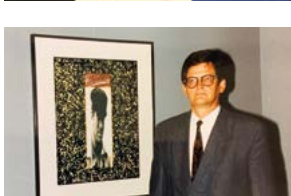
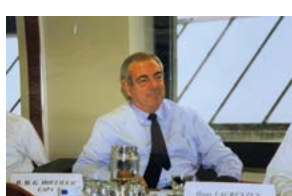


EAPA 50 years



Anniversary Edition

MAGAZINE 53



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Introduction

Editorial by EAPA President



Dear readers,

Welcome to the 53rd issue of the EAPA magazine. My name is Ralf Pomp, and I am the newly elected President of EAPA. It is an honour to introduce this magazine of the European asphalt family.

Five years ago, I was asked to be a representative of the DAV in the Executive Committee and Directors group of EAPA. This allowed me to know and connect with many international colleagues who worked together fostering collaboration in the development of our asphalt product, exchanging ideas, and addressing organisational and legislative matters. In 2023, during the 50th-anniversary celebration of EAPA and ASEFMA in Madrid, I was elected as President of EAPA for the next two years along with Slovenko Henigman who was the elected Vice President. In this magazine, you can find a report about this remarkable celebration, perfectly hosted by my friend and former EAPA President Juan Jose Potti.

In my youth, I preferred sports that were individually performed like swimming, biking, or karting, but in my professional life, I soon realized that you are nothing without your team!

Motorsports have always been a tradition in my family, spanning multiple generations. Most people see the winning driver in a race, but in endurance racing, where the competition goes on for up to 24 hours, it's not just the speed of the driver that determines victory. It is the entire team's ability to keep the car running consistently and efficiently throughout the race. The team that is best equipped to handle the challenges that arise during most of the races has the greatest chance of success. Meaning, that every member of the team holds the same importance for overall success.

This principle translates into our professional lives as well, and it presents us with significant challenges for the future. In my own company, we take pride in having employees who have dedicated decades, sometimes spanning several generations, to our family-owned business. As the CEO of the Matthias Heyer Group, my most pressing issue is finding young talent to replace retiring colleagues who have spent up to 50 years with us. This includes engineers, lorry drivers, mechanics, office staff, and lab personnel. Referring back to the importance of the team, we are going to lack team members in the future.

Many children view excavator operators and lorry drivers as heroes, on par with firefighters or policemen, before they start school. However, as they grow older, their interests often shift away from these industries. As a result, we struggle to find the necessary human resources to keep our construction and production sites running smoothly. Why is this the case? In my view, it is because we have not placed enough emphasis on improving the image of our industry.

I have dedicated my presidency to enhancing the image of the asphalt and road industries. We are forced to display to society the value of our work and the importance of a well-built and well-maintained road infrastructure. Additionally, this is realised by good, educated specialists who are doing a fascinating job that also offers safe and relatively high-income opportunities.

When car drivers encounter a road construction site, their first concern is often the potential for traffic jams. We should communicate that the outcome of our work is fewer obstacles, better roads, and reduced congestion. Roads don't magically appear; they must be planned, paved, and maintained by dedicated professionals who serve society and deserve the respect of the general public, in addition to fair compensation.

By doing so, we can change the perception of our industry and inspire young individuals to consider apprenticeships or civil engineering studies, ultimately joining our vibrant "asphalt family." Personally, I like saying "Asphalt Family": In my company, as well as our national (DAV) and European Asphalt Associations (EAPA), we have the opportunity to work with specialists who have passion for their jobs and treat this family with utmost respect and appreciation. If the young people saw this, they might compete to be a part of this community that also frequently meets to exchange knowledge and new ideas.

On a separate note, the #Asphalt 4.0 Congress took place in Madrid from September 26 to 27, thanks to the organization efforts of Juan Jose Potti and Slovenko Henigman. It was an outstanding event that highlighted how digitization, artificial intelligence, and new methodologies can reshape the future of asphalt planning, production, organization, and paving. Our clients, especially the road authorities, may need our support to embrace these innovations and to incorporate these new techniques.

As we near the end of 2023, I believe it hasn't been as challenging as we initially anticipated. However, rising costs for raw materials, energy, oil, bitumen, and inflation continue to concern us as we enter 2024.

In the coming year, the asphalt family will gather again from June 19 to 21 at the E&E Congress in Budapest, Hungary. I eagerly look forward to welcoming all of you to this beautiful city and the exceptional conference centre, where an inspiring program awaits.

Lastly, I hope that the heaviest burden we are facing in Europe and the world these days with the wars, will end soon and peace will end the suffering of millions of people.

Hope to see you in Budapest in good health.

Yours sincerely,
Ralf Pomp

The video by Asefma for EAPA's 50 years:



EAPA 50 years



Held in Madrid in March, the celebration of the 50th anniversary of EAPA was attended by approximately 100 members and some guests. Juan Jose Potti, President of Asefma and now the former president of the EAPA opened the event with a welcome speech while reflecting on the history of EAPA. In his speech, he also hinted at some upcoming surprises that were in store during the event.



Potti opened with a special surprise: a Cava toast and a cake for Carsten Karcher, the EAPA Secretary General who also turned 50 this year.

An Eventful Celebration in Madrid

The former Secretary General of EAPA (1991 - 1999), Max von Devivere, and current Secretary General, Carsten Karcher, took the stage to provide insights on the development of EAPA over the years. Egbert Beuving, also a former Secretary General of EAPA (2013 - 2018), joined Devivere and Karcher for an engaging discussion and interview. Max von Devivere was handed the EAPA Asphalt Advocate Lifetime Award by Carsten Karcher, in recognition of his contribution to the asphalt industry.

