

***EAPA MAGAZINE ISSUE 49 - FEBRUARY 2022***

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## INTRODUCTION

I consider it an honour and a great responsibility to be the President of EAPA, the first president from Spain. I presented this same thoughts and the role of Asefma as a founding member of EAPA almost 50 years ago, in my inaugural speech. In this occasion, I would like to explain in a little more detail the objectives and challenges that our industry is facing.

First, I am convinced that the objective of EAPA and all associations and companies in the sector should have a more social and global approach. We must make an educational effort and focus our communication on the society. For too many years we have been very endogamic and have oriented our message exclusively towards our direct client, the Road Administrations. I believe that it is time to promote our "customer experience" and address our message to all road users, to all citizens. This is why in our congresses and events, we should never forget the communication through social media and the use of streaming to achieve a digital engagement far superior to classic face-to-face formats.

Second, the production of bituminous mixtures in Europe has fallen in the last 10 years. It seems obvious that our classic arguments, based on comfort and safety, to defend the importance of road maintenance have become insufficient. Even other arguments based on economic criteria, such as maintaining the heritage value of the road network do not seem to be effective anymore. I sincerely think that the strongest and most attractive argument nowadays is the link between the road maintenance and the transport emissions. We know that by reducing the rolling resistance of our roads, we can significantly contribute to the decarbonisation of the transport sector, which nowadays is responsible for 25% of the total emissions. Unfortunately, we do not have accurate and up-to-date data on such reductions. The [Spanish EMIPAV project](#) is a first step in this regard, that can be replicated in many countries to bring further clarity on this issue.

The [International Road Maintenance Day \(IRMD\)](#) initiative, has been very effective in combining

the 2 previous arguments: social and environmental. Therefore, I encourage you to participate, one more year, in the IRMD 2022 that will be held on 7 April 2022.

I would like to finish with the third objective: digitalization and innovation. I am absolutely convinced that the revolution we are living nowadays is similar to that experienced at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th. Back then, the horse was displaced by the combustion engine, and now the combustion engine is feeling the push of the electric car and other energy systems. In addition, the autonomous car, capable of traveling without a driver, is being inexorably developed with the push of even large companies, which did not belong to this sector before, such as Google or Apple. And as if this were not enough, the connected vehicle is already here to revolutionize cargo transportation, traffic management and many other things. CCAM mobility is the goal and forces us to innovate and develop our Asphalt 4.0 concept. As we said in the slogan of the E&E Congress 2021: "Asphalt 4.0 for future mobility".

Dr. Juan José Potti  
EAPA President  
@jjpotti



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# 37

## ECONOME

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## EAPA NEWS

### SAVE THE DATE - 2<sup>ND</sup> E&E EVENT WILL BE HELD FROM 14-15 NOVEMBER 2022 IN VIENNA

Make a note in your calendar now to ensure you don't miss the opportunity to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> E&E Event, which will take place on 14 & 15 November 2022 at the Hilton Park Hotel in the charming city of Vienna, described as Europe's cultural capital.

To build upon the huge success of the first E&E Event, held in Berlin in 2018, we will return to the highly interactive physical conference format, with invited speakers and an adjacent exhibition.

The inaugural E&E Event attracted a high level of interest and support from sponsors and exhibitors. Information regarding sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities at this year's event are expected to be available in March.

EAPA and Eurobitume Members will again have the unique possibility to subscribe earlier for Exhibition and Sponsorship. EAPA will keep you informed.

More information will be soon available also on the website of the E&E Event:

[E&E Event website](#)



# E&E EVENT 2022

EURASPHALT & EUROBITUME

14 & 15 NOVEMBER 2022  
**VIENNA**



## SAVE THE DATE!

### 14 & 15 NOVEMBER 2022

### HILTON VIENNA PARK



#eeevent2022  
[www.eeevent2022.org](http://www.eeevent2022.org)

## ASPHALT IN FIGURES

EAPA released in December 2021 the new issue of "Asphalt in Figures", the well-known publication, which every year summarises the production of the European asphalt sector.

The data refers to production, types of asphalt, applications, binders, re-use/recycling rates, number of companies and production sites. These figures have been established with the assistance of the members of the European Asphalt Pavement Association, being at the moment the best available and most reliable data for the asphalt industry.

