

CEMBUREAU WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT & VICE-PRESIDENT

CEMBUREAU sets out its agenda ahead of a year of political change in Europe

New President and Vice-President elected during General Assembly which heard from former President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy.

Helsinki, 14 June 2019 - The European cement industry appointed its new President and Vice President at its General Assembly in Helsinki today. Raoul de Parisot, Advisor to the Chairman and CEO of Vicat, will take over as President from Gonçalo Salazar Leite, Vice-Chairman of SECIL. Isidoro Miranda Fernandez, CEO of LafargeHolcim Spain, will assume the position of Vice President.

During a session on this year of political change in Europe, former President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy addressed attendees and provided an insight into the future challenges for the EU. He stressed the importance of industry in addressing these challenges, particularly when it comes to maintaining European competitiveness as the bloc's industries move to decarbonise.

Also addressing the Assembly was Seamus Conboy, Head of Europe for global communications and campaigns agency Red Flag, who highlighted the fragmentation in the new European Parliament and impressed the need for the cement industry to engage as widely as possible in order to be successful in its public affairs efforts.

Speaking following his election as President, Raoul de Parisot said he was delighted to be taking up the position ahead of what promises to be an exciting time for European politics and industry. "The European cement industry is indispensable for European society today. We stand ready to work with new and returning MEPs and European Commissioners to deliver a carbon neutral Europe." De Parisot continued that it was important that, "Europe delivers on goals such as competitive and innovative industry, a circular European economy and low-carbon construction for all so that the bloc can remain a region of prosperity and sectors like cement industry can continue to make a significant contribution to future growth." In his farewell address, Gonçalo Salazar Leite emphasized the big strides made by CEMBUREAU in improving its communication profile which also allowed the cement industry to develop a full value chain narrative on its 5 C approach, emphasizing the benefits concrete brings to society in terms of its durability, recyclability, thermal mass and recarbonation potential.

About CEMBUREAU

The European Cement Association based in Brussels is the representative organisation of the cement industry in Europe. Currently, its Full Members are the national cement industry associations and cement companies of the European Union (except for Malta and Slovakia) plus Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. Croatia and Serbia are Associate Members of CEMBUREAU. A cooperation agreement has been concluded with Vassiliko Cement in Cyprus and with the Cement Association of Ukraine.

The European cement industry directly employs 47,000 people and contributes €4.8 billion in value added to the European Economy. For every euro in added value from the cement and concrete sector, the wider economy benefits by €2.8 worth of added value.

Through continuous investment, innovation and modernisation, CO₂ emissions in the sector have been reduced by 14% since 1990. It is on track to achieve the goal of reducing its CO₂ emissions intensity by 32% by 2050 using conventional technologies.

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