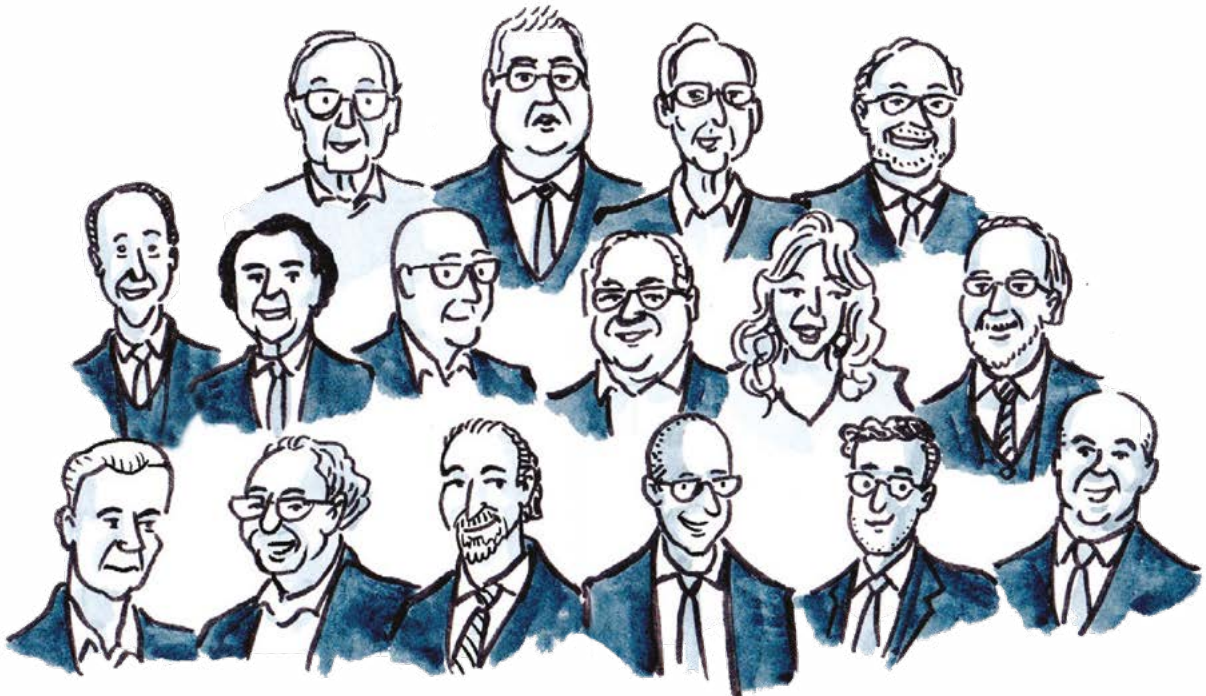
Breixo Gomez, EAPA's Technical Director, captivated the audience with his visually engaging presentation on EAPA's 50 years of support for the asphalt industry in Europe. Among the highlights is some more history: Jose Luis Corral, professor of Medieval history and a prestigious historian and writer spoke about 'Emperor Charles: The First Globalisation of Europe'.

During the celebration, Gülay Malkoc, Director of Business Development at E-Mak was awarded the EAPA Asphalt Advocate 2023 by Egbert Beuving, further highlighting her outstanding contributions to the industry. Other highlights include the awarding of trophies and the handover of the EAPA Honorary Laureate to some of the former EAPA Presidents (more on page 27).

The celebrations for that day only concluded in this venue but continued over dinner.

Artist Nathan Brenville's live artful rendition of the event's memorable moments and candid quotes.

View sketch book:



*L to R: Jean-Louis Marchand, Ayberk Özcan, Dieter Schüler, John Kruse Larsen
Simon Van Der Byl, Dariusz Slotwinski, Alan McKenzie, François Chaignon, Gülay Malkoç, Egbert Beuving
Ralf Pomp, Max von Devivere, Juan José Potti, Carsten Karcher, Breixo Gómez, Slovenko Henigman*



Welcome drink





Speeches





*EAPA 50 years celebration
Dinner in Madrid*



City tour of Madrid and lunch



EAPA's 50 Years Celebration Reception

On May 23, an exceptional event took place at EAPA's new office on Square de Meeûs in Brussels, marking the golden jubilee of EAPA. The pre-event commenced with the inauguration of EAPA's new President, Ralf Pomp, and Vice President Slovenko Henigman. This momentous occasion featured notable speeches and reflections.

The commemorative reception began with warm welcome speeches delivered by Secretary-General Carsten Karcher and the newly appointed President, Ralf Pomp. Esteemed guests from the industry, the European Commission, and the Parliament were present to share in the celebration. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of the EAPA Manifesto (more information on page xx) by Technical Director Breixo Gomez and the speeches of the special guests, MEP Ismail Ertug and Philippe Moseley from the DG GROW European Commission, who graced the occasion.

To conclude the evening, Secretary-General Carsten Karcher delivered closing remarks. This was followed by a joyful gathering, where the attendees continued the celebration with refreshments and delicious food.

The event was a memorable tribute to the remarkable 50-year journey of EAPA, filled with inspiring speeches, camaraderie, and a joyful atmosphere of appreciation.

Juan José Potti handing over the Presidency to Ralf Pomp





Ralf Pomp giving his first speech as President of EAPA



Philippe Moseley, European Commission



Carsten Karcher, EAPA General Secretary addressing the audience



MEP Ismail Ertug at the EAPA 50 years Reception





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Philippe Moseley from the European Commission with the EAPAManifesto during his speech

At the new EAPA office on Square de Meeûs in Brussels, an important document was unveiled — the “EAPA Manifesto on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary 1973-2023”. This manifesto traces the remarkable journey of the asphalt paving industry since 1973 and the pivotal role EAPA has played in its development over the last five decades. It not only reflects on the past but also looks forward to a visionary future.



Image below: EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez presenting the Manifesto.



The EAPA Manifesto on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary

EAPA's vision for the future is clear: to ensure a prosperous society connected through safe, sustainable, and resilient road networks. To achieve this, EAPA invites all stakeholders of the asphalt road paving sector to join hands and work toward common goals.

- 1. Vehicle CO₂ Considerations in Road Maintenance:** EAPA encourages European National and Regional Road Authorities to consider vehicle CO₂ emissions in road maintenance strategies and procurement policies, ensuring the ongoing maintenance of road networks.
- 2. Sustainable Solutions:** EAPA advocates for the promotion of sustainable solutions in road construction and maintenance. This includes strategies that embrace sustainability, circular economy principles, eco-design, and quality while reusing reclaimed asphalt and employing low-temperature techniques.
- 3. Responsible Use of Asphalt:** EAPA calls for the establishment of regulatory plans that categorize asphalt as a valuable resource rather than waste. This would enable the re-use of site-won asphalt in asphalt mixtures or other applications, contributing to sustainability and circularity.
- 4. Caution in Incorporating New Components:** To maintain the integrity of asphalt, EAPA advises that only thoroughly vetted components should be incorporated into asphalt mixes. A rigorous Risk Assessment process must ensure that circularity, health and safety, environmental impact, value for money, technical performance, and competitiveness are not compromised.
- 5. Embrace Digital Transformation (Asphalt 4.0):** EAPA encourages the asphalt paving industry to embrace digital transformation (Asphalt 4.0) to enhance efficiency, productivity, quality, sustainability, and the overall customer experience.
- 6. Innovations for Future Mobility:** EAPA recognizes the importance of innovations like

embedded sensors, energy-harvesting pavements, and road-vehicle communication systems. These innovations will facilitate the transition to new road mobility and the development of connected, automated, electric, and heavy-duty vehicles.

- 7. Procurement for Innovation:** EAPA advocates for a common procurement understanding across the EU that prioritizes innovative solutions over the lowest initial cost. This approach should also include collaborative R&D programs that address real industry needs and minimize duplication of effort.
- 8. Green and Digital Initiatives:** EAPA seeks to attract younger generations to the sector by initiating green and digital technologies that make the industry more appealing and forward-thinking.
- 9. Collaboration with Academia:** EAPA intends to foster closer ties with academics and researchers to ensure their efforts align with industry needs and result in practical implementations.
- 10. Outreach and Communication:** EAPA plans to enhance outreach and communication efforts through reports, media content, and social media. The aim is to highlight the benefits of successful implementations, increase visibility, and gain support from other stakeholders, including industrial partners, administrations, policymakers, and regulators.

The EAPA Manifesto is not just a statement of intent but a roadmap towards a sustainable, connected, and innovative future for Europe's road networks.

Scan to view the Manifesto:



Reflections and Greetings from EAPA Members

The 50th anniversary of EAPA was a celebration of all the great people who were involved in EAPA over the years.



