



## EUPAVE Newsletter - July 2016

### Communication on low-emission mobility: Road pavement sector highlights role of road infrastructure

On 20 July, the European Commission released its Communication on "A European Strategy for Low-Emission Mobility" (COM(2016) 501), which covers all transport modes. Regarding road transport, the Communication includes proposals on optimising the transport system, low-emission alternative energy, and low- and zero-emission vehicles.

EUPAVE published a joint press release with EAPA (the European Asphalt Pavement Association) and FEHRL (the Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories) to highlight the opportunity offered by the road pavement itself to reduce CO2 and other emissions from vehicles. The three associations noted that smooth, well-maintained road surfaces lead to lower rolling resistance, and thus lower emissions from vehicles, and so upgrading and maintaining roads should be part of any strategy to reduce road transport emissions.

Click here to download the:

- Press release
- Communication on "A European Strategy for Low-Emission Mobility" (COM(2016) 501)

### EUPAVE is hiring a Communications & Office Manager

Click to read the job announcement.

If you are interested, send your motivation letter and curriculum vitae by 21 August 2016 to:

Mr. Karl Downey  
Secretary General of EUPAVE

### 11th International Conference on Concrete Pavements 28 August- 1 September 2016, San Antonio, Texas, USA



Organized by the International Society for Concrete Pavements, the 11th International Conference on Concrete Pavements will present information on new technologies related to the design, construction and rehabilitation of various types of concrete pavements. The 11th ICCP theme is: Concrete Pavements: **Thinking Bigger, Thinking Better**. The programme is available on the official website: <http://www.concretepavements.org/11thConf/>

Register today and reserve your hotel at the conference venue "San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter"

### EUPAVE launches Concrete Safety Barriers WG

EUPAVE has launched an internal Working Group on Concrete Safety Barriers. The group, which is open to all EUPAVE members, will work on all issues of relevance to concrete safety barriers, including safety, best practices, and input to standardisation.



## US paving trends - what lessons for Europe?

A new report from the Portland Cement Association (PCA) examines paving trends in the United States. Concrete paving's share for roads in the US remains at a level similar to what it was 10 years ago, and is currently at 15.1%. The report notes that the share of concrete versus asphalt is primarily determined by the cost of paving in each material. Interestingly, it is shown that while asphalt prices rise with oil prices, a drop in oil prices results in a lesser drop in asphalt prices. The authors point to three factors for this anomaly: changes in oil refining processes mean less bitumen by-product is being produced; increased demand thanks to the resurging US economy; and a lack of competition between paving industries.

To read the full article by EUPAVE Secretary General Karl Downey and to download the PCA report, click [HERE](#).

## EUPAVE welcomes new partner!



**AB-Roads** is a specialised engineering and consulting firm which aims to enhance quality of roads and pavements by providing detailed technical advice and guidance on the design, the execution and control, (testing, failure analysis, inspection) of concrete roads, small element pavements and special applications such as industrial pavements, tram-bus lanes, parking roofs, tunnel pavements, water permeable pavements, airports, ...

Contact: Mrs. Anne Beeldens

## Y de Asturias: concrete motorway still going strong after 40 years

On 14 June, EUPAVE participated in an event on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the construction of the "Y de Asturias" concrete motorway in northern Spain. The event, entitled "New Technologies in Concrete Pavements", was organised by IECA (Spanish Institute of Cement and its Applications) and the Spanish Ministry of Public Works.

The Y de Asturias was a pioneering construction for its time, and is still in excellent condition after 40 years with no major maintenance. The design is a continuously reinforced concrete pavement (CRCP), with transverse grooves which offer good drainage for the climate of northern Spain.

Speakers from industry and the government explained the unique characteristics of this road and presented new technologies in concrete pavements. Javier Uriarte Pombo, from the Ministry, showed how the road has an excellent safety record, thanks in part to the good skid resistance provided by the durable, grooved surface. Jesús Díaz from IECA explained that the lower life-cycle costs of concrete mean that the overall costs of this road have been some 45% lower than the equivalent in asphalt. Finally, EUPAVE's Karl Downey explained how increased competition between paving industries has been shown to save public authorities money.

