celebrate the round jubilee. The event was held at the MAROF estate in Mačkovci, Prekmurje in the North-East of Slovenia. Numerous national and foreign guests as well as representatives of the Ministry of Infrastructure attended the meeting. The opening ceremony was held by the President of ZAS, Mag. Slovenko Henigman. He briefly outlined the activities of the Association over the past 25 years. He also pointed out that good and bad times in the construction industry had not affected the capacity to act for ZAS, whose membership has been constant and engaged over the years. In the last year ZAS has been reorganised and has prepared a strategy for the development of the Slovenian asphalt industry; ASPHALT 4.0. In ad-

dition, a Committee of Young Professionals representing the future of the industry has been recently established. Slovenko thanked all the members and invited guests of the meeting for their long-standing support and wished ZAS a bright future.

The Secretary General of the EAPA, Carsten Karcher, delivered greetings to the participants from Brussels and, on behalf of the President of EAPA, Juan José Potti, delivered congratulations to the 25th anniversary of ZAS. He specifically stressed the importance of the excellent long-standing mutual cooperation, where the President of the ZAS has been the voice of Central and Eastern Europe on the Executive Committee for many years. The European asphalt industry is facing the great challenge of climate change, so it needs to be committed even further to the circular economy and to the lowest possible carbon footprint.



Welcome address of ZAS President Slovenko Henigman



EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher

The Slovenian Minister for Infrastructure, Mr Jernej Vrtovec, highlighted, as honorary speaker of the meeting, the association's long-standing success. "We appreciate your work over the course of 25 years, we are grateful that you pass on your knowledge to the next generation. My team and I are aware that without this sector there is no strong Slovenian economy." He pointed out that the ministry team supports intensive investment in

infrastructure for all forms of transport, including railways, cycle lanes, air, shipping and, of course, roads. "Roads are our most important means of transport".



Figure 1 (from left): EAPA Secretary-General Dr Carsten Karcher, Minister for Infrastructure Mr Jernej Vrtovec, ZAS President Mr Slovenko Henigman and Holding Secretary at the Ministry of Infrastructure, Mr Aleš Mihelič.

In 25 years, ZAS organised 146 different events with more than 13,800 participants from both Slovenia and abroad, and 580 papers were prepared and presented. They also held 25 trainings, 25 assemblies, 17 colloquiums on asphalt, bitumen and pavements, and 7 Asphalt Days.



## EXCHANGE WITH THE IRISH ASPHALT PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION ON LCI AND EPD

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) is currently developing a tool for "Life Cycle Management", and it is their intention to incorporate Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) into the lifecycle analysis at the design stage. For this reason, in conjunction with their consultants, they are at a stage where they would like to engage with industry to find out the optimal way to implement it.

In this context, on 26 May 2021, they organised an online workshop consisting of a series of presentations setting out the status of the European Product Category Rules (under development for the case of asphalt mixtures), the experience in countries with advanced national systems (e.g., Norway and Denmark), the current position in Ireland and an outline plan of the direction TII propose to take.

The purpose of the workshop was for the Irish Industry to gain an insight into how the subject of EPD's and their complexity is being managed in Europe.

In this Event, EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez presented the current European framework for the elaboration of EPD for asphalt mixtures. This included the list of published Standards, such as ISO 21930 or EN 15804+A2, the activities being

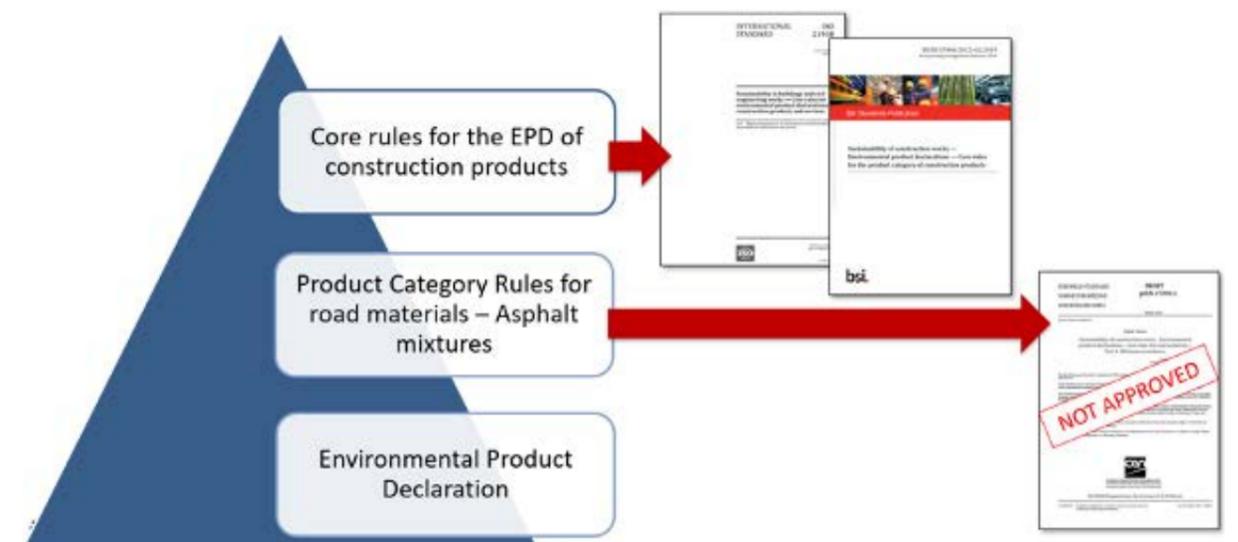
carried out at CEN TC227 WG6 in order to produce specific Product Category Rules for asphalt mixtures, difficulties found and expectations for future developments. He also presented the EAPA position on this topic and recommendations.