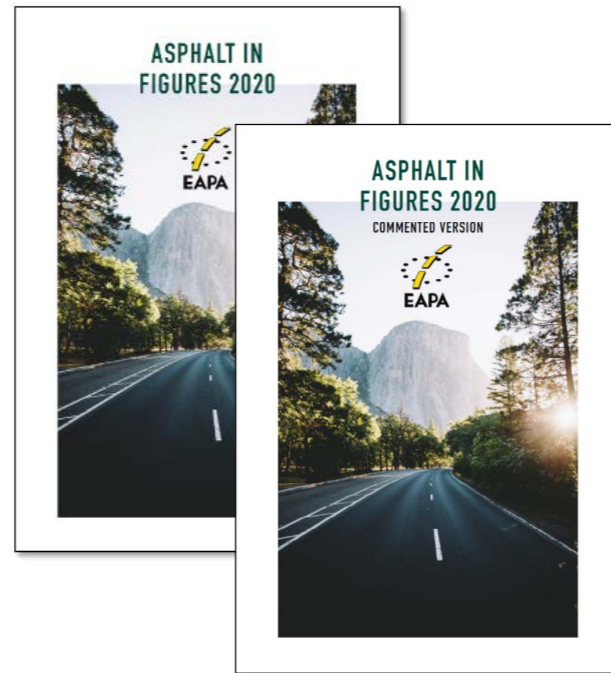
As a novelty, by the first time the figures were made available also in Excel format. This will make easier for the reader to import and analyse the data in further studies.

In addition, and as it has been done over the last three years, EAPA also prepared a commented version for EAPA Members Only, in which extra graphs and an exhaustive analysis of the figures were also included.

This issue is the first to be published after the UK left the European Union. In order to be consistent through the historic series of data, all the figures from previous years referring to "EU-28" (now EU-27) were recalculated. Thus, these figures are different to those reported in previous publications.

The total production of hot and warm mix asphalt in 2020 was 208,3 million tonnes for the EU-27 countries and 276,9 Mt considering further countries in Europe (e.g. Norway, Switzerland, Great Britain and Turkey). Compared to the previous year, these figures represent decreases of 3,7% and 1,0% respectively, most likely driven by the Covid-19 crisis. In any case, as some projects were still ongoing in 2020, the figures of 2021 will be key to assess the actual impact of the pandemic in the sector.

The main asphalt producer was Germany with 38,0 Mt, followed by France (31,9 Mt). The

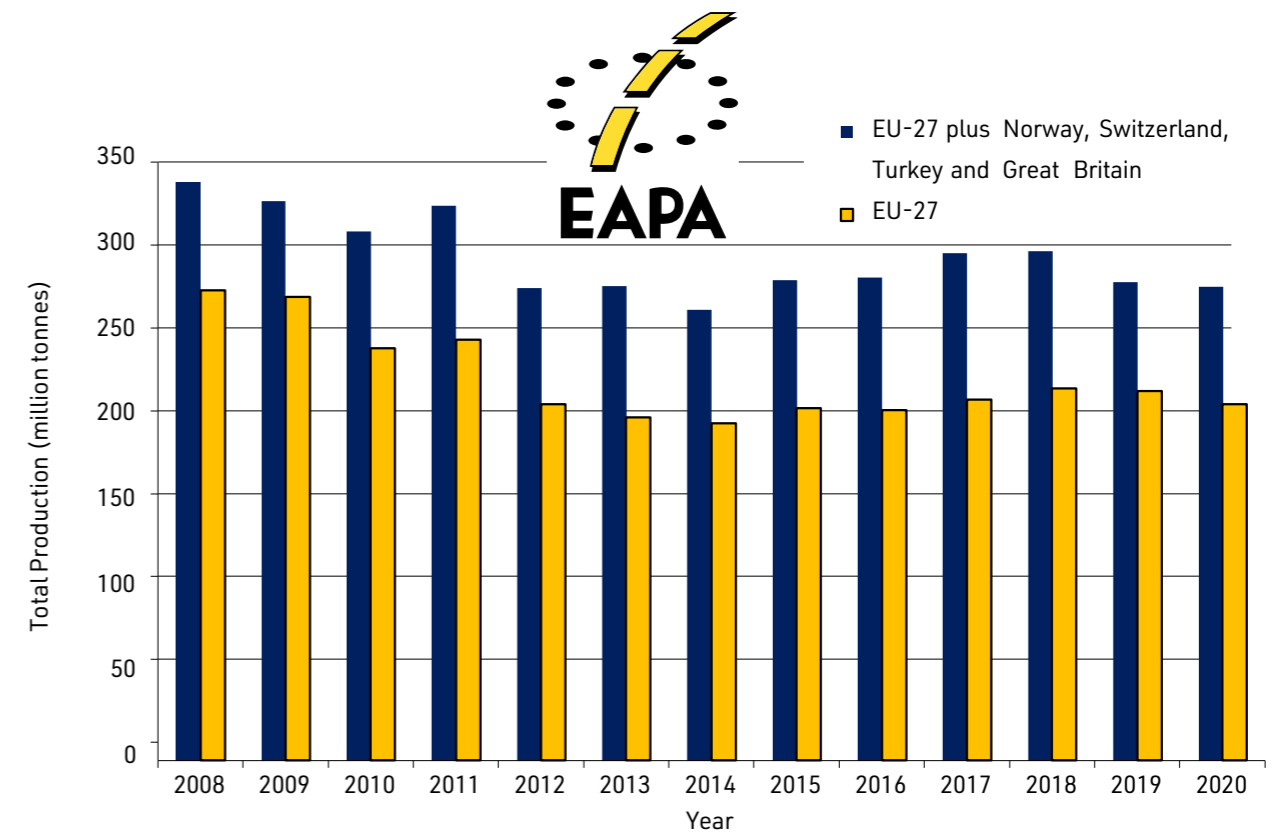


Asphalt in Figures 2020. Standard (left) and commented version for Members Only (right)

case of Turkey was especially relevant, as after the big drop in 2019, from 41,7 Mt to 23,5 Mt (-43,6%), in 2020 the production recovered a very significant 34,9%.

