

**ANIPB**

Associação Nacional dos Industriais de Prefabricação em Betão

**CIRCULAR N.º 106/2015**

**Assunto: Concrete Perspectives - BIBM Newsletter October 2015**

Caros Associados,

Vimos por este meio enviar a *Newsletter* de outubro de 2015 do BIBM – European Federation for Precast Concrete, entidade da qual a ANIPB é associada.

Cumprimentos,

(Íris Vilela)

Lisboa, 12 de novembro de 2015



Internal News

**Austrian Regional Quality Brand for concrete products**

The Association of Austrian Concrete and Precast plants (VÖB) presented a new quality label, that makes the regional concrete products recognizable immediately. The unique brand aims at identifying quality local products and the concrete products have to fulfill a series of criteria in order to be enabled to use the quality brand.



Presentation of the new VÖB quality label :  
From left to right : Gernot Brandweiner , Managing VÖB , Bernd Wolschner , President VÖB and Robert F. Holzer , Executive VÖB (APA - Photo Service / Preiss)

"The quality label says *"concrete from the region - a part of us"* and it guarantees a lot of advantages" said Robert F. Holzer, Vice President of VÖB. He emphasizes that: "The new quality label is only awarded to manufacturers who produce all of their concrete products (the whole production phase) in Austria according to the local regulations, laws and they comply with the standards" (...)" The quality of service is a crucial part of the guidelines that VÖB imposed on its members, continues Mr. Holzer, because only whose service consistently meets the high quality Austrian standards, receives the quality label. "





### **FIB is invited to G7 alliance**

Fédération l'Industrie du Béton (FIB) was asked by the French Ministry to intervene at the official launch of the G7 Alliance of Efficient Use of Resources. CERIB was represented by Marc Lebrun (CEO of CERIB) in Berlin, Germany on 2 October 2015.



Germany, who holds the Presidency of the G7 Alliance, created the group Efficient Use of Resources with the purpose of exchanging best practices. The goal of the initiative is to drive innovation in this area and to achieve the decoupling between economic growth and use of raw materials.

Marc Lebrun recalled the fundamental role of concrete (the equivalent of an Eiffel Tower every 10 seconds in the world) and its contribution to modern society. His speech demonstrated the efforts made by concrete as a material and also as a product in the context of the circular economy requirements.





## Construction sector

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- The University of Dundee will hold next year (4-6 July 2016) the 9<sup>th</sup> International Concrete Conference with the theme “Environment, Efficiency and Economic Challenges for Concrete”. There is an open call for papers for several thematic areas.  
For further information please visit: <http://www.ctucongress.co.uk/>.

- The [European Federation of Concrete Admixtures Association \(EFCA\)](#) published European Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) for the following groups:

[Air Entraining Admixtures](#)

[Hardening Accelerating Admixtures](#)

[Plasticising and Superplasticising Admixtures](#)

[Retarding Admixtures](#)

[Set Accelerating Admixtures](#)

[Water Resisting Admixtures](#)

- On 25 September 2015, the European Minerals Day was inaugurated at a Launch Ceremony hosted at the Cimalux cement operations in Rumelange (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) on the Luxembourg-French border.

With the presence of the Luxembourg EU Presidency, alongside the European Commission and a Member of European Parliament, the pan-European open doors took place during the two day event (25-27 September). The event aimed at addressing the challenges and opportunities for Europe’s mineral raw materials sector in a circular and competitive economy.

[Pan-European Open Quarry and Plant Days](#)

- On 14 October 2015, the European Builders Confederation celebrated its 25 years anniversary with a photo exhibition and a dinner. The event addressed the involvement of women and young people to the construction sector to make construction SMEs more inclusive.

[Press Release - European Builders Confederation](#)

- On 15 October 2015, the Groupement Belge du Béton held Concrete Days 2015 in Anderlecht, Belgium. The programme of the day included a student competition and award ceremony, amongst others.

[Concrete Days 2015 - GBB](#)







- On 15 October 2015, the Buildings Performance Institute Europe ([BPIE](#)) published a discussion paper titled “The active role of buildings in a transforming energy market”. The paper describes the important role of the building sector in the decarbonisation of energy sector and it presents strategies to speed up the interaction between the energy and building sector.

[BPIE The active role of buildings in a transforming energy market](#)

- On 16 October, the Small Business Standards SBS organised its first EU conference on “Smart standardisation for SMEs”. The conference was the first of a series of annual conferences - aiming to discuss the impact of standardisation process on SMEs. The event held the title “From national to European standardisation in a global context”.

Amongst others, the event focused on the importance of standards in boosting competitiveness for SMEs, the promotion of national best practices, the added value of being involved in the standardisation process, and the transition from national to European standardisation.