Then, Even Sund (Senior Principal engineer NPRA) and Thor Lunaas (Senior Principal engineer, Team leader Asphalt and road markings NPRA) presented the latest developments in Norway, whose national PCR and EPD system, as well as the strategy to introduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as a competitive factor in tenders, are becoming the model to follow for several other European countries.

One of these countries is Denmark, whose experience was also shared by Martin Korsgaard (SGDNK).

Finally, the Irish position was presented by 2 well-known persons inside EAPA: Edmund Hegarty (IAPA) and Alan Lowe (Roadstone), who presented all the developments in asphalt industry to increase sustainability and the need of a good EPD system to prove and declare the benefits of such developments.

Before finishing, the participants had the chance to exchange over an extensive Q&A discussion.



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## NEW MEMBERS

### SRIPATH TECHNOLOGIES



Sripath Technologies develops, manufactures and markets innovative additives, such as rejuvenators, oils, and polymers to enhance the performance of bitumen for paving and roofing applications. Established in 2006, their team of industry veterans have a track record for cutting edge innovation and a suite of products and sustainable solutions. Their worldwide network of affiliates and staff manage the logistics of distribution and delivery. Sripath works closely with eminent researchers from across the globe, utilizing their collective expertise to provide cutting-edge, innovative, and cost-effective products to the asphalt industry. They are committed to incorporating health and safety, as well as responsible environmental sustainability into future endeavours. For more information please visit their website:

[Sripath Website](#)

### RAVAGO CHEMICALS



Ravago Chemicals is a globally acting company and provides a wide range of asphalt and bitumen modifiers. Ravago Chemicals is involved in developing and marketing engineered technical solutions connected to the Asphalt Segment, both paving and waterproofing. They strive to deliver excellence by attending domestic markets and external markets through their comprehensive sales network and certified distribution agencies; focusing on the Asphalt projects around Europe, CIS, Latin America and North Africa.

For more information please visit their website:

[Ravago Website](#)

## COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES OF EAPA

### FACES OF EAPA – FIVE QUESTIONS TO...



Since all the meetings of the EAPA Committees are restricted to EAPA Members, we regularly inform you in this magazine about the relevant topics, which have been discussed. As you may be wondering who are the acting people in these Groups, we want to introduce them to you, starting by the Members of the Executive Committee (the Board) and the Directors' Group. We thought the best way to do this is to ask them some questions and share with you their answers. This is how the new section "Five Questions to ..." was born.

Please find the answers of some members of the mentioned committees on the website of EAPA and in this magazine!

[5 Questions to](#)

### EAPA YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND VIDEOS ON EAPA WEBSITE



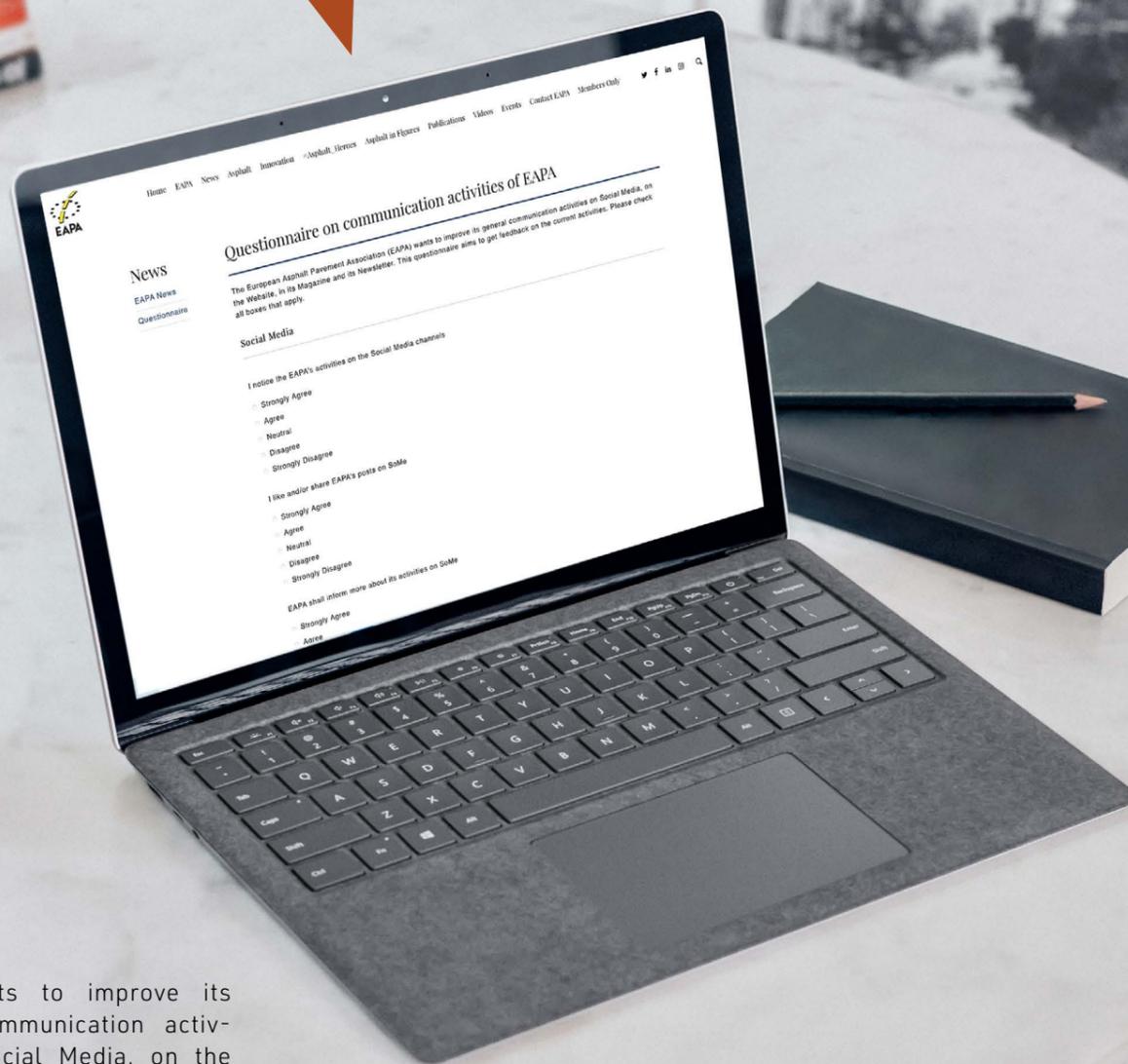
Do you know that EAPA has recently created its own YouTube channel? Several videos have already been uploaded on this platform, e.g. an EAPA Technical Talk between Prof. Davide LoPresti (University of Palermo, Italy) and EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez, videos related to the E&E Congress 2021 and the presentations of the EAPA Webinar on Sustainability Assessment of Asphalt Pavements. Just recently the first video of the series "Generation asphalt" was also released, with Breixo Gomez explaining what is "The largest thing you can re-use".