In general, European countries had been increasing their figures over the last period, but the 276,9 Mt registered in 2020 are still far from the historic maximum of 347,7 Mt, reported in 2007. Hence, the sector is, in general terms, not completely recovered from the worst years of the economic crisis (2008-2013) and it will be necessary to wait until the figures of 2021 to assess the real impact of the new Covid-19 crisis.

On the bright side, the figures reported by some European countries showed that the steady growth of the production of Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) continued in 2020. Furthermore, the amount of re-claimed asphalt, which was re-used and recycled, reached once again, very high levels.



Total Production of Asphalt in Europe from 2008 to 2020

[Download Asphalt in Figures](#)

## EAPA ASPHALT EXCELLENCE AWARD

For the first time ever in the year 2021 EAPA awarded outstanding work and research related to asphalt pavements or asphalt industry or EAPA Committees with the EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award. The honoured person should be a member of EAPA or an EAPA Committee and is selected by the EAPA Secretary General and two representatives of the EAPA Technical Committee and two representatives of the EAPA HSE Committee. The trophy for the award winner is presented during a major event of or with participation of EAPA.

The 2021 EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award was granted to Jiří Fiedler, representing the Czech Contractors Association in EAPA and André Täube, Director of the German Asphalt Pavement Association DAV.

Jiří Fiedler has been very active for more than 20 years in the committees of EAPA. His first meeting was in 2001 and since then he supported all kinds of EAPA Committees, e.g. the Technical Committee and the Health, Safety and Environment Committee. Jiří has always been a very active person in these meetings. He was well prepared, always had a strong opinion on a topic and sometimes even his own agenda for the meetings and topics. Meetings with him were always inspiring, fruitful, and challenging. Many studies have been summarised and explained by Jiří to the colleagues, and he always volunteered to do some extra work and the outcome for EAPA was always excellent. He knows the details and we could always count on him. His expertise is highly appreciated and accepted in EAPA

and he never missed to explain the participants of the meeting that "I am just the retired guy from Czech Republic, but in my opinion ...".

André Täube has been very active for more than 18 years in the committees of EAPA and has done great work for the Asphalt Industry. His first meeting in EAPA was in 2004 and since then he heavily supported the EAPA committee work especially in the EAPA Technical Committee. André has participated in almost every TC meeting since then. He was always well prepared and had a strong opinion on the relevant topics. Everybody remembers and will remember his high pile of printed documents sorted in a typical German folder for every meeting. His expertise from the German point of view and experience is highly appreciated. In his role as director of the German Asphalt Pavement Association (DAV), member of EAPA, he is excellently serving the German Asphalt Industry since more than 18 years.

It has always been a pleasure for EAPA Staff and EAPA Committee members to work jointly with both experts through all these years and we hope that this fruitful alliance goes on for many more.

The 2021 EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award is well deserved!



EAPA Director Breixo Gomez virtually handing over the trophy to Jiří Fiedler at AV'21 in Budweis



Jiří Fidler (left) receiving the trophy in Prague from Petr Svoboda from Czech Contractors Association and member of the EAPA Directors' Group.



André Täube was honoured by EAPA Vice President Ralf Pomp (right) and EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher in the premises of DAV in Bonn



## #RUNNERSLOVEASPHALT - SHIRTS AND CAMPAIGN

EAPA Secretariat recently created and ordered a new set of "Runners Love Asphalt" T-shirts. The first edition in white was dealt out amongst members and it was high time to have a new edition. This edition is the black one and is available in both short and long-sleeve versions. The shirts have a high-level printing and have been produced with very good quality by CRAFT, the Dutch sports clothes manufacturer. Everybody can purchase the shirts on the website of the German Asphalt Pavement Association for a prize of 25€ including the mailing cost within Europe for all sizes and forms.

[DAV Website](#)

In the next weeks EAPA will start a campaign to collect the best pictures and stories in the social media of runners on asphalt with the hashtag #runnersloveasphalt. The post on Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn with the best content and many likes will be awarded on selection by the EAPA Communications Committee and EAPA Secretariat. The winner will receive a set of six "Runners Love Asphalt" shirts and will be presented in this year's General Council Assembly in Paris in April 2022.