[Press Release -Small Business Standards](#)

- On 19 October 2015, the Wordsteel Association published its 2015 Sustainable Development Charter. The principles highlight the steel industry’s commitments to improving the social, economic and environmental performance of member organisations.

[Worldsteel - Sustainable Development Charter](#)

- According to the International Standards Organisation (ISO) standards distribution newsletter (STADIST) the Technical Committee “Buildings and civil engineering works” ([ISO/TC59](#)) Sub-Committee “Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works” ([ISO/TC59/SC17](#)) started working on general principles and terminology.

- On 20 October 2015, the Technical Committee on Timber structures (CEN/TC 124) started working on a revision of the standard on “Timber structures - Laminated veneer lumber (LVL) - Requirements” ([prEN 14374 rev](#)).

[CEN Website TC 124](#)





- Last month Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) began using a concrete printer that enables objects of up to 11 meters long, 5 meters wide and 4 meter high to be printed.  
[Concrete Printer - Article](#)





Live from the European Union

### Relevant calls of HORIZON 2020 for the concrete sector

On 13 October, the European Commission adopted the HORIZON 2020's 2016-2017 work programme which represents a EUR 16 billion investment budget for the next two years.

Please find below some coming calls which could be in the interest of the concrete sector.

Theme	Open calls
Energy efficient buildings	<a href="#"><u>EEB-08-2017:New business models for energy-efficient buildings through adaptable refurbishment solutions</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-07-2017:Integration of energy harvesting at building and district level</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-06-2017:Highly efficient hybrid storage solutions for power and heat in residential buildings and district areas, balancing the supply and demand conditions</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-05-2017:Development of near zero energy building renovation</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-04-2016:New technologies and strategies for the development of pre-fabricated elements through the reuse and recycling of construction materials and structures</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-03-2016:Integration of advanced technologies for heating and cooling at building and district level</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-02-2016:Performance indicators and monitoring techniques for energy-efficiency and environmental quality at building and district level</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>EEB-01-2016:Highly efficient insulation materials with improved properties</u></a>
Nanomaterials	<a href="#"><u>NMBP-06-2017:Improved material durability in buildings and infrastructures, including offshore</u></a>
Smart & sustainable cities	<a href="#"><u>SCC-04-2016:Sustainable urbanisation</u></a>







National Award Winner Projects

### **Stormen Concert Hall and Library (DRDH Architects) -Norway**

The Norwegian Precast Concrete Price 2015 was awarded to a new library and concert hall, called Stormen, in the city of Bodø, which is situated in an important, however previously undeveloped part of the city center. The new buildings contribute to a revitalization of the area Storgata, Sjøgata, the harbor and Hålogalandsgata. Stormen and its public areas create space for activities in the previously empty harbor quarter. The buildings are situated in a challenging context where they must relate to the existing street grid, the harbor, the landscape as well as the diversity of the surrounding existing buildings.



The challenge is met in an exemplary way by creating two volumes that complete the block without dominating the cityscape.







Both of the Stormen buildings have facades of precast concrete. The white facade elements are brushed and lightly polished highlighting the marble structure in the surface. The geometry of the façade elements is complex; with its precise joints, corners and window openings, it expresses a serene elegance. The geometrical design is symmetrical in both buildings. The facades and columns reaching upwards give the buildings elegance and they also fit well with the surroundings and the coastal landscape.



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The innovative use of precast concrete facades is essential for the unique design of these buildings. The details are thoroughly planned and consistently implemented, from the size and form of each element to the small details in the columns, windows and entrances. The precast facade elements are used in a challenging manner, partly due to the overlapping corners as in masonry. The complex pattern of division in the elements invites curiosity regardless of the perspective from which they are viewed.

The project is the result of an excellent cooperation between client, architect and the precast concrete producer.