Get connected to the EAPA YouTube Channel and receive all information on asphalt related topics and the industry in the future

[Generation asphalt – re-use](#)

[EAPA's YouTube Channel](#)

# YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED: QUESTIONNAIRE ON COMMUNICATION



EAPA wants to improve its general communication activities on Social Media, on the Website, in the Magazine and the Newsletter. Therefore, a questionnaire has been prepared to collect feedback. Please take some minutes and fill in this questionnaire and give your valuable comments on the EAPA's communication activities.

[fill in Questionnaire](#)

## EAPA COMMITTEES EAPA COMMITTEES AUTUMN 2021 MEETING

EAPA held the Autumn 2021 Committee meetings on 28-30 September 2021. By the fourth time in a row, and due to the persisting pandemic situation, this 3-days event was organised online, which on the bright side, made possible the participation of more EAPA Members related to physical meetings

### DAY 1 - HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

As usual, the first day was reserved for the discussion of topics related to Health, Safety and Environment. HSE Committee Chairman Mats Wendel opened the meeting with a roundtable, during which Members explained the current Covid-19 situation in their respective countries and presented the measures being taken in the paving sector to maintain the production and keep functioning under safe conditions for the workforce.

After that, the reports from different EAPA Task Forces were presented. It was especially relevant the great support that the Task Force on Life Cycle Assessment is currently giving to CEN TC227 WG6 for the development of the European Product Category Rules (PCR) for the Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) of Asphalt Mixtures.

In this regard, EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez has been also collaborating with the American National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) and the ad-hoc group of stakeholders created to develop a new draft PCR for the EPD of asphalt mixtures. After more than one year of meetings every 2 weeks, a draft was finally issued for public consultation and the comments were collected. The group is now working on the final draft.

After these explanations, EAPA Members had some brainstorm to decide on new agenda items for the next joint EAPA-Eurobitume HSE/TC meeting, which will take place on 13 December 2021. This joint initiative, which has been annually re-

peated over the last years, is highly supported and appreciated by EAPA Members and Eurobitume members.

The meeting continued with updates on new regulations, studies and campaigns related to HSE matters across Europe. Especially extensive time was dedicated to the topic of low rolling resistance asphalt pavements, able to significantly reduce the fuel consumption and emissions of combustion vehicles, as well as to extend the range of electric vehicles. As shown in presentations from Denmark and France, this positive effect can be both obtained through the use of especially designed asphalt mixes or by the implementation of adequate road maintenance campaigns.

### DAY 2 - TECHNICAL TOPICS

The second day of the meeting, moderated by the Chairman of the EAPA Technical Committee, Knut Johannsen, was particularly focused on the technical aspects.

The agenda started with the report from the EAPA Task Forces on Re-use of Reclaimed Asphalt, which after almost 2 years of work, is now at the very final stage of outcomes communication. In this regard, a video of the series "Generation asphalt" has been posted on the EAPA YouTube channel and a batch of written publications are close to be finalised. The first publication is the Task Force Report, which will be an Internal Document available only for EAPA Members. The other three are documents with specific information addressing different target audiences: Industrials, Road Authorities and European Policymakers.