Delivery of the Shirts to DAV: Marco Bokies, Carsten Karcher, Ralf Pomp and André Täube (from left to right)



## SHARING BEST PRACTICE - EAPA TECHNICAL TALK

UK's Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA) organises a free, interactive, annual Sharing Best Practice event, aimed at local authority highway engineers. This year the event was held, once again online on 21 October 2021. Over 180+ delegates from over 90 local authorities registered in advance to attend the virtual event – highlighting the value that our sector places on collaboration and the benefits associated with finding out how industry colleagues are dealing with the challenges we all face. One session was chaired and prepared by Malcolm Simms (MPA asphalt, EAPA TC Vice Chair) on "Net zero asphalt policy, drivers and practice: European experience". For this, he invited Geir Lange (Veidekke, EAPA TC and HSE Committee) and Carsten Karcher (EAPA Secretary General) for a 45 Minutes technical talk. Get this video on the EAPA Website and further information and videos of that day on the AIA website and learn more about the latest developments on the way to net zero in the road construction industry.

[Link to Video](#)



## EAPA VIDEO BRIEFING ON CO<sub>2</sub>- EMISSIONS REDUCTION

Anders Hundahl (@anders\_hundahl), CEO of the Danish Asphalt Pavement Association (DAPA), explains in a short video on the EAPA Website a climate-friendly asphalt layer with low rolling resistance that could save 200.000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Learn more about this initiative of the Danish Road Authorities supported by the Danish Asphalt Industry and DAPA in the video especially produced for EAPA.

[Link to Video](#)



## 2022 ASEFMA CALENDAR

The Spanish Association of Manufacturers of Asphalt Mixtures (ASEFMA, @asefma\_es) published its 2022 calendar, which this year celebrates its tenth edition. In this occasion, the technological developments of asphalt pavements and their contribution to climate neutrality are presented. The calendar also integrates the European campaign "Asphalt Advantages", promoted by EAPA and Eurobitume. It can be downloaded on the EAPA Website.

[Link to calendar](#)



## NEWS FROM THE EAPA TASK FORCES

The work of EAPA is structured around the following 4 main Committees:

- Health, Safety and Environment Committee
- Technical Committee
- Asphalt 4.0 Committee
- Communication Committee

Every year, during the Autumn Committee meetings, EAPA Members decide which topics will get the highest priority to be developed over the following year. Such planning includes the definition of objectives and expected outcomes (e.g. EAPA position paper, technical review, YouTube videos, etc.), as well as a series of tasks or actions.

When a significant amount of work is foreseen in order to fully achieve the planned outcomes, a Task Force (TF) is created. These specific Groups are composed of a smaller number of EAPA experts on the matter and meet more frequently than the Committees.

At the moment, the following EAPA Task Forces are active:

- Re-use of Reclaimed Asphalt (RA)
- Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA)
- Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
- Decarbonisation

The TF Re-use of RA has been active since more than 2 years and currently is finalising a batch of publications on the circular economy of asphalt. This will include an internal report for EAPA Members Only, a technical review for technicians and industrials, a technical briefing with recommendations for Road Administrations, an EAPA position paper and a YouTube video of the series Generation Asphalt for the general public.

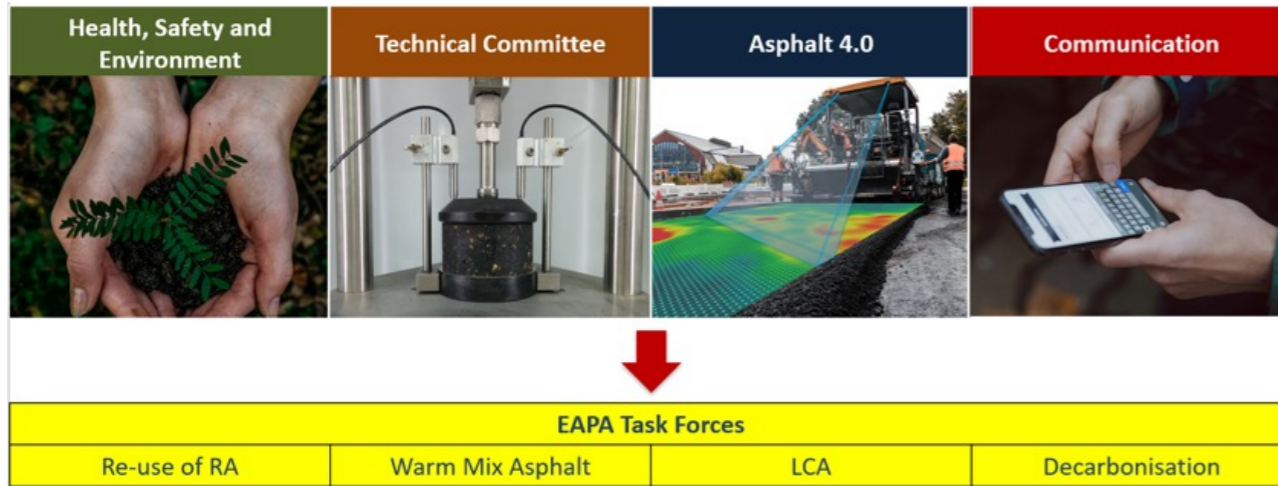
The TF WMA has been busy collecting data from National Associations and key contractors in order

to define the status of the use of WMA in Europe and, based on this, establish the relevant actions.