**Project information:**

**Category:** Cultural building

**Client:** The Municipality of Bodø

**Architect:** DRDH Architects, London

**Acoustics and scene technics:** Arup

**Landscaper:** Dark Arkitekter AS

**Size:** 18 038 m<sup>2</sup>

**Localization:** Storgata 1A og 1B, Bodø

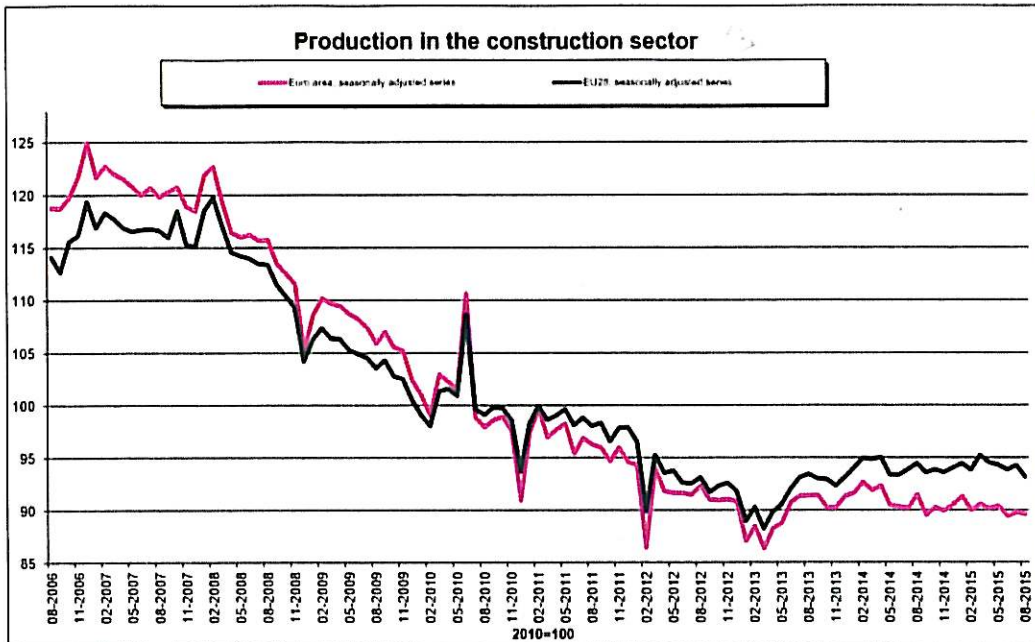
**Finalized:** 15 november 2014

**Precast Concrete:** Overhalla Betongbygg AS



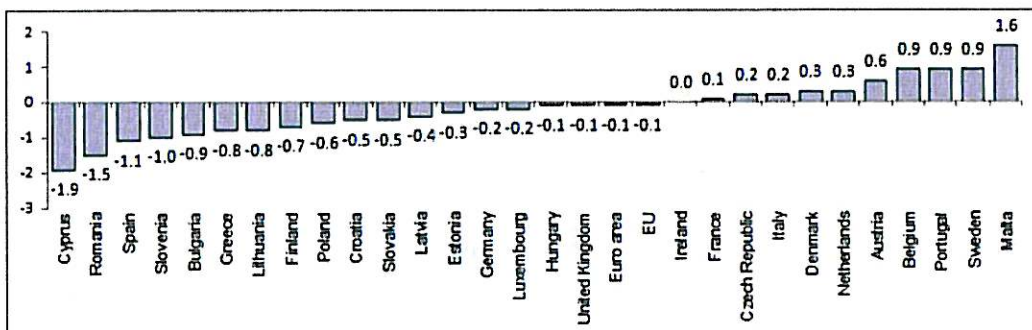


News in brief



**Graph 1- Production in Construction** (pink - Euro Area, Black - EU28)

According to first estimates from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, in August 2015 compared with July 2015, the seasonally adjusted production in the construction sector fell by 0.2 % in the euro area (EA19) and by 1.2% in the EU28.