Video of the series "Generation asphalt" on asphalt re-use available on the EAPA YouTube channel

The Task Force on WMA, which started its activity almost a year ago, was especially active in collecting information on the current use of WMA across Europe. For that, a digital questionnaire was created and shared among Members and key companies



Batch of publications on asphalt re-use and circular economy currently in preparation

of the sector. In total, 14 National Associations, 4 Contractors and 8 additional companies (most of them Additives Producers) responded, obtaining a total representation of 17 countries. With this initiative very valuable information was obtained and the work strategy to cover the identified need was defined. Some of these aspects are:

- Main barriers for implementation of WMA
- Potential reasons to use it more
- Regulatory limitations
- Most used WMA techniques
- Feedback on EAPA definition of WMA
- Need of guidance documents for manufacturers and/or Road Authorities

As part of the recently started collaboration with Rilem (International Union of Laboratories and Experts in Construction Materials, Systems and Structures) - Cluster F: Bituminous Materials and Polymers, EAPA provided a list of 10 recommendations on priority areas for research and innovation in the asphalt sector.

After reviewing and discussing the situation at CEN

Standardisation Committees (especially related to bituminous mixtures and bituminous binders), the Committee approved the Technical Review on "High-performance pavements - adapting to future road networks and vehicles with enhanced road requirements". In addition, a Technical Briefing containing a simplified summary and addressing non-technical public, as well as decision/policy makers, was also approved. Both publications will be available soon on the EAPA website.

Before finishing the meeting, the latest developments on other technical topics were presented and discussed. Some of these are the use of waste and by-products from other industries into asphalt, alternative binders and the new e-Highways, able to supply energy to the electric vehicles driving along. Regarding the last topic, three different presentations were shared, covering aspects, such as the available technologies to supply energy, potential impacts (i.e. on pavement performance, durability, safety, etc.), business model and practical experiences in countries, such as Sweden, Germany, France, Israel, South Korea or Japan.



EAPA documents on High-performance pavements, which will be released soon

### DAY 3 - ASPHALT 4.0

The third day was chaired by EAPA President Juan José Potti, who has been also Chairman of the Asphalt 4.0 Committee since its creation. The agenda covered the discussions and updates on the new digital technologies, which nowadays are improving the way, in which organisations of the asphalt sector develop conventional activities,

such as management of asphalt plants, manufacturing of bituminous mixtures, transport/supply or installation (e.g. laying, compaction, etc).

One of the main topics discussed in the meeting were the innovative automated systems for monitoring asphalt pavement surface conditions. The case of UK was presented, where studies have been undertaken:

- To explore the possibility to incorporate these technologies in quality monitoring equipment, as an alternative to the current practices on compliant (QA) testing of asphalt surface course in situ.
- To reduce manual handling of QA testing on live construction site and replacing with automated testing.
- To improve safety, quality and efficiency.

Another important point was the presentation of the new video of the series Generation asphalt, which will be released soon on the EAPA YouTube channel.



Video of the series "Generation asphalt" on Asphalt 4.0 available soon on the EAPA YouTube channel

## NEWS FROM BRUSSELS HORIZON 2020

### EUROPEAN FUNDING FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

This year marks the beginning of the new EU long-term budget running from 2021 to 2027, which together with the NextGenerationEU recovery instrument, amounts to €2.018 trillion in current prices (€1.8 trillion in 2018 prices). This unprecedented response is intended to repair the economic and social damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic and aid the transition towards a modern and more sustainable Europe.

of NextGenerationEU will be invested in the digital transformation.

This framework, together with the current implementation of European Research Programmes, such as Horizon Europe and LIFE, will offer significant funding opportunities for projects and initiatives related to the above-mentioned topics.

The [LIFE Programme](#) is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action, with a budget, which increased to €5.4 billion between 2021 and 2027. It covers different areas, being the most relevant for asphalt manufacturers "Circular economy and quality of life" and "Climate change



Note: All amounts are in current prices.

The package consists of the long-term budget, the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework, made up of €1.211 trillion in current prices (€1.074 trillion in 2018 prices), combined with the temporary recovery instrument, NextGenerationEU, of €806.9 billion (€750 billion in 2018 prices).

More than 50% of the total amount of these programmes will support the modernisation of the European Union through research and innovation, fair climate and digital transitions, preparedness, recovery and resilience. In addition, 20%

mitigation and adaptation". The [call](#) for proposals 2021 is now open.

[Horizon Europe](#) is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. Within the programme, it is especially relevant the Cluster 5 on "Climate, Energy and Mobility" with areas of intervention, such as: "buildings and industrial facilities in energy transition, commu-

nities and cities", "industrial competitiveness in transport", "clean, safe and accessible transport and mobility" and "smart mobility".

The first [calls](#) for proposals are now open. These include:

- Physical and Digital Infrastructure (PDI), connectivity and cooperation enabling and supporting Cooperative, Connected and Automated Mobility (CCAM Partnership)

- Strengthening European coordination and exchange for innovation uptake towards sustainability, quality, circularity and social inclusion in the built environment as a contribution to the new European Bauhaus (Built4People)

- Cost-effective, sustainable multi-functional and/or prefabricated holistic renovation packages, integrating RES and including re-used and recycled materials (Built4People)