The TF LCA has been very active supporting CEN TC227 WG6 in the drafting of the Product Category Rules (PCR) for the Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) of asphalt mixtures.

And finally, a brand-new TF on Decarbonisation

was kicked-off on 19 January 2022. The main objective is to find common understanding / position in EAPA on the potential for decarbonisation and the readiness of the asphalt industry to achieve carbon neutrality in the paving sector. It is expected to eventually produce an EAPA Position Paper (containing the decarbonisation roadmap of the asphalt paving sector) and related presentations in events and digital communication.



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# CONFERENCES

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

On 2 and 3 December 2021, the largest biennial international meeting on road construction and maintenance in Slovenia took place in Bled. The 18<sup>th</sup> Colloquium on Asphalts, Bitumen and Pavements was organized by the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association (ZAS), which is also celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. More than 250 participants from eight countries (220 physically) attended the colloquium, which featured 17 expert papers, eight commercial and technical presentations, and one invited lecture.



Participants of the 18<sup>th</sup> CABP

This Event is of great importance for the Slovenian asphalt industry, as the conclusions are considered as the work routemap for the following two years. In this regard, a meeting was also held the afternoon before between the Ministry of Infrastructure, public authorities DRSI and DARS, and the industry, in which ZAS and EAPA presented the current situation and challenges in Slovenia compared to the rest of Europe.

In his introductory speech, Slovenko Henigman, president of the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association (ZAS), presented where the Slovenian

asphalt activity is located for the future. Slovenko stated that "if we can be satisfied with public procurement and asphalt production quantities, we cannot be satisfied with environmental protection and emission reduction activities in our industry. In the coming years, we will be doing a lot of hard work in this department".

The event had also the participation of EAPA President Juan José Potti, Mr Aleš Mihelič, State Secretary at the Ministry of Infrastructure, Ms Ljiljana Herga, Director of DRSI, Mr Boštjan Rigler, a member of the DARS Management Board, and Mr Jože Smolič, member of the Petrol Management Board, who once again took over the sponsorship of the event. They all emphasized the significance of such events, congratulated the association on its anniversary, and wished them continued success.

The main topic of this colloquium was the preparation of the asphalt industry to meet the objectives of the European Green Deal. Hence, the majority of the papers addressed topics such as the reduction of asphalt production temperatures and emissions, asphalt re-use and recycling and Asphalt 4.0.

The colloquium was structured into four thematic sections: asphalt re-use, workplace conditions, production and testing of asphalt mixtures and durability and sustainability of asphalt pavements.

Slovenko Henigman concluded the 18th CABP showing his satisfaction about the Slovenian asphalt production, which has remained close to 1.9 million tons over the last years. He added that Slovenia has a large volume of public procurement, which is expected to grow in the future, so changes in the industry will be required to reduce emissions and make better use of resources. For this, new technologies and the full cooperation of state bodies and public authorities will be also required. Finally, he highlighted that improvements in road network management and maintenance can significantly reduce transport emissions and carbon footprint.



Host with State Secretary Aleš Mihelič, dr. Carsten Karcher, Secretary-General of EAPA and Boštjan Rigler, Member of the Management Board of DARS



Carsten Karcher



Slovenko Henigman



State Secretary Aleš Mihelič

## DR. CARSTEN KARCHER AWARDED BY SLOVENIAN EAPA MEMBER ZAS

The Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association (ZAS) traditionally offers special awards to individuals during the Colloquium on Asphalts, Bitumen, and Pavements for their contribution to the asphalt sector and/or support in the operation of the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association. The Board of Directors chose to offer seven awards to commemorate ZAS's 25th anniversary: Two awards for the best master's or diploma thesis, four special ZAS awards and the Asphalt Ambassador award.

Rok ROŠER and Darko KOKOT received awards for the best diploma or master's theses. Boris Kalčič was declared the ASPHALT AMBASSADOR for the years 2021-2023. Ravnikar Turk Mojca, Irena Fortuna, Borut Gostič and Carsten Karcher received the ZAS Special awards.

EAPA Secretary General Dr. Carsten Karcher was awarded by ZAS for his assistance and support to the Slovenian asphalt industry and the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association. The granting committee stated that "He is an active participant in ZAS's activities in both his roles as (former) Technical Director and (now) Secretary-General of EAPA. When necessary, we meet in Brussels or Slovenia, where Carsten has produced a significant number of professional papers and publications."

Carsten was very honoured and thanked the Slovenian colleagues and ZAS for their support. He especially mentioned the trustful exchanges and fruitful work with ZAS President Slovenko Henigman.



Recipients of awards on the 18th. Colloquium on Asphalts, Bitumen and Pavements. Special awards for ZAS were received by: Dr. Carsten Karcher, EAPA Secretary-General (third from left), Mojca Ravnikar Turk, Boris Kalčič as Asphalt Ambassador until 2023, Irena Fortuna and Borut Gostič. Rok Rošar and Darko Kokot received the award for the best diploma/master's theses. The awards were presented by Slovenko Henigman (first from the left), Aleš Mihelič, State Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure (second from the left) and Kristjan Mugerli, vice-president of ZAS and director of Kolektor CPG (first from the right).