Former Secretary Generals and Presidents:

Max von Devivere - EAPA Secretary General 1990 - 1999

In his speech, Max von Devivere reflected on the association's history and its pivotal role in the asphalt industry. He highlighted milestones, such as standardization efforts and health and safety initiatives, emphasizing the need for innovation and sustainability. Max concluded by encouraging EAPA to continue its engagement and resilience in tackling industry challenges.

Von Devivere also provided insights into the history and symbolism of the EAPA logo. The significance of EAPA as the voice of the asphalt industry is reflected in its logo. The logo features yellow, an alert colour in road construction. It opts for dots instead of stars to include all members, not limited to those in the EU. The dynamic upward line symbolizes the association's growth ambition and commitment to progress.



Dieter Schüler - EAPA President 1984 - 1985 and 2000 - 2001

In his video message, Dieter Schüler commemorates the 50th anniversary of the EAPA. He reflects on the association's inception during the 1973 World Road Congress in Munich and its early engagement with asphalt associations from the United States and Australia. Schüler highlights the enduring focus on environmental protection and asphalt mix quality as the core themes of EAPA's mission.

He underscores the association's resilience in navigating crises, particularly the oil crisis of the 1970s, and acknowledges the pivotal role EAPA played during its founding year. As a veteran in the asphalt industry, Schüler expresses confidence in EAPA's continued success under Dr. Carsten Karcher's leadership.



***Ayberk Özcan -
EAPA President 2011 - 2015***

In his video speech, Ayberk Özcan, a former EAPA president and representative of the ASMUD, extends his congratulations to EAPA on its 50th anniversary. He reminisces about a cherished memory from the year 2000 when a sizable Turkish delegation participated in the E&E Congress in Barcelona. He underscores the unique character of EAPA, emphasizing that it not only plays a pivotal role in Europe but also exerts a global influence through its close relationships and collaborations with organizations and institutions worldwide.



***Simon van der Byl -
EAPA Secretary General 2009 - 2012***

Simon, who played a significant role as the secretary-general during his tenure with EAPA, conveyed his heartfelt regret at missing out on this unforgettable event due to some unexpected last-minute changes. Simon's time with EAPA bestowed upon him a treasury of cherished memories, and he remains deeply touched by the extraordinary generosity of Carsten and the EAPA members which he calls a remarkable gift that he holds in the highest regard, beyond the reach of words.

Although Simon could not be physically present, his warmest wishes and heartfelt regards extend to all in commemorating EAPA's magnificent 50-year journey of excellence.

Here's the video on what the road industry representatives had to say about EAPA during the 50 years celebrations in Madrid:



Members, Associate members and friends of EAPA



Siobhan McKelvey - Director General - Eurobitume

"EAPA is a very important partner in the industry and I think to be able to achieve many of our challenges within the bitumen industry, we need to do that with a strong alignment. With partners like EAPA. So from my perspective, from the bitumen's side, it's critical that we think about issues and challenges together, and work into the future with a successful view to meeting these challenges together."



Tarmo Trei - CEO - ESTICA

"A solid road network is an enabler for people, ensuring safe and comfortable commutes, and an enabler for the economy, providing for businesses and cross-border trade. We are grateful to be EAPA's members and for all the support in working together for better roads in Europe today and in the years to come."



Anders Hundahl - CEO - DAPA - Danish Asphalt Pavement Association.

"EAPA is our eyes and ears in the EU. In addition, it is a meeting place for the exchange of technical knowledge on a general level. Finally, I gain personal contacts; I always have someone I can call in another country and hear about how things are done there."



Dr. Thomas Leopoldseder - Managing Director - CEO Q Point Group

"Congratulations to EAPA on its 50th anniversary! Your work significantly supports the safety and sustainability of our roads and will continue to be of great importance in the future. Q Point celebrates this milestone with you. Let's work together for a sustainable road infrastructure by new technologies and promote the resource-saving use of raw materials. Thank you, EAPA, for your valuable work and all the best for the next 50 years.!"



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50 years of EAPA History

Over 90% of Europe's roads are paved with asphalt, making it a vital component of the continent's infrastructure. With over 4,000 production sites and more than 10,000 companies involved in asphalt production and laying, the industry's influence is substantial. To ensure the industry's interests are represented effectively at the European level, the European Asphalt Pavement Association (EAPA) was established in 1973. As EAPA celebrates its 50th anniversary, we embark on a journey through its history, mission, and accomplishments in championing the cause of asphalt paving in Europe.



EAPA serves as the voice of the Asphalt Paving Industry in Europe, dedicated to promoting and implementing asphalt as the ideal choice for constructing and maintaining crucial European road infrastructure. Our objectives encompass building an evidence-based case for the economic, technical, and societal benefits of asphalt paving, fostering innovation, and ensuring health, safety, and environmental concerns are addressed.

EAPA's journey began during the 'Conference on the Structural Design of Asphalt Pavements' in London in 1972 when representatives from European national asphalt associations decided to organize a European meeting. This led to the formation of EAPA on October 14, 1973, with representatives from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, along with attendees from North America and South Africa.

The initial goals of EAPA included facilitating information exchange among member countries, focusing on asphalt production and quality standards, environmental aspects, and promoting international congresses.

Over the years, EAPA has been actively involved in various initiatives, such as disseminating information about the benefits of asphalt pavements, developing technical documents and position papers, collaborating with transport infrastructure associations worldwide, organizing congresses, and encouraging education and training within the industry. They also represent the European Asphalt Industry in matters concerning health, safety, sustainability, quality, climate change, innovation, and digitalization, and participate in relevant European standardization committees.

EAPA's contributions to the industry are noteworthy. They have organized numerous congresses, promoted new technologies and safety measures, supported studies and research, established global contacts, and actively communicated via their website, magazine, newsletter, and social media. EAPA has also played a crucial role in advocating for sustainability, reducing CO₂ emissions in the transport sector, and contributing to the circular economy.

EAPA has a rich history of hosting congresses and symposia that bring together industry experts to exchange knowledge and ideas. These events have been held in various European cities, facilitating collaboration and innovation in the asphalt industry.

As the European Asphalt Pavement Association celebrates its 50th anniversary, it continues to be a driving force in the promotion and advancement of asphalt paving in Europe. Through its unwavering dedication to excellence, sustainability, and safety, EAPA remains a cornerstone of the continent's road infrastructure, ensuring that asphalt remains the optimal choice for Europe's roads in the years to come.

EAPA History Overview:



EAPA News

Winners of the EAPA Awards 2023



"I'm deeply honored to receive the 2023 EAPA Asphalt Advocate Award, filling me with appreciation, pride, and a strong sense of belonging. My involvement in the EAPA community allowed me to collaborate with exceptional individuals, shaping my professional journey. This award is a cherished reminder of these invaluable experiences and exceptional colleagues. My heartfelt thanks to EAPA for these opportunities. Proud to be part of the EAPA family!"

Gülay Malkoç's speech after receiving the EAPA Asphalt Advocate of the Year 2023 award.