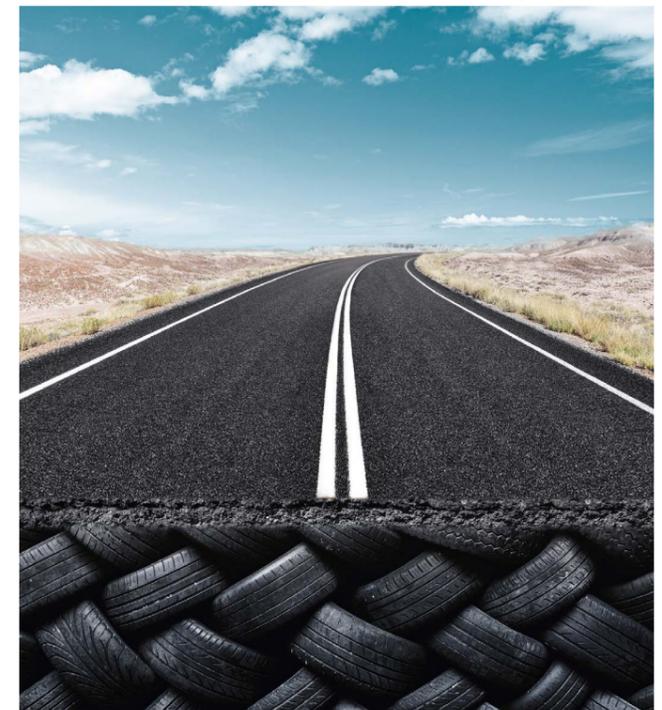
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## HIGH-LEVEL CONSTRUCTION FORUM (HLCF)

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, the European Commission held an online meeting of the re-launched High Level Construction Forum (HLCF). The objective was to discuss and prepare the co-drafting of the EU Construction roadmap that will be organised in the coming weeks and months.

About 220 representatives from industry, Member States, European Commission, social partners and other stakeholders joined to exchange on the main priorities and themes of the HLCF. Overall, the invitation by the European Commission to join this co-creation process was embraced by stakeholders, highlighting the HLCF as a valuable platform to collaborate on a wide range of topics of relevance to the sector and for identifying the pathway for a green, digital and resilient transition.

On the occasion of this kick-off meeting, representatives of the Construction 2050 Alliance (in which EAPA is member) debated with other guests the green and digital transformation of our industry. The HLCF foresees the creation of three construction cluster groups named Digital, Resilient, and Green, with the first meetings taking place end of October 2021. The involvement of EAPA will be important and therefore EAPA will participate in these group meetings and further HLCF meetings.



Ms Fulvia RAFFAELLI, Head of Unit for Construction, DG GROW H.1.

## THE EUROPEAN SDG SUMMIT - TYRE AND ROAD WEAR PARTICLES

After the successful delivery of CSR Europe's first virtual European Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit in 2020, a [second edition](#) was organised on 11-14 October 2021. This year's Summit focused on "Climate Action and a Just Transition" and brought together representatives from the European institutions, business, industry, and civil society to engage in action-oriented dialogues to build a prosperous and inclusive society while pursuing a green, and digital transition.

The Event hosted, each of the 4 days:

- 3 European SDG Roundtables in the morning
- 1 High-level Plenary Session
- 3 European SDG roundtables in the early afternoon
- 3 National SDG Roundtables in the late afternoon

In addition, the Event offered action-oriented dialogues between business leaders, industry federations, and policymakers from Europe and beyond; 500 high-level speakers from a wide variety of sectors and industries; and the best digital formats for highly interactive discussions and quality networking.

The participation was open and free to everyone, gathering hundreds of change-makers, including business representatives, industry federations, National Partner Organizations, NGOs, EU stakeholders and policy makers.

On Day 1, a Session on "Multi-stakeholder Actions to Address the Tyre Sector Sustainability Challenges" was organised and EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez represented the Road Sector in a panel discussion with Fazilet Cinaralp (ETRMA Secretary General), Mohit Tyagi (ACEA Technical Affairs Director), Daniel Venghaus (Researcher at TU Berlin) and Alberto Arroyo Schnell (Head



Presentation of Breixo Gomez in the European SDG Summit

of Policy & Programme, International Union for Conservation of Nature). In addition, the session was opened by Anne-Cécile Rémont, Director of the Tire Industry Project (TIP), WBCSD "The tire sector SDGs roadmap" and Emmanuelle Maire, Head of Unit at the European Commission, DG ENV.

This Session was organised within the framework of the ongoing European Tyre and Road Wear Particles Platform. Launched in 2018 by the European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers Association (ETRMA) and facilitated by CSR Europe, the European TRWP Platform is a cross-sectorial initiative bringing together relevant stakeholders, public authorities and research institutes to share scientific knowledge and co-create mitigation actions to tackle the generation and transportation of tyre and road wear particles (TRWP) into the environment.

Tyre and Road Wear Particles (TRWP) are tiny debris which are formed during normal driving conditions from the friction between the tyre and the road necessary to ensure sufficient grip and safety. Because of their size and composition, these particles are commonly associated with microplastics. The generation of TRWP is influenced by a variety of external factors including, but not limited to, tyre design, vehicle characteristics, weather and driving behaviour.

In addition, and although the related literature is limited at the moment, some studies suggest that road characteristics, such as topology or surface texture can significantly affect the generation rate of such particles. This, together with the capacity of some types of asphalt mixtures and drainage systems to capture TRWP, indicate that certain road designs could help to mitigate the problem. For this reason, EAPA has been involved in the European TRWP since its creation, 3 years ago, making sure that EAPA Members are aware of the latest developments and that the proposed solutions do not involve risks for other essential road characteristics, such as quality, durability, recyclability or safety for workers and users.