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

The 8<sup>th</sup> National Asphalt Symposium themed "Asphalt 4.0 for mobility and digital transformation" organized by Turkish Asphalt Contractors Association and Turkish Road Association was held on 8-9 December 2021 in Ankara. Close to 1,000 delegates from all parts of asphalt industry in Turkey attended the Symposium. The event providing excellent learning and networking opportunities was the largest national symposium of the Turkish asphalt industry in 2021.

The congress was opened by Ayberk Ozcan President of ASMUD with Abdulkadir Uraloğlu, General Director of Highways. Adil Karaismailoglu, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure honoured the symposium and announced road transport targets and new projects in the opening session.

Mr. Ozcan, EAPA ExCo Member and former EAPA President, emphasized the importance of expanding the use of sustainable asphalt technologies which have high energy efficiency and low carbon footprint, to reduce the effects of the asphalt industry on climate change and make positive contributions to the circular economy.

The symposium included five engaging technical sessions delivered by five invited speakers and 15 speakers with papers on the topics of asphalt 4.0, asphalt innovations, performance testing, asphalt paving and maintenance techniques, health, safety, and environment.

EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez gave an online keynote speech on Asphalt 4.0 and other recent topics of the European Asphalt Industry. Prof. Dr. Erol Tutumluer from Illinois University in USA, one of the other keynote speakers, talked about the latest developments in America on asphalt roads and automated vehicles. Companies also presented themselves and their products in the exhibition. The symposium was closed by emphasizing the importance of sustainable digital asphalt technologies for smart, sustainable and accessible mobility of the future.



Ayberk Ozcan during the opening



Breixo Gomez during his online presentation



ASMUD Secretary General Zeliha Temren, ASMUD President Ayberk Özcan, General Highways Director Abdulkadir Uraloglu, ASMUD Vice-president Deha Emral, ASMUD former secretary general Derya Senyay, ASMUD EXCo member Tuncer Ertan

## XVI ASEFMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The historical and technical evolution of asphalt paving over the last five decades was the central topic of the XVI ASEFMA National Conference held on 14-15 December 2021. The Event was organised in a mixed format: face-to-face and online with HD streaming integrated into an interactive platform. This event was just the first of the series to be held over the next two years to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the constitution of EAPA (1973) and Asefma (1974).

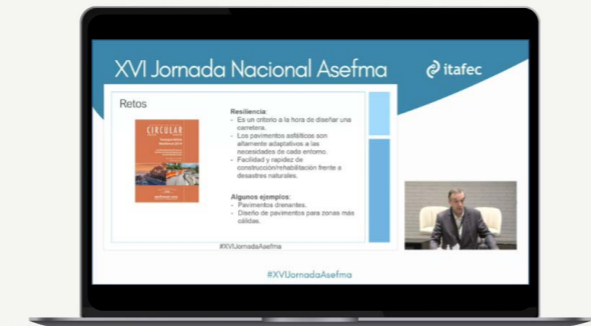
With this objective in mind, the Conference addressed topics, such as the evolution of the different types of bituminous mixtures and construction machinery in Spain and the world. Among other important topics, an interesting overview of the development in the main paving companies, technology centres and Spanish research groups was also given.

The Event was opened by EAPA President Juan José Potti and Mr. Javier Herrero, Director General of Highways at the Spanish Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda. Juan José explained that the annual production in Spain was very satisfactory after growing almost 20% in the previous year and reaching almost 20 million tonnes. The Director General added that the key message is that the best public service is being provided, what the citizens deserve.

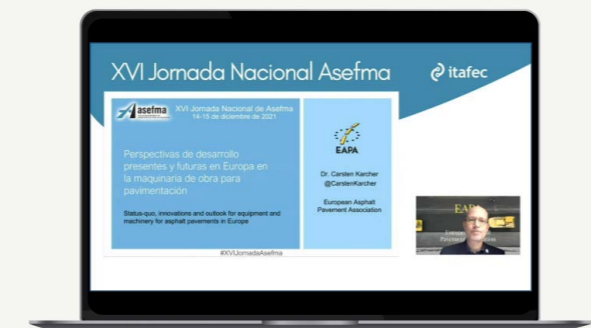
Among the more-than-30 presentations, which took place over the 2 days of the conference, it can be highlighted the great number of presenters related to EAPA. José Luis Peña presented an overview of the types of bituminous mixes used in Spain and in the world, EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez presented the current and future developments for bituminous mixtures in Europe, EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher presented the current and future developments in construction machinery for paving, and Lars Henrich, representing the EAPA Associate Member Benninghoven, also presented the development prospects in manufacturing plants for the coming years.