Gülay Malkoç: Asphalt Advocate of the Year 2023

During the 50th-anniversary celebration of the EAPA and ASEFMA, there were some special honouring. Gülay Malkoç, Sales Director Europe of E-Mak and former technical director of ASMUD, was honoured with the Asphalt Advocate of the Year 2023 Award.

Gülay Malkoç was presented with this esteemed award in recognition of her unwavering commitment to promoting superior asphalt roadways and her steadfast support for the "Asphalt Advantages" campaign, a collaboration between EAPA and Eurobitume. This award not only commends her

exceptional achievements but also the profound impact she has had on the entire industry.

Gülay embarked on her journey as an asphalt advocate early in her career, exuding boundless energy and an innate passion for advocacy. Her extensive global network and background in chemical engineering have positioned her as a formidable presence in the industry, particularly in her engagements with Eurobitume.

Her involvement in the "Asphalt Advantages" campaign underscores her dedication to spreading the message about the economic, environmental, and performance benefits of asphalt in road construction.

Laudation on 30 March 2023 in Madrid by EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez

In 2021, the European Asphalt Pavement Association (EAPA) introduced the EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award to honour exceptional contributions within the asphalt industry. This prestigious award is reserved for EAPA members or EAPA Committee participants, selected by the EAPA Secretary General along with representatives from the EAPA Technical and HSE Committees.

Petr Svoboda: EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award 2023

Petr Svoboda has been a dedicated member of EAPA Committees since 2006, serving in various capacities. Over the years, he shifted his focus to the Directors Group, while entrusting the Technical Committee to his talented Czech colleagues, Jiri Fiedler and Jan Valentin. Petr's dedication spans an impressive 17 years.

Petr played a pivotal role in organising the 6th E&E Congress in Prague in 2016. Beyond this, he contributed to the biennial Czech Asphalt Days conference, which brought together over 400 experts. He also played a crucial role in bringing the PIARC World Congress to Prague.

Petr Svoboda's contributions are nothing short of remarkable, making him a worthy recipient of the 2023 EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award.

Laurent Porot: EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award 2023

Laurent Porot boasts a remarkable 30-year dedication to the asphalt industry, participating in numerous industry events and conferences, including Rilem meetings, ISAP conferences, EATA Workshops, and EAPA Congresses.

Laurent's extensive involvement in cutting-edge research projects and his leadership roles within committees like Rilem and CEN have earned him well-deserved recognition. Since 2014, he has been an active and invaluable participant in EAPA Committees, consistently contributing to various Task Forces and playing a pivotal role in the organization of the highly successful EAPA Workshop on Rejuvenators in 2019.

The EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award for 2023 is a symbol of our association's profound appreciation for Laurent Porot's exceptional contributions to our industry.

Watch the video on what some of the road industry representatives had to say about EAPA during the 50 years celebrations in Madrid:



EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez handing over the EAPA Asphalt Excellence Award 2023 to Petr Svoboda and Laurent Porot.

EAPA Welcomes Its Four Latest Members



New Member: GBS

GBS procures bitumen across the European market. Their operations encompass a multifaceted approach, which involves the direct supply of bitumen to end consumers in the asphalt industry, while a significant portion undergoes modification in their own production facilities. The modified bitumen is subsequently distributed to the asphalt industry, tailored to meet specific requirements.

They pride themselves in customer-oriented solutions, flexibility, accessibility and commitment to innovation and development. Through close collaboration and intensive coordination with asphalt producers, they continuously aim to push the boundaries of binder technology addressing the ever-growing demands for maintaining and enhancing road infrastructure.

For more information, visit their website:



New Member: Hywax

In March 2022, Sasol Wax joined the AWAX Group and changed its name to Hywax GmbH. The company specialises in innovative wax technology, offering customers all over the world a wide range of high-quality wax products. Their cutting-edge R&D is focused on manufacturing the highest purity waxes and custom blends for all applications. Renewable raw materials and patented zero-waste technologies make Hywax a pioneer in sustainability. At Hywax, "Hy" symbolizes the significance of hydrogen as a sustainable and renewable production ally. Their technological expertise in the hydro-finishing process exemplifies their commitment to innovation.

Hywax offers an extensive portfolio of products aiming at lowering processing temperatures, extending pavement lifespan and exhibiting exceptional workability, even in adverse weather conditions, without the need for extra compaction or elevated mixing temperatures. Therefore, resulting in more efficient compaction down to the critical paving temperature range.

For more information, visit their website:





New Member: Marini

MARINI, established in Alfonsine in 1899, is a global leader in asphalt plant manufacturing. What began as a venture producing bicycles, motorbikes, and 2-stroke diesel engines evolved into a prominent player in the road construction sector. Marini embarked on the production of asphalt plants, road machinery, and maintenance equipment, eventually leading to the formation of MARINI S.p.A. in 1973. In 1988, the majority of shares were acquired by FAYAT Holding.

Over the last decade, MARINI has made substantial investments in its production sector, with a focus on manufacturing crucial asphalt machinery components in-house. As an integral member of the Fayat Group, Marini stands at the forefront of asphalt mixing plant production in Italy, boasting a worldwide presence with production sites in Italy, Turkey, China, and India, along with offices in Russia and the UAE. Their advanced technology allows for the production of low-energy asphalt using up to 100% reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP), with a capacity of up to 400 t/h. With over 120 years of experience, Marini continues to set industry standards, embracing a comprehensive, internal production process encompassing cutting, welding, assembly, surface treatments, and development of electric appliances and software.

For more information, visit their website:



New Member: Smart Site Solutions GmbH

Smart Site Solutions GmbH stands as an innovative software company dedicated to digital road construction, underpinned by a steadfast commitment to automation, asphalt 4.0, and sustainability. At the heart of their offerings is the cloud-based solution, Smart Site One (SSO), which enhances logistics processes in asphalt road construction, enhancing efficiency and precision.

By harnessing the power of technologies such as AI, IoT, and robust platform solutions, Smart Site Solutions has made significant strides in developing the industry. Their software is adopted across Europe, and trusted by both large and mid-sized construction firms, as well as public clients.

SSO, through a network of sensors and interfaces, collects essential data and leverages artificial intelligence to harmonize material production, transport, and installation processes, ensuring seamless coordination and communication. In turn, minimizes downtimes and quality issues, ultimately boosting productivity and enhancing the road construction experience.

For more information, visit their website:



EAPA's Relocation to the New Office

The familiar EAPA office on Rue du Commerce in Brussels will forever hold a special place in EAPA's history. However, as we move forward, we are excited to announce that we have relocated to a new EAPA office just a few streets away, now situated on Square de Meeûs in Brussels.

Newest Additions to the EAPA Team

Meet the EAPA team! The EAPA team has grown to support and amplify the voice of the Asphalt Pavement Industry.

Know more about our team:



*Meghaa Vandana -
Marketing and
Communication Manager*



*Andrei Burlacu
PR & Communication Officer*



*Rim Hijjawi
Office Management Assistant*



*Top row left to right: Helga Beuving, Breixo Gomez
Bottom row left to right: Rim Hijjawi, Meghaa Vandana, Andrei Burlacu, Carsten Karcher
Gera Jansen (not in picture)*

EAPA Committees

Committee Meetings

On 18-20 April 2023 and 10-12 October 2023, EAPA held the corresponding Spring and Autumn 2023 Committee meetings.