## G20 EMPHASISES THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTENANCE

The endorsement of a 'Policy Agenda on Maintenance' at the July G20 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' meeting in Venice sends out a strong signal: Investing in infrastructure maintenance is essential for the sustainable development of our economies. Having clear economic, social and environmental benefits, the added value of infrastructure maintenance is undeniable. In the EU, there should also finally be given to maintenance the prominence it deserves. EAPA highlighted this on several occasions and in its latest manifesto. In the framework of the EU Taxonomy, EAPA is working together with FIEC on having it recognised as sustainable economic activity.

Get the "Policy Agenda on Maintenance" of the G20 [here](#).

## CONFERENCES

### 7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ASPHALT PAVEMENTS OF CROATIAN ASPHALT ASSOCIATION

On 30 September and 01 October the Croatian Asphalt Association held its 7 International Seminar Asphalt Pavements in Opatija, Croatia. The seminar gathered almost 300 participants from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Macedonia, Germany, Slovenia and Serbia, which is a great success due to COVID-19 crisis. In the course of these two days, EAPA President Juan José Potti from Spain and Secretary General Carsten Karcher gave presentations on Asphalt 4.0 and the Asphalt industry's contribution to CO2 emissions reduction.

The presentations and pictures of the seminar will be available on: [www.h-a-d.hr](http://www.h-a-d.hr)



Carsten Karcher, EAPA

## 2021 AfPA ONLINE SYMPOSIUM "ROADS GOING FULL CIRCLE"

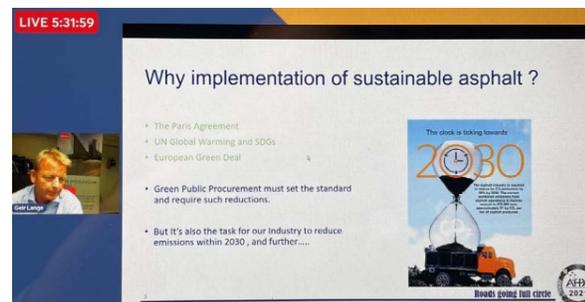
Last August, the Australian flexible Pavement Association (AfPA), that as EAPA is member of the Global Asphalt Pavement Alliance (GAPA), held its Symposium 2021. Due to uncertainty of COVID19 it was organised online. The overall theme "Roads going full cycle" referred to the need for the infrastructure sector to become circular and incentivise circular economy solutions to respond to the challenges of climate change, carbon emissions and reducing the use of virgin natural resources. From the design stage to construction and asset management, circularity requires choices, such as designing for longer life, using durable and renewable materials, ensuring robust quality construction standards to reduce maintenance, waste, emissions of greenhouse gasses and optimise the use of the assets throughout their lifecycles. This online event was an exciting opportunity to engage and share leading knowledge in a new and exciting way, reaching out to delegates from all over the world like never before. Thus, also European speakers gave their views and experience on these topics. Amongst them, EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher and EAPA Health Safety and Environment Committee Member Geir Lange from Veidekke, Norway. They spoke about European approaches and ways to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the asphalt industry.



Carsten Karcher



Anna D'Angelo, AfPA



Geir Lange, Veidekke

[Read more](#)

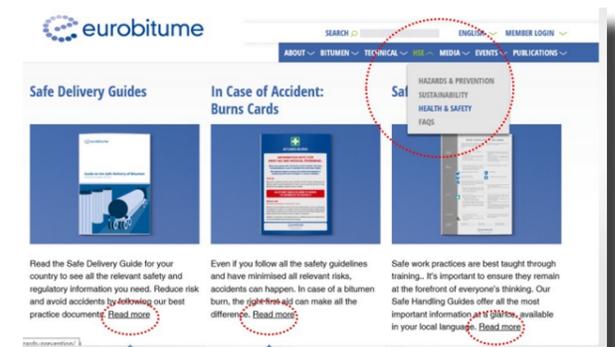
## EAPA-EUROBITUME ACTIVITIES SAFE HANDLING OF BITUMEN EUROBITUME

To promote safe working with bitumen throughout the supply chain and in road, industrial and building applications, Eurobitume produced a wealth of operational health, safety and environmental (HSE) information, guidance and materials.

All this information is freely available on the Eurobitume website, where a large suite of safety-related documents is easily accessible in multiple European languages.

### Safety information throughout the Eurobitume website

This can be found from the [HSE drop-down tab](#) in the menu across the top of every page on the Eurobitume website.



### Safety documentation accessible from the Eurobitume website

Specific topics and documents (see examples listed below) can be searched for using the PUBLICATIONS drop-down, which is also in the menu across the top of every page on the Eurobitume website.

- Safe Delivery of Bitumen guide
- Safe Handling cards
- Burns cards
- Safety Shower guides



### 1. Safe Delivery of Bitumen guide

As bitumen is hot when it is loaded onto tankers, transported and then discharged, there are risks that can be safely managed by following the good practices detailed in Eurobitume's [Guide to the Safe Delivery of Bitumen](#).

Developed by experts from Eurobitume and their member companies, the guide draws upon exhaustive research and years of practical experience.

It clearly defines not only the responsibilities of all parties involved in the loading, transportation and discharge of bitumen, but also includes a summary of best practices and covers the following areas:

- Basic delivery site conditions
- Personal protective equipment
- Delivery vehicle equipment
- Operation and maintenance of storage tanks and associated pipework
- Procedures for deliveries
- Training in handling and transportation
- Safety documentation
- Site inspection

To make this important safety information easily accessible and appropriate in countries across Europe, where necessary the translated national version has been customised to reflect any regulatory and safety data specific to that country.