The Spanish Ministry has announced a call for tender to construction a third lane in both directions on

the most heavily trafficked stretch of the motorway.

More info:

<http://www.lne.es/asturias/2016/06/15/construccion-pionera-espana/1942483.html>

## **New Criteria for Green Public Procurement Road Design, Construction and Maintenance**

The European Commission has recently published a new voluntary construction-related criteria set: the EU Green Public Procurement(GPP) criteria for Road Design, Construction and Maintenance. The publication of such criteria follows a review process undertaken by the different services of the Commission, namely DG ENV and Joint Research Centre (JRC). The newly published EU GPP criteria aim at helping public authorities willing to procure greener construction or renovation works in a cost-effective way. The criteria are accompanied by a Procurement practice guidance document aimed at facilitating the use of the criteria in the different stages of procuring a road. The new criteria are available in English and the other official languages will follow soon.

EUPAVE has actively participated in the revision of the GPP criteria for road construction. Thus, it believes that a correct evaluation can only be done through a complete life-cycle assessment, including the use and operational phase of the pavement, over an appropriate service life. For EUPAVE, "Design-Build-Operate" is often the best procurement method in order to achieve the best performing solutions on the long term. Furthermore, EUPAVE advocates "Alternate Bidding" procurement procedures, to encourage road authorities to look at different equivalent available options. EUPAVE now expects Member States and their contracting authorities to follow and implement these criteria when procuring roads.

Click here to download the:

- EU Green Public Procurement(GPP) criteria for Road Design,Construction and Maintenance
- Procurement practice guidance document (draft version)

## **Innovative Procurement for sustainable roads: a win-win**



Hosted by MEP Ismail Ertug, EUPAVE organized on 19 April a successful lunch-debate on "Innovative procurement for sustainable roads: a win-win" in the European Parliament.

From 18 April 2016 there are new EU rules on public procurement and concession contracts which aim to be simpler, more efficient and to provide the best value for money for public purchases while respecting the principles of transparency and competition.

The importance of transport infrastructure is well-known for the economy, mobility, territorial cohesion and society in general. Its planning and construction after public bids becomes essential but in practice road authorities in the EU tend to be conservative and avoid competitive, alternative and long-lasting solutions that have the potential to save millions in public money.

Read the full article on the event "Innovative procurement for sustainable roads: a win-win".

## **Joining Forces to tackle the road transport CO2 challenge**

Over the last two years, EUPAVE has been participating in a project initiated by ACEA (the European Automobile Manufacturers Association) on decarbonisation of road transport. The project, entitled "Joining Forces to tackle the road transport CO2 challenge", aims to quantify the reduction in CO2

emissions achievable when the contributions of all elements - such as fuel options, intelligent transport systems, eco-driving and infrastructure - are included. One part of the project deals with emissions reductions for cars and light commercial vehicles to 2030, while a second one deals with reductions from heavy duty vehicles to 2020.

EUPAVE highlights that smooth, durable roads have a key role in reducing rolling resistance and thus CO2 emissions from the vehicles riding on them. Roads in poor condition lead to higher vehicle emissions, for all types of vehicles and all types of pavements. Furthermore, studies have shown that concrete pavements, thanks to their stiffness, contribute to reduced fuel consumption and emissions from heavy vehicles.

EUPAVE is involved in a follow-up project looking at scenarios to 2030 for heavy duty vehicles, which is starting now (summer 2016).

Click here to download the:

- Report for heavy duty vehicles to 2020
- Report for cars and light vehicles

## **EUPAVE Annual Report 2015 is out!**

Click here to read: **EUPAVE ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

## **Upcoming Events**



October 18-20, 2016  
Leeds, UK  
European Road Infrastructure Congress  
[www.eric2016.eu](http://www.eric2016.eu)

Click here for more EVENTS.