Juan José Potti during the opening of the Conference



José Luis Peña during his presentation



Carsten Karcher during his presentation



Breixo Gomez during his presentation



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## ASPHALT PAVEMENTS CONFERENCE 2021 (AV'21)

The Asphalt Pavements Conference 2021 (AV'21) was held on 23 and 24 November 2021 for the 14th time in a regular two-year cycle in České Budějovice (Czech Republic). The event was organized by the Czech Road Contractors Association and the Czech Road Society – Asphalt Pavements section.

In total, 622 delegates were registered. However, just 3 days before the Conference, due to a sharp increase in Covid cases, National Authorities adopted a pack of very restrictive measures, which included the requirement of being vaccinated in order to get access. Despite this limitation, almost 400 participants attended the conference in person. For the rest, the Event was streamed online and the resulting video was made available until the end of 2021.

The Conference covered the following topics:

1. Material and pavement structures testing

2. Construction, maintenance and rehabilitation of asphalt pavements
3. Sustainability and circular economy

During the Conference 14 presentations and 5 general reports were presented. Nevertheless, more than 40 papers were included in the proceedings, which were made available online.

A total of 34 exhibitors were registered, 20 booths were set up, and other forms of presentation were used to interact with the participants. A posters room was also installed on the second floor of the conference centre.

The invitation to the conference was accepted by the President of the Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association Slovenko Henigman and the EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gómez, who gave respective overviews of current trends in the asphalt



industry of Slovenia and other European countries.

High interest was noted from investor organizations, of which more than 50 participants presented themselves. Despite the unfavourable epidemiological situation, almost 40 foreign experts were registered.

Presentations of all speakers and video recordings of the guest speeches in the opening ceremony of the conference are available on the conference website:

[Conference website](#)



Petr Svoboda (Road Contractors Association) presenting in front of the opening panel, composed by Slovenko Henigman (Slovenian Asphalt Pavement Association), Breixo Gómez (European Asphalt Pavement Association), Antonin Krák, Petr Mondschein (Czech Road Society), Petr Laušman (Road Contractors Association) and Jiří Hlavatý (Road and Motorway Directorate).



Slovenko Henigman



Breixo Gomez

## AACHEN ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND TRAFFIC DAYS 2021

The Aachen Road Construction and Traffic Days, which are annually organised by the University of Aachen (Germany), offer interested experts a discussion forum on current topics across the entire spectrum of road construction. The last edition was held as an online event on 25-26 November 2021 and covered a wide range of topics, such as digital asset management, resilience and adaptation to climate change, sustainable construction or jobs securing.

Within the extensive agenda, the event had in this occasion the participation of two Speakers well related to EAPA:

On the one hand, the Chairman of the EAPA Technical Committee Knut Johannsen, who gave a presentation on the environmental issue of Urban Heat Islands. In this regard, he explained how to use asphalt surfaces to collect energy that can be used elsewhere, while reducing the overall ambient temperature.

On the other hand, EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez gave an overview of the use of Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) technologies in Europe. Breixo highlighted that this topic is of great importance for the European asphalt paving industry and, consequently, EAPA decided to dedicate a specific Task Force to its development. The presentation included aspects, such as the environmental, H&S and practical benefits of using WMA, as well as the required upgrades in the asphalt plants and the compatibility with other technologies, such as the re-use of reclaimed asphalt.

Both presentations received great attention from the audience, which had the chance to exchange over respective Q&A sessions.



Knut Johannsen during his online presentation



Breixo Gomez during his online presentation

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## ASPHALT INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM 2021

The fourth edition of the Asphalt Innovation Symposium, organised by the University of Antwerp (Belgium), was held on 15-16 December 2021. The Event was initially planned as a 1 day online and 1 day face-to-face. However, due to the persisting pandemic situation, the organisers decided to hold both days online.

During these two days, 170 attendees from 64 institutions shared and discussed their work and passion, defining the current and future trends in the asphalt sector. The lectures covered an extensive variety of topics, including sustainable and resilient cities, innovation in road engineering research and industry, and fundamental research.

This year, it was especially remarkable the great importance that the topic of digitalisation and Asphalt 4.0 had in the agenda.

In this regard, EAPA President Juan José Potti pre-

sented the concept of Asphalt 4.0 during the first day, and EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez continued the topic during the second day with a presentation on the strategy towards sustainability in asphalt industry 4.0.

After the event, the organisers obtained excellent feedback from the audience, obtaining 4 out of 5 stars and with 83% of attendees finding the virtual platform useful.



Breixo Gomez during his online presentation

## EAPA-EUROBITUME ACTIVITIES JOINT HSE AND TC MEETING

In December 2021, EAPA and Eurobitume held a joint meeting of their respective Health, Safety and Environment and Technical Committees.

This "Christmas tradition", which has been already repeated over the last 3 years, represent an excellent opportunity to discuss the latest developments in the asphalt and bitumen industry, as well as to establish good networking relationships between the Members of both Associations. For these reasons, a great participation is often achieved. In total, around 60 Members from both Associations exchanged for about 6 hours on a long list of hot topics which this year were grouped under the following sections: Standardisation, Sustainability, Health and Safety.

