



2024

EUPAVE Manifesto

Durable and sustainable roads for the next generation

In anticipation of the upcoming elections, EUPAVE, representing the European concrete paving industry's interests, calls on European, national and local policymakers to take into account the following concerns and priorities:

- **Fair competition**

Fair competition is important for a healthy economy based on fair prices. Competition is possible only if different technical solutions are possible and if market shares are large enough for the development of a mature industry. This principle certainly applies to road construction materials asphalt and concrete; the presence of both industries leads to lower prices and a more thoughtful road construction policy, as it is the case in some countries.

- **Sustainable roads through green public procurement methods**

EUPAVE is calling for transparent procurement and regulations that encourage innovation and quality standards. The economic evaluation of the bids should be based on a life-cycle cost and not on initial price. The environmental evaluation should be based on a life-cycle assessment, considering all environmental indicators encompassing all stages, particularly the use phase.

- **Resilient Infrastructure**

We advocate real climate-resilient transport infrastructure that can withstand the possible events of flooding, heat waves, bush fires and excessive heavy traffic. The choice for concrete enables these requirements to be met.

- **Road Safety in all weather conditions**

Concrete pavements stand for a safe and comfortable road surface: good skid resistance reduces braking distance; rigidity avoids rutting and the associated danger of aquaplaning; light colour ensures good visibility. In addition, due to the little maintenance required, there is limited disruption and minimal danger in the working zones.

Concrete safety barriers are robust, guaranteeing crucial protection for all weather and ground conditions, enhancing safety for road users.

- **Circular economy**

EUPAVE supports circularity in construction throughout the different stages: prevention – repair – reuse- recycle. It starts with prevention: a very long service-life means that less resources are needed for reconstruction.

We strive for increased use of recycled concrete coarse aggregates and sand in all applications, including new pavement concrete. However, this should be based on availability, transport distance and maintenance of performance. And concrete is 100% recyclable!

In summary, EUPAVE is committed to resilience, safety, sustainability, circularity and fair competition in European concrete paving, aiming for a robust infrastructure that meets current and future needs.