The first one was organised in Gothenburg (Sweden) at the Peab facilities and at Volvo's partner CPAC offices. After the meetings, different technical activities were organised, such as a visit to the Peab Research & Development lab facilities, a site visit where EAPA Members could see a new asphalt plant that runs on close to 100% biofuel over the year and is prepared for high reclaimed asphalt (RA) contents, as well as a big quarry (annual production of 1M t/year) that has recently received a UEPG award for biodiversity and the CPAC design tank, where a wide range of Asphalt 4.0 prototypes are being developed.

The Autumn meetings were organised in Brussels, which brought the opportunity for Members to visit the new EAPA office in Square de Meeûs. After the meetings, complementary activities were also organised, such as a city tour around Brussels and a technical visit to the Belgian Road Research Centre (BRRC), where EAPA Members could learn about the activities being undertaken in this institution, as well as visit the laboratories.

EAPA Members during the visit to a Peab asphalt plant and quarry





EAPA Members during the visit to the laboratories of the Belgian Road Research Centre



EAPA Members during the visit to a Peab Research & Development lab facilities



EAPA Technical Committee meeting in Gothenburg (Sweden)

Health, Safety and Environment Committee (HSE)

In the agenda of the HSE Committee, it is worth it to highlight the work being done by the TF Decarbonisation. This TF developed a questionnaire to collect information on average/representative inputs for CO₂-eq emissions. Different national associations responded, allowing the definition of a European case study, which was considered the current benchmark of the European asphalt industry. After this, the impact of different technologies to reduce emissions was calculated and nowadays, the TF is working on a roadmap of actions, which would allow the asphalt industry to meet the decarbonisation objectives in due time.

Regarding the EAPA Task Force on Life Cycle Assessment, the group has provided great support to CEN TC227 WG6 for the development of the European Product Category Rules (PCR) for the Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) of Asphalt Mixtures since 2021 and now keeps following up on the latest developments at CEN. A collaboration with the USA National Asphalt Pavement

Association (NAPA) was also established to support the development of their Guidance on upstream life cycle inventory datasets in LCA/EPD calculations.

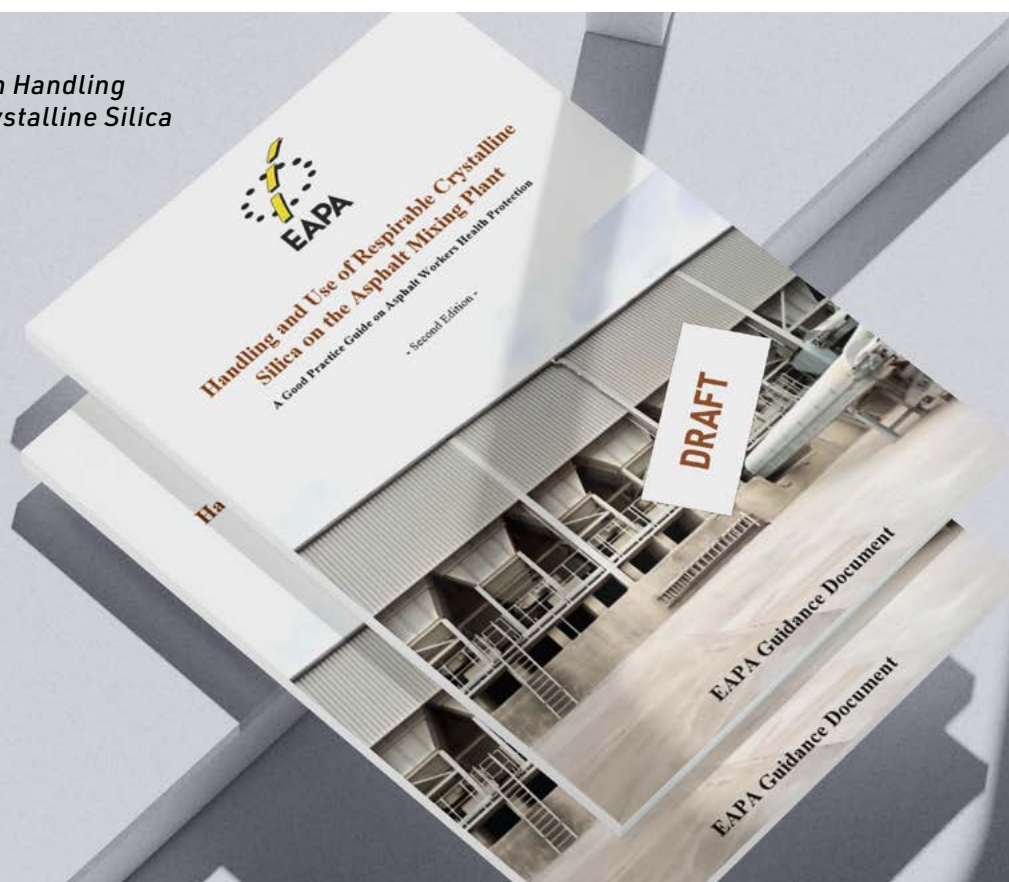
It was also decided to update the EAPA paper on Handling and Use of Crystalline Silica in the Asphalt Mixing Plant (2018), in order to adapt it to the latest publications released by The European Network on Silica (NEPSI). The document was approved by the HSE Committee and it will be published after the approval of the EAPA General Council Assembly.

Among other things, the Committee also discussed the feedback for the open consultations on PAH Operational Exposure Limits, Ecodesign, Taxonomy and End-of-Waste for asphalt.

Scan for the 2018 version:



**EAPA paper on Handling
and Use of Crystalline Silica**





EAPA Members during the visit to CPAC



EAPA Members during a city tour around Brussels



EAPA Members during the visit to the Belgian Road Research Centre



Technical Committee (TC)

In 2022, this Committee published a batch of three documents on the Circular Economy of asphalt, targeting different audiences (i.e. Policymakers, Road Administrations and Industrials). These documents, can be viewed or downloaded. They have proven extremely useful, as they have been used not only by EAPA but by its National Members to exchange with respective Administrations and stakeholders.



Publications of the circular economy of asphalt published by EAPA in June 2022



After this success, the strategy is being repeated in 2023 on the topic of Warm Mix Asphalt. Hence, 2 different publications will be produced, one for industrials (to share best practices and create expertise to improve quality when using WMA techniques) and another one for Road Administrations (to open the door to the use of this kind of techniques). Both publications have been approved by the TC and will be published soon.

The Group also discussed the status of the revision of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR). After the publication of a proposal by the European Commission, EAPA created an Internal Document to inform Members about the main changes. In addition, a document with feedback was submitted during the public consultation.

Draft documents on the use of WMA targeting Road Administrations and Industrials

As usual, the Committee also reviewed the latest developments at CEN Standardisation Committees (especially related to bituminous mixtures, bituminous binders and aggregates). Other important topics on the agenda were the use of asphalt in bike lanes, the possible contribution of asphalt pavements to reduce the generation of tyre and road wear particles (TRWP) and alternative binders. For this last topic, Dr Ana Jimenez del Barco (University of Granada) participated as an Invited Speaker in the Spring meeting and gave a great overview of the most recent developments around the world.

