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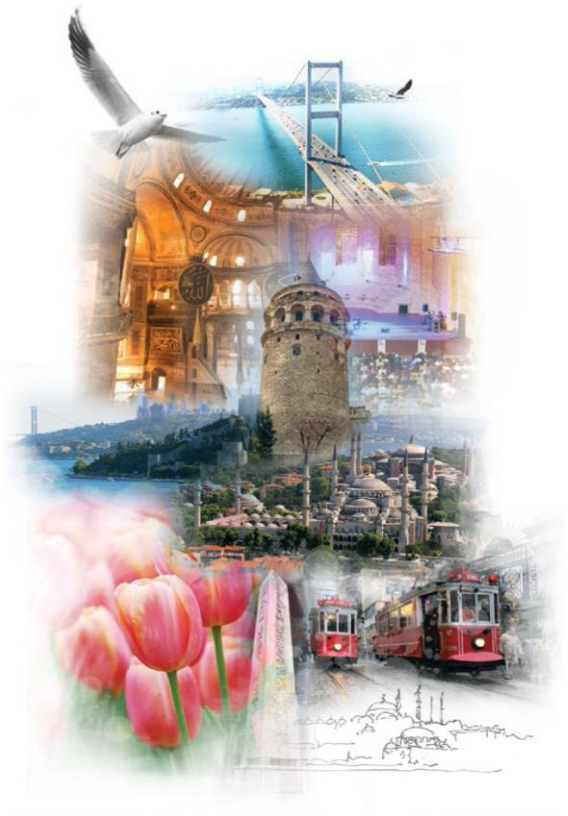


Welcome !

Welcome to the last 2014 issue of ERMCO News. Another year gone! We offer our best wishes to all of you for a bright future in 2015. We are busy working on arrangements for the Congress in Istanbul, hosted by the Turkish Association. To remind you, the dates are June 4th and 5th, with ERMCO meetings on Wednesday 3rd starting 13,00 hrs (ESD, Board, Ecotec) and 17,00 hrs (Representatives). A technical site visit is planned for Saturday 6th. More details about the venue for all ERMCO meetings and about recommended hotels will be sent as soon as we receive final confirmation from our Turkish colleagues, but you can already register your attendance on www.ermco2015.com and arrange your trip to Turkey!

Bye Alessandro!

Alessandro Romanello has made an important contribution to ERMCO's Secretariat, particularly in developing contacts with the European Institutions. So we are sad to announce that after four years with us he will move at the end of the year to an engineering group to work on the management of projects on EU energy and transport infrastructure. As he will still be based in Brussels, we will keep in touch, but we wish him every success in future for his new post. Keep going, Alessandro!



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ISTANBUL • TURKEY

New document from EUPAVE on concrete in road construction

The EC has identified the importance of infrastructure policy in the 'Trans-European Transport (TEN-T) Networks'. (if interested in the EC TEN-T initiative itself, click [here](#))

Now EUPAVE, the European Concrete Paving Association, has published a new document on the role of *Concrete Inlays and Road Widening in Upgrading Europe's Road Freight Network*. The document contains some details on design issues, but also uses a novel 'Decision Support Model' to compare concrete and asphalt in these applications. The model demonstrates that concrete offers a sustainable solution based on a Life Cycle Approach.

We also remind you of an earlier, very useful EUPAVE document on Concrete Safety Barriers. (the question of CE-marking of cast in-situ safety barriers was discussed at the recent ERMCO Board meeting.) They have also published an assessment of the progress of concrete road

construction in Europe – market share etc. Click [here](#) to read about this.

This document on Safety Barriers, and the one described above, and a number of others are available, but EUPAVE would like everybody to first register as Association's 'supporters'. This is free, a simple process, and will let you follow EUPAVE activities and get access to documents like these. Click [here](#) to register.

North American approach to EPDs

Many of us are working towards the development of Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) for our industry. One of the questions facing us is whether such declarations should be made at European, national, company, plant level, or even be mix-specific.

NRMCA has now published industry wide EPD and a benchmark (industry-average) report. These cover concretes with (cube) strengths from about 20 to 55 MPa, i.e. most concrete used in normal construction. The system has been designed to meet the requirements of the US LEED Green Building Rating System. Read more [here](#).

Compressive strength using cores

A number of people from our industry are working on the revision of EN13791 *Assessment of strength in structures*. Work is ongoing, among its objectives there are two important ones: to define an in-situ

characteristic strength that can be used in Eurocodes; and to try to determine whether concrete complies with specification when there are doubts over the quality supplied. Now, from *Concrete Plant International* comes an article on core testing. It

deals largely with the basics of core testing, and is a good reminder of the procedure and its uses and drawbacks. It also has a good bibliography. Read more [here](#).



Cutting emissions and cutting red tape: a new regulation for off-road engines

The European Commission has proposed measures to cut emissions of major air pollutants from engines in off-road mobile machinery and simplify the legal framework for the sector.

The proposal provides for more stringent emission limit values for internal combustion engines installed in non-road mobile machinery (NRMM). At the same time, it sets out harmonised rules for placing those engines on the EU market.



Compared to vehicles for use on roads, NRMM covers a very wide variety of machinery typically used off road in manifold applications. It comprises, for example, small gardening and handheld equipment (lawn mowers, chain saws,...), construction machinery (excavators, loaders, bulldozers,...) and agricultural & farming machinery (harvesters, cultivators,...); even railcars, locomotives and inland waterway vessels fall under the scope of NRMM.

The new Regulation will replace a patchwork of 28 national laws on this matter. It will also repeal an extremely complex Directive comprising 15 Annexes and amended 8 times since it was adopted in 1997. Read more [here](#).

CSI RSS Guidelines almost finished

Under the umbrella of the Cement Sustainability Initiative, the first draft of the Guidelines for setting up a Responsible Sourcing Scheme (RSS) for cement and concrete is almost finished. ERMCO has actively contributed to the preparation of these Guidelines, which will be presented to the next ERMCO Board for approval.