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**2. Safe Handling cards**

The Eurobitume [Safe Handling Card](#) summarises the principal hazards and risks associated with handling hot bitumen and provides best practice safety advice.

Available in 22 languages from the Eurobitume website, the Safe Handling Card contains:

- General safety advice
- Recommendations for personal safety measures, including PPE (personal protection equipment)
- First aid recommendations
- Advice about what to do in the event of a bitumen fire

**3. Burns cards**

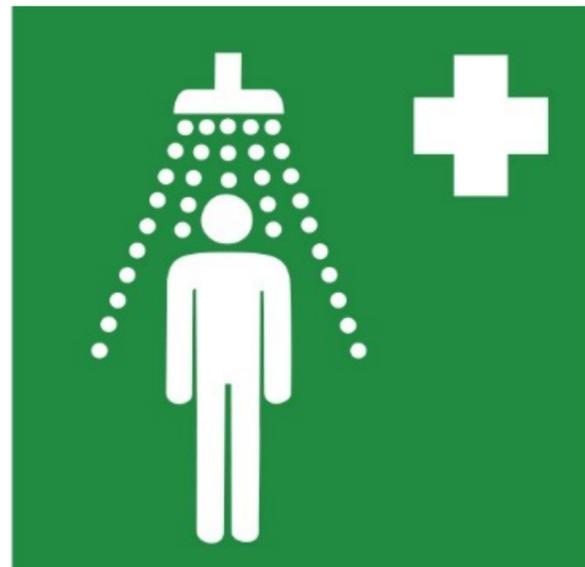
In the regrettable event that an individual comes into contact with hot bitumen, appropriate early treatment is crucial

Eurobitume has produced practical advice for first-responders who attend bitumen burn incidents and guidance for medical professionals who subsequently treat bitumen burn victims in the Eurobitume Bitumen Burns Card.

**4. Safety Shower guides**

To aid the crucial, initial treatment of a bitumen burns victim, every site where hot bitumen is handled should have a suitably specified, appropriately located, safety shower – as described in the Eurobitume a [Safety shower guidance](#) document.

All of Eurobitume's [HSE guidance and advice documents](#) can be viewed by visiting the [Publications](#) page of Eurobitume's website and may be downloaded from there.



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## NEW JOINT EAPA-EUROBITUME HSE/TC MEETING

In December of 2019 and 2020, EAPA and Eurobitume organised joint meetings of the respective HSE and Technical Committees. These events were an excellent opportunity to extend the good relationships between the Members of both Associations and exchange views on the most relevant hot topics currently affecting the asphalt and bitumen industry.

Last year, the event was organised online, which allowed the outstanding participation of around 60 Members. After such a successful experience, both Associations decided to repeat the meeting, once again, on **13 December 2021**.

Although the agenda has not been fully defined yet, it will cover different topics under the areas of Environment, Health & Safety, Circular Economy, Quality and Standardisation.

Among other topics discussed in previous editions, especial mention can be made on the development of standards for the environmental declaration of impacts of asphalt mixtures, bitumen and other construction materials, as well as the conflictive situation with CE-Marking due to a series of product Standards, which have been approved by CEN but not cited yet in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Last time, the meeting ended with both Associations sharing the latest respective publications, which can be listed, as follows:

### EAPA:

- The use of secondary materials, by-products and waste in asphalt mixture, Second edition
- Classification of readiness of European highways for adopting connected, automated and electric vehicles
- Asphalt in railway tracks
- High-performance asphalt pavements - adapting for future road networks
- Asphalt in Figures 2019

### Eurobitume:

- Eurobitume LCI for bitumen
- Pocket guide for H2S in a number of languages.
- Document on boiling prevention.
- Series of information sheets on different test methods (e.g. viscosity).

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES & CONGRESSES

### AV'21

The AV'21 Conference organised by the Czech Road Contractors Association and the Asphalt Pavements Section of the Czech Road Society, will be held on 23rd and 24th November 2021 in the Metropol Cultural Center of České Budějovice (Czech Republic).

This motto of the conference this year is "We will not catch Europe without good-quality pavements".

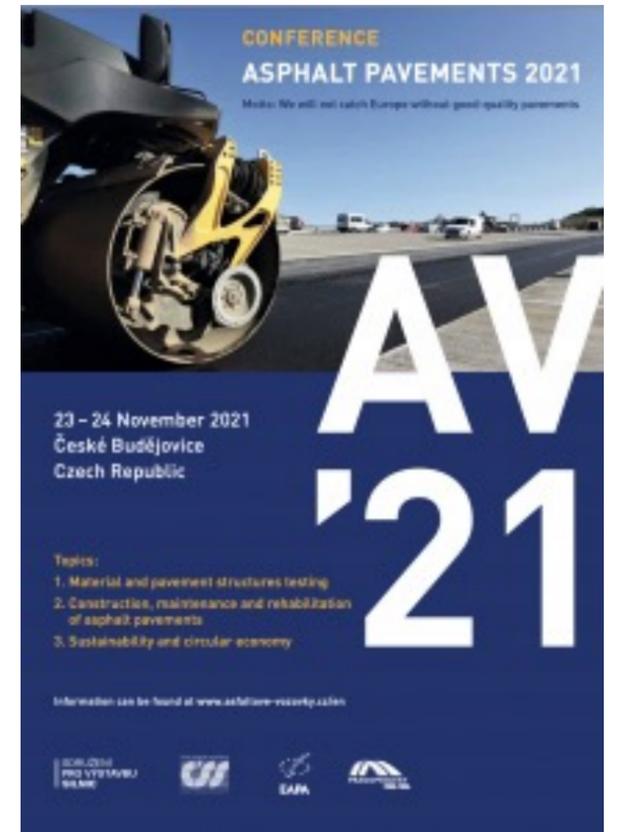
Three topics have been defined in the [programme](#):