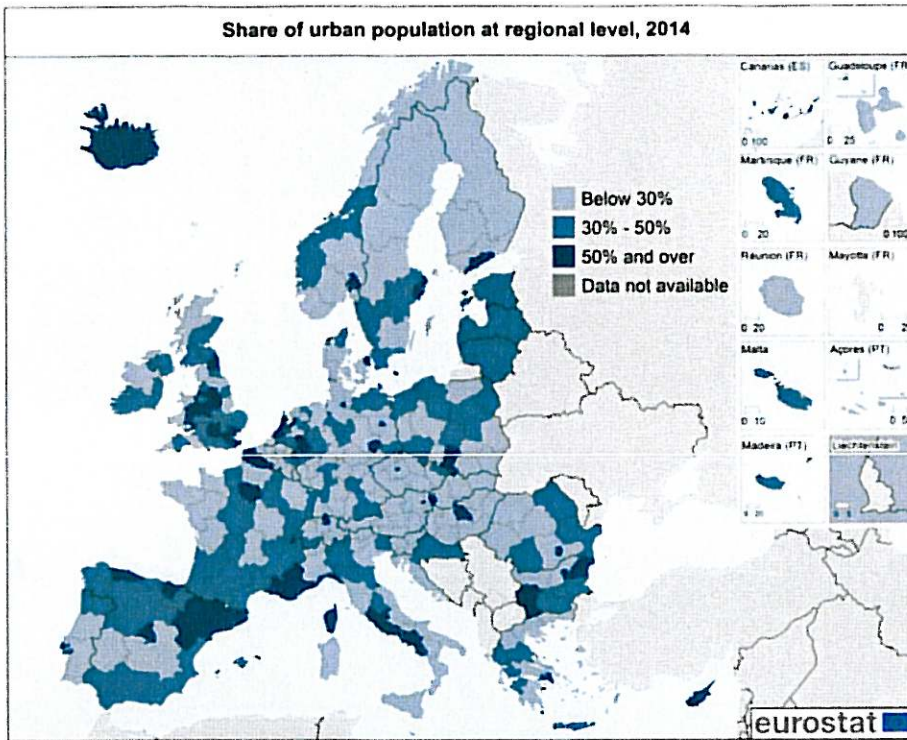


**Graph 2 - Annual inflation rates (%) in August 2015, in ascending order**

Annual inflation was 0.1% in August 2015 in the Euro area and 0.0% in EU 28

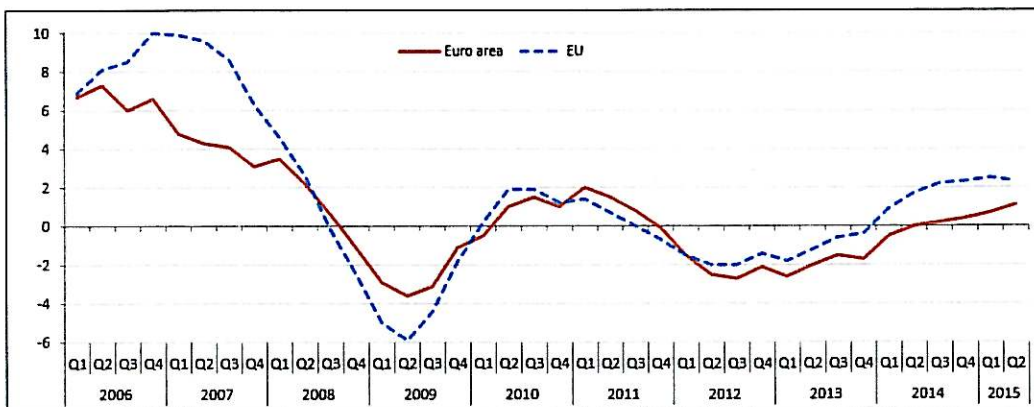






Graph 3 - Just over 40% of the EU population lives in cities

Out of 100 persons in the European Union (EU) in 2014, 40 were living in densely-populated areas (or cities), 28 in thinly-populated (or rural) areas and 32 in intermediate areas (or towns and suburbs).



Graph 4 - House prices - annual rate of change for the euro area and the EU (%)

House prices, as measured by the House Price Index, rose by 1.1% in the euro area and by 2.3% in the EU in the second quarter of 2015 compared with the same quarter of the previous year. (red: Euro area, blue: EU 28)





## AGENDA

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### NOVEMBER

10 November 2015  
**CEN/TC 229/WG 1 and WG4 meeting**  
Paris, France

17 November 2015  
**BIBM General Assembly**  
Brussels, Belgium

19 November 2015 (upon invitations only)  
**The Concrete Initiative: Citizens at the heart of sustainably-built environment**  
Brussels, Belgium

19 November 2015  
**ECP TF Fire & Eurocodes**  
Brussels, Belgium

20 November 2015  
**ECP Board**  
Brussels, Belgium

23 November 2015  
**CPE CPR meeting**  
Brussels, Belgium

25 November 2015  
**BIBM Technical Commission (tbc)**  
Brussels, Belgium

26-27 November 2015  
**JRC SafeSust workshop**  
Ispra, Italy

### DECEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> December 2015  
**Ceramic days**  
Brussels, Belgium

3 December 2015  
**The Concrete Initiative Thematic Lunch on Rebuilding (upon invitation only)**  
Brussels, Belgium

10 December 2015  
**CPE Workshop on EPDs**  
Brussels, Belgium

17 December 2015  
**EMA meeting**  
Brussels, Belgium

To the Newsletter of Construction Products Europe (former CEPMC), please follow [this link](#).

To read the Newsletter of CEMBUREAU, please follow [this link](#). You can also subscribe directly following this link <http://www.cembureau.eu/newsletter/subscriptions>.

To read the Quarterly Newsletter of The Concrete Initiative, please follow [this link](#).

### **List of Acronyms**

CPE - Construction Product Europe  
CPR - Construction Products Regulation  
C&D waste - construction and demolition waste  
ECP - European Concrete Platform  
EMA - European Masonry Alliance  
JRC - Joint Research Centre of the European Commission  
PCR - Product Category Rules  
TF - Task Force  
AhG - Ad-hoc Group