Another topic that is currently gaining increasing importance in the TC agenda is "resilience", a concept that can be applied to pavements (e.g. resilience against flooding, climate change, etc.) as well as to the sector itself (resilience against disruptions in supply chains, changes in regulations, etc.). The Committee has started to work on a Position Document in which all these considerations are presented.



EAPA Internal Document with information about the proposal for the revision of the Construction Products Regulation and feedback submitted during the public consultation.

Draft Position Paper on Resilience



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Asphalt 4.0

The main objective of this Committee is to compile information about new Asphalt 4.0 technologies and create awareness among EAPA Members, as well as outside EAPA.

For this reason, it is common to have presentations, not only from Members but also external invited Speakers, like Darius Soßdorf, Chairman of the MiC 4.0 group, who participated in the Spring meeting. In the next meeting, Professor Mayca Rubio (University of Granada) will present the project CORCOPAV and José Carlos Valdecantos (Xouba) will explain road condition monitoring with floating vehicle data.

The Committee has been involved in the organisation of the International Conference on Asphalt 4.0, which was held in Madrid in September 2023.

The Committee is also working on a Technical Briefing, which compiles a long list of available digital technologies for plant production, transportation, on-site operations and maintenance, including the use of artificial intelligence and big-data collection from sensors in vehicles to continuously monitor the state of the road network and optimise maintenance strategies.

Draft Technical Briefing on Asphalt 4.0



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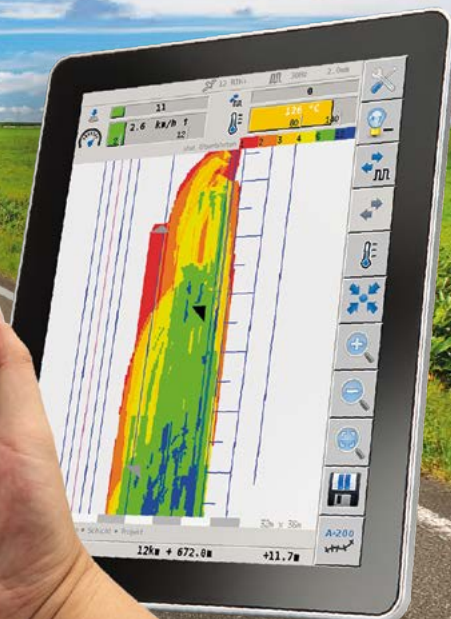
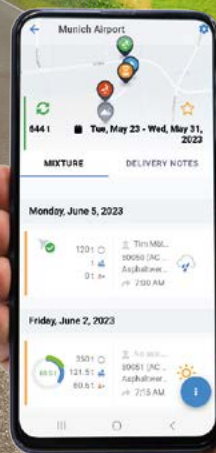
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Conferences and Events



Bernd Abele (Rettenmaier)



*Breixo Gomez (EAPA)
during an online presentation*

HAPA International Conference

The Hungarian Asphalt Pavement Association (HAPA), is sure that the effectiveness and success of infrastructural developments must be realized in a social environment, where experts can exchange and find answers and solutions to unavoidable questions on the paths of development. With this in mind, HAPA organised on 14-15 February 2023 the XXIII International Asphalt Conference in the beautiful Siófok, by the Balaton Lake.

The main topics of this year were:

- Asphalt 4.0: The Roads of the Future and the Future of Mobility
- Machine manufacturers for energy reduction and a sustainable future
- The location and role of asphalt grids in the track structure layers
- Health and Safety at Work and Traffic Culture
- The role of additives in increasing the service life of pavements
- Recycling and Installation Technologies
- Novelties, interesting things, and experiences of study trips abroad

The conference provided an excellent opportunity for participants and speakers, as well as exhibitors, to converse and exchange ideas.

HAPA Secretary General Tibor Veress opened the Congress and, like in the latest conferences of 2020 and 2022, EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez participated with a presentation on the impacts of new road users (heavy-duty, electric and autonomous vehicles) on the durability of roads. In addition, other EAPA Members, such as Geir Lange (Veidekke), Xavier Carbonneau (Colas), Shahin Endaskarsefat (Iterchimica), Bernd Abele (Rettenmaier) and Krishna Srinivasan (Sripath Technologies), participated as well with presentations on different topics, from Warm Mix Asphalt to Green Public Procurement and additives for bitumen and asphalt.



Xavier Carbonneau (Colas)



Shahin Endaskarsefat (Iterchimica)



*Geir Lange (Veidekke)
during an online presentation*

German Asphalt Days

With nearly 1,100 registrations, the 21st German Asphalt Days held from February 8th to 10th, 2023, attracted a record number of participants to Berchtesgaden. This surge in attendance was a clear indicator of the industry's pressing need for knowledge exchange, particularly in the aftermath of the event's postponement in 2022 due to the pandemic.



Image top right: Kerstin Gärtner presenting a slide with tables of EAPA's "Asphalt in Figures".



Gathering at the exhibition
(picture by DAV)



Former President of the Federal Republic, Christian Wulff (left) and André Täube (DAV) at the booth of EAPA member InfraTest
(picture by DAV)

The German Asphalt Association (DAV) provided a three-day congress program covering current topics and an accompanying trade exhibition that served as a platform for showcasing innovations and fostering networking opportunities. It featured prominent companies and industry leaders showcasing innovative products, current industry solutions and the latest developments in machinery and asphalt technology.

In his opening address, former Federal President Christian Wulff emphasized the need for profound changes to ensure a sustainable future and said: "We will need profound changes for a future fit for grandchildren". He eloquently summarized the political, economic, and ecological challenges of our times, including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the erosion of trust in democracy, the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine and its economic repercussions, and the imperatives of addressing the climate crisis.

DAV President Oliver Nohse, in his address to the congress attendees, emphasized the paramount importance of sustainability, echoing Christian Wulff's sentiments and highlighted the industry's sustainability efforts, including an impressive 84% asphalt reuse rate surpassing other industries like glass and paper. Beyond the recycling and reuse of asphalt as a building material and the high durability of the asphalt construction method, the industry's future sustainability hinges on its capacity for innovation. The digitalisation of processes in production, logistics and paving offers the potential to enhance cost efficiency and reduce the CO₂ footprint.

Peter Hübner, President of the German Construction Industry Association, stressed the need for increased investment in Germany's transport infrastructure. Jens Müller-Belau from Shell urged bolder innovation and a faster energy transition in Germany.

"We have to win back the acceptance of roads among the population," said Peter Hübner, President of the German Construction Industry Association. However, he said, social acceptance was not the only thing lacking. Like his predecessor Oliver Nohse, Peter Hübner also noted that there is a considerable lack of investment in the German transport infrastructure. Both associations advocated for at least a 10 to 20 percent increase in investment for maintaining and expanding the three modes of transport—road, rail, and waterways. This is also necessary, emphasised Oliver Nohse, to ensure planning security for cost-intensive investments in the modernisation of German asphalt mixing plants

Professor Markus Oeser, President of the Federal Highway Research Institute, affirmed during a panel discussion with representatives from the construction industry, politics and science: "When research reaches the point that knowledge becomes certainty, the regulations should follow. With low-temperature asphalt, we are at that point."