1. Material and pavement structures testing
2. Construction, maintenance and rehabilitation of asphalt pavements
3. Sustainability and circular economy

The Conference will also have an opening session, in which EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez will participate with well-known faces of EAPA, such as Petr Svoboda (Director of the Czech Road Contractors Association) and Slovenko Heningman (Director of the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association). Other Members of the Honorary Executive Committee and selected guests are:

- Petr Mondschein, Czech Road Society
- Petr Laušman, Road Contractors Association
- Jiří Hlavatý, Road and Motorway Directorate
- Martin Janeček, Ministry of Transport
- Martin Kuba, Association of Regions of the Czech Republic

More information (in English) and registration page can be found [here](#).



## 18<sup>TH</sup> COLLOQUIUM ASPHALT, BITUMEN AND PAVEMENTS

On 1-3 December 2021 ZAS, the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association, will organise its 18th Colloquium on Asphalt, Bitumen and Pavements, which will again be held in Bled, Slovenia. The Conference, which is the largest international meeting of construction and maintenance of pavements in Slovenia, will take place in the Rikli Balance Hotel.

Amongst the presenters of this colloquium will be EAPA President Juan José Potti, EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher, EAPA Executive Committee member Slovenko Henigman, EAPA Directors' Group member Petr Svoboda, the Chairman of the EAPA Technical Committee Knut Johannsen, and EAPA TC member Thorsten Butz,



**18<sup>th</sup> Colloquium**  
**ASPHALT, BITUMEN and PAVEMENTS**  
 Bled ~ Slovenia, 1 ~ 3 December 2021

## 8<sup>TH</sup> TURKISH NATIONAL ASPHALT SYMPOSIUM

The 8<sup>th</sup> National Asphalt Symposium and Exhibition with the theme of "Asphalt 4.0 for Mobility and Digital Transformation" will be held on 8-9 December 2021 at Sheraton Ankara Hotel & Convention Centre under the auspices of the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure and the General Directorate of Highways, in cooperation with the Turkish Asphalt Contractors Association-ASMÜD and the Turkish Road Association YTMK.

The National Asphalt Symposium and Exhibition, being held since 1996, aims to bring together road authorities, academic scientists, researchers, and other parts of asphalt industry to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of asphalt technologies for future mobility and digital transformation. It also provides an interdisciplinary platform for authorities, researchers and practitioners to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered, and solutions adopted in the fields of asphalt technologies.



In the context of symposium theme, the following topics will be discussed:

- Asphalt 4.0 for Mobility and Digital Transformation
- Performance of Asphalt Mixes and Testing
- Asphalt Production, Paving and Compaction
- Health, Safety and Environment
- Pavement Management, Maintenance and Rehabilitation
- Sustainability of Asphalt Pavements

The Organising Committee, as well as the Executive Board will have the participation of im-

portant EAPA Members, such as the former EAPA President Ayberk Özcan or the current ASMÜD Director Zeliha Temren.

In addition, this year EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez will present the work done by the EAPA Committee for Asphalt 4.0. Topics, such as the definition of Asphalt 4.0 and implications for the paving sector, the latest digital technologies available or the mobility transformation, which the transport sector is experiencing nowadays, will be important parts of his presentation.

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## EAPA MEETINGS

### OCTOBER 2021

- 19-20 Oct 2021 CEN TC336 WG1 meeting
- 26-27 Oct 2021 CEN TC227 WG1 meeting
- 27 Oct 2021 E&E Congress 2021 Closing and Brainstorming meeting in Madrid
- 28 Oct 2021 Global Asphalt Pavement Alliance online meeting

### NOVEMBER 2021

- 2 Nov 2021 CEN TC336 Revision EN 12597 meeting
- 17-18 Nov 2021 CEN TC336 Plenary meeting

### DECEMBER 2021

- 13 Dec 2021 Joint EAPA and Eurobitume TC and HSE Committee meeting

### JANUARY 2022

- 11 Jan 2022 CEN TC336 Sustainability Task Force
- 25 Jan 2022 CEN TC227 WG6 meeting

### MARCH 2022

- 9-10 Mar 2022 CEN TC336 WG1 meeting
- 15 Mar 2022 Health, Safety and Environment Committee meeting
- 16 Mar 2022 Technical Committee meeting
- 17 Mar 2022 Asphalt 4.0 Committee meeting
- 17 Mar 2022 Communications Committee meeting

### APRIL 2022

- 6 Apr 2022 CEN TC227 WG6 meeting
- 26 Apr 2022 Executive Committee & Directors' Group meeting in Paris
- 27 Apr 2022 General Council Assembly in Paris
- 27 Apr 2022 CEN TC227 Chairman's Advisory Group

### JUNE 2022

- 29-30 Jun 2022 CEN TC227 Plenary meeting

### SEPTEMBER 2022

- 27 Sep 2022 Health, Safety and Environment Committee meeting
- 28 Sep 2022 Technical Committee meeting
- 29 Sep 2022 Asphalt 4.0 Committee meeting
- 29 Sep 2022 Communications Committee meeting

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