The conflictive situation of CE-Marking was, once again, an important topic discussed, especially related to the latest versions of the asphalt and bitumen Standards having been approved by CEN (to be used at national level) but not cited in the Official Journal of the European Union (and consequently not suitable for CE-Marking). Both industries are following closely the developments in the revision of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) and the Acquis revision process, being undertaken by the European Commission. Nevertheless, both actions are taking longer than expected without bringing solutions for the sector.

Another important topic was the current development of Standards for sustainability assessment. In this regard, the asphalt industry is ahead with discussions on a full draft with the Product Category Rules for the Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) of bituminous mixtures.

The use of secondary materials into bitumen and bituminous mixtures was also discussed. In this regard, it can be highlighted the report from Eurobitume presented during the latest E&E Congress and the filtering protocol for including

secondary/waste derived materials proposed by collaborative research in UK.

The meeting ended with both Associations presenting the documents they published in 2021.



# EAPA MAGAZINE OPEN FOR ADVERTISEMENTS NOW!

EAPA has currently released issue 49 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
#50	02 June 2022	20 May 2022

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## EUROPEAN STANDARDISATION

### Product Standards and a new regulatory framework

Towards the end of 2020, after the pressure from industry, the EU Parliament and Governments of Member States, the European Commission launched the Acquis revision process with the purpose of ensuring the compliance of the Acquis with the Construction Products Regulation (CPR). This strategy had the aim of unblocking the citation of a great number of product standards that have been approved by CEN but did not pass the so-called HAS Assessment.

Product families were ranked by the EU Commission and in a first stage of the process, only the first top-10 are being processed. The Mandate M/124 "Road Construction", which involves bitumen and bituminous mixtures product standards, ranked in 12th position, which will significantly hinder the achievement of a solution in the near future.

In addition, EU Member States will decide soon on the revision of the CPR, which was subjected to different public consultations already more than one year ago. The resulting CPR may change again the situation, not being clear at the moment whether it will accelerate or delay the final citation of product standards.

In this situation, TC 336 (Bituminous Binders) has decided not to update any product standard as long as the administrative framework is not finalised. TC 227 (Bituminous Mixtures) has recently undertaken the 5-years systematic review of the series EN 13108. The next meeting of CEN TC227 WG1, in May, will be key to decide how to proceed.

### Sustainability Assessment

The Product Category Rules (PCR) for the Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) of bituminous mixtures is being drafted by CEN CT227 WG6 (Road Materials - Sustainability) as Technical Specification (TS).

As CEN TS do not go out for CEN Enquiry but directly for a Formal Vote, CEN TC227 WG6 is in favour of achieving all the consensus possible beforehand. For this reason, the draft was shared with National Mirror Committees and the resulting list of comments is being handled.

CEN TC154 WG13 has also advanced very significantly in the development of a PCR for EPD of aggregates intended to be physically integrated in mortar, concrete, bituminous mixtures, or hydraulically bound mixtures. Due to this integration, this PCR does not need to cover the impacts during the use stage and end-of-life. Although the draft is still under discussion, previous considerations added a significant simplification, compared to other PCR.

Regarding the sustainability assessment of bituminous binders, in October 2021 CEN TC336 launched a new Task Group chaired by Laurent Porot, a very active Member of EAPA Committees and Task Forces. The main objective of the TG is to issue recommendations to TC 336 in terms of needs for standards or technical specifications covering specific product category rules for bituminous binders or for other standardization documents in the field of sustainability of bituminous binders.

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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES & CONGRESSES HUNGARIAN ASPHALT CONFERENCE ON 14 & 15 FEBRUARY 2022

The Hungarian Asphalt Pavement Association (HAPA) will hold its XXII Asphalt Conference on February 15 & 16 in Hotel Azúr in Siófok, Hungary. The Congress will address the following themes:

- Asphalt 4.0: Roads of the future and the future of mobility
- High-performance asphalt mixtures
- Opportunities to reduce the energy demand of asphalt production
- Sustainability and environmental protection
- Recycling. Installation technologies

In addition to Hungarian experts, representatives of many European and non-European countries will be present e.g. from Poland, France, Switzerland, Slovenia, Belgium, Spain, Germany, and even Australia.

[More information and registration](#)

## EAPA MEETINGS AND DATES EAPA & CEN

### MARCH 2022

- 8 Mar 2022 CEN TC336 TG Sustainability meeting
- 8 Mar 2022 EAPA TF Decarbonisation meeting
- 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

- 4 April 2022 CEN TC336 EN 12597 revision meeting
- 6 Apr 2022 CEN TC227 WG6 meeting
- 22 Apr 2022 CEN TC227 Chairman's Advisory Group meeting
- 26 Apr 2022 Joint ExCo and DIR meeting in Paris
- 27 Apr 2022 General Council Assembly in Paris
- 27 Apr 2022 CEN TC227 Chairman's Advisory Group

### MAY 2022

- 10-11 May 2022 CEN TC227 WG1 meeting

### 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

## COLOPHON

### TEXT

Breixo Gómez, Carsten Karcher

### LAYOUT

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