EAPA Secretary General Carsten Karcher participated at the conference, delivering a speech on the topic of "Asphalt 4.0 – European experiences".

The 22nd German Asphalt Days are announced to take place in Berchtesgaden from February 21st to 23rd, 2024.

More info:





Breixo Gomez (EAPA)



*Anders Hundahl
(Danish Asphalt Pavement Association)*

National Asphalt Day in Opatija

On 11th and 12th May 2023, the Croatian Asphalt Association organised a new edition of the International Conference on Asphalt Pavements in Opatija this year, which obtained the participation of around 350 experts from different countries.

One of the reasons for such a big success was the excellent international programme, which included the participation of numerous EAPA Members.

Among others, it can be highlighted the presentations of EAPA former President Juan José Potti and EAPA Technical Director Breixo Gomez, together with Anders Hundahl (Danish Asphalt Pavement Association), Petr Svoboda (Czech Asphalt Contractors Association), Matthias Martus and Ersun Görener (infraTest Prüftechnik GmbH), Abele Bernd (JRSJ. Rettenmaier & Söhne) and Luka Krnić (TPA). That's not all, there were presentations by international experts, such as Max Weixlbaum (GESTRATA), Prof. Gabriele Tebaldi (University of Parma), Bernd Nolle (TPA Gesellschaft für Qualitätssicherung), Prof. Konrad Mollenhauer (Kassel University), Igor Ruttmar (TPA), Markus Spiegel (OMV) and Juraj Kulcsár (Hywax GmbH).



*Petr Svoboda
(Czech Asphalt Contractors Association)*



Juan José Potti (former EAPA President)



*Miroslav Keller
(Croatian Asphalt Association)*



A view of the full auditorium at the event in Opatija

International Conference on Asphalt 4.0

Eight technical sessions, including eight keynote lectures, fourteen presentations, and five-panel discussions, shaped the program of the Second Edition of the International Conference on Asphalt 4.0 (ICA 4.0) dedicated to the digital transformation of the asphalt pavement sector. Organized by the Spanish and Slovenian Associations of Asphalt Manufacturers (ASEFMA and ZAS) this event unfolded in Madrid on September 26 and 27, 2023.

The inaugural session featured Xavier Flores, the Secretary-General of Infrastructures at the Spanish Ministry of Transport, Mobility, and Urban Agenda (MITMA). He was joined by Juan José Potti, President of ASEFMA and former president of EAPA, and Slovenko Henigman, President of ZAS and Vice-President of EAPA.

Following the opening session, Xavier Flores delivered a presentation on cooperative, connected, and automated mobility, which marked the first of the eight keynote lectures at ICA 4.0. Among other presenters, who presented initiatives related to the use of big-data in the sector, José Miguel Baena, Director General of Public Road Maintenance in the City of Madrid, introduced the digital pavement management system that uses data from circulating vehicles and that has been already used for years efficiently manage road asset maintenance in the Municipality.

ICA 4.0's technical program, which included lectures, presentations, and panel discussions, was structured into the following eight sessions:

- Session 1: Cooperative, Connected, and Automated Mobility
- Session 2. Digitalized inspection and evaluation of road condition
- Session 3. Technology suppliers and market uptake for innovative products
- Session 4. Digitalization and quality control
- Session 5. Safety at work zones
- Session 6. 4.0 Projects & Digitization
- Session 7. Digitalization, a call for new generation talent
- Session 8. Digital twins

EAPA's strong presence at the conference was evident, besides the above-mentioned former President and current Vice-President, the current EAPA President Ralf Pomp, Secretary-General Carsten Karcher, Technical Director Breixo Gomez along with various Associate Members, such as Ersun Görener (InfraTest), Thomas Leopoldseder (Q-Point) and Martin Fliegl (Fliegl) participated in different sessions and panel discussions.

After the success of this second edition, the third one has been already announced to be held on 24 and 25 September 2024 in Slovenia.



Juan José Potti



Carsten Kärcher



Slovenko Henigman



Panel discussion moderated by José Luis Peña (ASEFMA) and with the participation of Ersun Görener (InfraTest), Thomas Leopoldseder (Q-Point) and Aitor Aragón (UNE)



Breixo Gomez in a panel session with Juan José Potti and Prof. María del Carmen Rubio (University of Granada)



Ralf Pomp granting Juan José Potti a commemorative plaque for his EAPA Presidency

PIRAC World Road Congress

In the enchanting city of Prague, the highly-anticipated World Road Congress 2023 unfolded from October 2nd to 6th, drawing a diverse gathering of approximately 4,000 participants from across the globe. This assembly of road construction and maintenance experts, engineers, and enthusiasts provided a platform for the unveiling of the industry's latest innovations, ideas, and sustainable solutions. With five concurrent sessions, an expansive exhibition area, and an international pavilion, the congress offered an immersive experience for all attendees.

The idea of organizing a workshop during the congress took shape when EAPA and other members of the Global Asphalt Pavement Alliance (GAPA) discussed it in January 2023. The proposal, titled "Decarbonisation & Circular Economy of Road Construction and Maintenance and their Equipment," was developed by Christine Leroy (Routes de France) and Jean-Claude Roffé (ERF Ambassador), and came to life as an independent workshop at WRC 2023.

The workshop was expertly chaired by Christophe Nicodème, the General Director of the European Road Federation (ERF), and Breixo Gomez, Technical Director of EAPA. It focused on sharing global experiences and best practices from GAPA members, drawing insights from regions such as Australia, Mexico, Europe, Japan, the USA, and South Africa. This diverse perspective offered participants a deep understanding of the varied challenges and innovative solutions in road construction and maintenance.

The program also included insightful presentations from ERF and the International Bitumen Emulsion Federation (IBEF), further enriching the knowledge shared during the workshop. It was a fantastic opportunity for participants to learn from the experts, delve into case studies, and explore the latest sustainable practices in road construction and maintenance.

One of the most remarkable aspects of the workshop was the active engagement of the participants. Around 150 experts attended, creating a dynamic environment for in-depth discussions and engaging question-and-answer sessions. This high level of participation underscored the industry's commitment to addressing climate change challenges and promoting sustainable road infrastructure.

The workshop resonated with the themes of decarbonization and the circular economy: Discussions centred on methods to reduce carbon emissions in road construction and maintenance, emphasizing the significance of reusing and recycling asphalt to minimize the environmental impact of road infrastructures worldwide. The workshop also explored innovative equipment and technologies that are transforming the industry, making it more eco-friendly and efficient.

The Workshop was a testament to the industry's proactiveness which on many occasions can move faster than regulations and dedication to embracing sustainable practices and innovative solutions to build a better world, one road at a time.





Compilation video by Breixo Messages from presentors



ASMUD Conference on Green Transformation in the Asphalt Industry

The Turkish Asphalt Contractors Association (ASMUD) addressed the topic of green transformation in the asphalt industry at a conference held in Ankara on 25 October 2023.

The conference was attended by approximately 200 participants from the Highways Administration, the Climate Change Presidency, the Public Procurement Authority, municipalities, universities, road contractors and material and equipment suppliers.

