ERMCO NEWS

May 2019

ERMCO VIDEO TUTORIAL IS COMING
As announced in Rome, ERMCO is working on the first video tutorial entitled “Resolving doubt over the quality of ready mixed concrete using EN 13791”. The scope is to provide to the National Association, information for technical experts interested to the specific issue.

The three videos will be on:
• “Introduction”
• “Non-Destructive Test methods”
• “Coring and durability”

The topic is explained by Prof. Tomas Harrison. The first video will be presented in Valencia for the ERMCO members. All video will be officially available after the publication on the EN 13791. We also thanks SNBPE for having hosted the video making.

PORTUGUESE CONCRETE DAY
Registration is open for Concrete Day 2019, the annual event promoted by the Portuguese Ready Mixed Concrete Association. The English program is HERE AVAILABLE.

This is the fourth edition of the event that will bring together Ready Concrete professionals with its customers and suppliers.
The objectives for Concrete Day are to promote the network, convey the latest innovations and technologies, stimulating the ready-mix concrete industry. The registration deadline is May 23, 2019. However, the number of participants is limited. The event will take place in Batalha, Portugal.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “CEMENT-BASED MATERIALS TAILORED FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE” – 7 & 8 May, Istanbul.
The conference aims to gather researchers and industrial experts from around the world who specialize on cement-based materials to share and spread knowledge in an effort to increase awareness on the importance of the sustainable cementitious systems

ENERGY VAULT PROPOSES AN ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM USING CONCRETE BLOCKS
Energy storage is the key to renewables. A decade ago, solar panels could make electricity during the day, which was great. But in most parts of the world, the highest demand for electricity occurs in the late afternoon and early evening — times when solar panels produce little electricity. Wind turbines are wonders of modern engineering but of little use if there is no wind to turn their blades...

NEW IDENTITY TESTING SYSTEM WITH RFID TRACKING IN TURKEY

In Turkey, a new Directive came into force by Turkish Ministry of Environment and Urbanization in 2019 about a mandatory identity testing system with RFID tracking. With this new system, the obligation for identity testing of concrete at construction site is extended and all concrete specimens for this system will be digitally tracked. The system is called EBIS and the steps of the system are like this:

- RFID tags are put in the middle of the specimens and location, time etc. are read by a mobile RFID reader.
- Information of concrete and construction site are introduced to EBIS mobile app.
- Specimens are taken into official laboratory after 16-72 hours.
- Test is done after 28 (or specified) days using a special testing machine.
- Report is automatically generated and saved in the system just after the test.

Although some problems are encountered at the beginning of the system, we think that the system is an opportunity for Turkish RMC sector in terms of reducing unfair competition because it prevents external interventions-manipulations. And also this system will allow to transfer quantity & quality information of concrete directly to e-government information system. In the future, new features like tracking concrete temperature and maturity can be added to the system.

POISON CENTRES NOTIFICATION FORMAT UPDATED TO VERSION 1.1

The Poison Centres Notification (PCN) format structures the information on hazardous mixtures classified for health or physical hazards. This information has to be submitted to the Member States appointed bodies. The format is XML based and defined by the requirements laid out in Annex VIII to the CLP Regulation. The information to be submitted includes the full chemical composition, toxicological information, relevant product and mixture details including the intended use (EuPCS), in addition to the label elements such as the unique formula identifier (UFI).

The PCN format is compatible with IUCLID, a tool developed by ECHA in collaboration with the OECD, which promotes the harmonisation of chemicals data.

In April 2019, version 1.1 of the format has been published and will be used for the submission of notifications via the ECHA Submission portal provided by ECHA. The format is available at the following LINK https://poisoncentres.echa.europa.eu/poison-centres-notification-format.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF CONCRETE

Thanks to its high reflectivity, CO₂ uptake, thermal mass, resource efficiency and high durability properties, concrete submits effective solutions for sustainable production. These superior properties of concrete should be further developed in terms of combating climate change. Both producers and users are responsible for this