The conference was structured into three sessions: climate change and green transformation policies in the asphalt industry, green asphalt technologies, and green public procurement. A highlight of the conference was the informative presentation by EAPA Technical Director, Breixo Gomez, who provided an insightful overview of green policy trends and industrial initiatives at the European level.

Professor Dr. Erol Tutumluer from the University of Illinois (USA) presented America's carbon-neutral road map, while Tony Aloisia, representing the Australian Asphalt Industry, shared insights into the government's recycling policies and the use of waste materials in the asphalt industry.

ASMUD President and EAPA former President Ayberk Ozcan emphasized that asphalt with its 100% re-usability, is listed among renewable resources and directly contributes to the circular economy. He highlighted the industry's commitment to environmentally friendly production and application techniques that have evolved over the years. Furthermore, he stressed that the asphalt industry's integration of smart and digital tools positions it as a leading force in road construction and maintenance while aligning with climate-neutral policies.





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EAPA-Eurobitume activities

E&E Congress 2024

From June 19th to 21st, 2024, the 8th E&E Congress will convene in Budapest, Hungary, with a central theme based on three pivotal keywords: “Resilience – Sustainability – Innovation.” These themes will present a great base ground for engaging discussions and knowledge sharing at the congress.

It is of paramount importance to connect the asphalt and bitumen industries with these themes, ensuring that their voices are heard among important future discussions within various stakeholder communities:

Resilience: With the ever-growing expectations related to product life cycles in parallel with the changing demands of our road networks, demonstrating the resilience of bitumen and asphalt takes on heightened significance.

Sustainability: In the near future, product requirements will encompass sustainability attributes and the need for a coherent approach to comprehend the benefits and solutions offered by bitumen and asphalt.

Innovation: New technologies whether digitalisation, performance or mobility solutions are key to the development of our industry and we should showcase our achievements as they are numerous!

The main objectives of the E&E Congress 2024 are as follows:

- Provide a platform for our industry sectors and stakeholders to demonstrate and learn from new innovations and technologies.
- Offer a unique opportunity for all participants to engage, exchange ideas and network effectively.
- Stimulate discussions and debates that will help to steer a unified approach to proactively and positively manage future challenges.

- Encourage participation from emerging leaders to benefit from the unique industry experience and motivate them to take an active role in creating and shaping our future!

Currently, the papers received are reviewed in a double-blind reviewing process. Those papers will be the basis for the technical programme of the congress.

Sponsorship and exhibition booking has already been opened a few weeks ago. If you want to become a sponsor or an exhibitor, please refer to the Sponsorship Prospectus linked below:



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EAPA and Eurobitume eagerly anticipate welcoming you to Budapest in June!!

Upcoming Conferences & Congresses



XVIII National Seminar of ASEFMA

When: On November 14th and 15th, the upcoming ASEFMA National Seminar will be held.

Where: The event will take place in Madrid, Spain.

Main Topics: The seminar will focus on key aspects of the asphalt industry in Spain, such as:

1. **The production of asphalt in the most recent fiscal year**
2. **Environmental impacts derived from sector-specific Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)**
3. **International references related to decarbonization efforts**
4. **Discussion of a significant document: "The Road to Decarbonization of the Asphalt Pavement Sector in Spain."**

Website: To attend the event in person or virtually, please visit their website for registration.



AV'23 Czech Republic

When: Save the date for the AV'23 Czech Republic conference on asphalt pavements, from November 28 to November 29, 2023.

Where: The event will be organized in the picturesque city of České Budějovice, Czech Republic.

Main Topics: This conference will focus on three key areas within the asphalt pavement industry:

1. **Testing of Roadway Materials and Structures**
2. **Construction, Maintenance, and Repairs of Asphalt Roads**
3. **Sustainability and Digitization in Asphalt Roads**

Website: For more detailed information, registration details, and updates on the AV'23 Czech Republic conference, please visit their official website.



InterCILA 2023

When: The afternoon of November 14th, 2023, the once in two years InterCILA event will be held.

Where: The event will take place in **Madrid, Spain** with a virtual participation option.

Main Topics: The InterCILA 2023 program features contributions from thirteen speakers and is divided into six parts, including:

1. **Review of the past XXI CILA of Punta del Este, Uruguay**
2. **Planned technical program and summaries received for the XXII CILA**
3. **Actions developed by the Communication Committee of the XXII CILA**

Website: For more information and to participate, please visit their [website](#).

ŽAS's 19th Colloquium on Asphalt, Bitumen and Pavements



When: Save the date for the largest meeting of construction and maintenance of pavements in Slovenia from **November 29th to December 1st, 2023**.

Where: The event will be held in **Bled, Slovenia**.

Main Topics: This conference will cover the following within the asphalt pavement industry:

1. **Warm and recycled asphalt mixes**
2. **Technical presentation of companies and their products**
3. **Sustainable Mobility and Digitalization (Asphalt 4.0)**
4. **Invited lectures and round tables**
5. **Advanced Technologies in the Asphalt Industry**
6. **Sustainability and Digitization on Asphalt Roads**

Website: For registration details and detailed program information please visit their website.



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EAPA Meetings & dates

2023

13 November 2023	CEN TC336 TG Standardisation Request
17 November 2023	CEN TC227 WG6 Sustainability
21-22 November 2023	CEN TC 227 WG1 Meeting (Standardisation) in Lisbon
30 November 2023	CEN TC336 Plenary Meeting

2024

16 January 2024	CEN TC336 TG Standardisation Request
5-7 March 2024	EAPA Committee Meetings
16 April 2024	ExCo and DIR Group Meeting in Brussels
17 April 2024	EAPA General Council Assembly in Brussels
30 April 2024	CEN TC227 CAG in Brussels
18 June 2024	CEN TC227 Plenary Meeting
19-21 June 2024	E&E Congress in Budapest
18-10 October 2024	EAPA Committee Meetings
23-24 October 2024	EAPA ExCo and DIR Group Meeting

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Colophon

The magazine is a publication by the European Asphalt Association for the industry of Asphalt and road infrastructure.

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Breixo Gomez, Carsten Karcher, Helga Beuving, Meghaa Vandana, Ralf Pomp

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 <p>HAPA - Hungarian Asphalt Pavement Association</p>	 <p>IAPA - Irish Asphalt Pavement Association</p>	 <p>Infra Contractors Association, Finland</p>	 <p>MPA - Mineral Products Association, UK</p>
 <p>NCC AB, Sweden</p>	 <p>Peab, Asphalt AB, Sweden</p>	 <p>Czech Road Contractors Association</p>	 <p>Routes de France - French Contractors Association</p>
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But who qualifies as an Asphalt Hero? The answer is simple: anyone involved in the Asphalt road industry, whether they are experienced professionals or newcomers, regardless of age, gender, or educational background. Heroes can emerge

from all corners of the Asphalt industry, including construction sites, laboratories, universities, and companies.

The year 2024 holds significant promise for Asphalt Heroes as we gear up for exciting developments. Stay tuned for more updates!

To witness the inspiring stories of our acknowledged Asphalt Heroes, watch their videos here.



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