EUROPEAN AGGREGATES ASSOCIATION

A Sustainable Industry for a Sustainable Europe



















Annual Review

2010-2011



UEPG in a nutshell



UEPG represents the European Aggregates Industry in Brussels, now with Members in 31 countries. On behalf of its Members, it actively lobbies the European institutions and other stakeholders on issues key to the industry.

Over 3 billion tonnes a year of crushed stone, sand & gravel are produced by 16,000 companies (mostly SMEs) at 24,000 quarries and pits across Europe, employing 300,000 people directly and indirectly. It is the largest non-energy extractive industry.





Our vision is a Sustainable Industry for a Sustainable Europe. Our mission is to be the Industry Champion and a trusted Partner. UEPG Core Values are to be Open, Transparent and Honest. We have a particular focus on health and safety, access to local resources, recycling, excellence in environmental stewardship and biodiversity.



You are welcome to contact UEPG at:



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President's Overview

Our current and ongoing Priorities, Achievement and Objectives

The second year of my Presidency has been very busy. The table opposite summarises our key work areas, current and ongoing priorities, achievements in the past year and objectives for the next year. The highlights are:

- We continue to lobby on the Raw Materials Strategy, with a strong focus on the second pillar, seeking better future access to local resources, better minerals planning and more efficient permitting. In parallel we are also actively lobbying on Resource Efficiency, which is primarily focused on the promotion of more recycling of construction and demolition materials.
- We have made significant strides in promoting the Safer by Design initiative and were honoured to be invited to become a partner of the 2010-2011 EU-OSHA Campaign. Significant progress has also been achieved on strengthening the implementation of the European Social Dialogue Agreement on Respirable Crystalline Silica, and we look forward to even more comprehensive industry reporting in early 2012.
- We have made good progress on developing our Biodiversity Strategy to 2015. Our significant database of case studies shows that our quarries and pits, both active and restored, are real biodiversity havens. We also made significant progress on water management guidelines, and continue to watch and advise the industry on a variety of emerging environmental initiatives.

- We have continued to successfully engage on challenges related to the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), CEN standards, and legislation concerning Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) and REACH.
- We have continued to promote the deserved positive messages of our industry, which already have done much to enhance our reputation in front of the European institutions and our many other stakeholders.

Strengthening our Membership

During the past year, we have made considerable progress in supporting existing Members and in recruiting new Members. For existing Members, we provided support in terms of visits, for example to Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain and the UK. Our campaign to recruit new Members has been highly successful. At the Lisbon Delegates Assembly, we were delighted welcome new Members from the Czech Republic, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Slovenia and Russia bringing the total number of UEPG Member countries to 31. While bringing the benefits of membership to these countries, this enlarged geographic footprint also greatly enhances the representation and lobbying presence of UEPG.

Strengthening the UEPG Organisation

In view of our growing membership and workload, the UEPG Board decided in December 2010 that we should transition to a full-time Secretary-General. Accordingly, we are delighted that Dirk Fincke will become Secretary-General as of September 1, 2011, very ably supported by Sandrine Devos

and Miette Dechelle as Public Affairs Managers. UEPG is hugely appreciative of dedicated inputs of Antony Fell as Secretary-General over 11 years, and indeed he has been a leading light in all UEPG activities since its inception in 1987; Antony will continue as our EU Advisor.

A Word of Thanks

In order to ensure a seamless transition in Secretary-General, the Board asked that I continue as President until May 2012, which invitation I was very honoured to accept. I am also delighted to have the continued support of the Board, and in particular of my two Vice-Presidents, Denis Mertens and Alain Pasquier, with Michael Schulz continuing as Honorary President for that extra year. In May 2012 we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of UEPG, and by then will have selected a new President to lead UEPG onwards and upwards for the next three years.

I continue to be hugely appreciative of the sterling work done by the Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs, as well as the Task Force Chairs, every one of whom again gave everything in time and dedication. As always, my very special thanks go to the Secretariat, namely Antony, Dirk, Sandrine and Miette, whose continued dedication to excellence makes UEPG the success it really is.

Vin Obner

Jim O'Brien President UEPG 2009-2012



UEPG Activity Areas, Priorities, Achievements and Objectives

Activity Area	Current Priorities	Ongoing Priorities	Achievements In 2010–2011	Objectives for 2011–2012	
Economic Committee	Raw Materials Strategy Resource Efficiency and 2020 Strategy Flagships	Promote Transport Efficiency Reliable Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs)	Significant lobbying & engagement on the EC Raw Materials, Resource Efficiency and 2020 Strategies. Developed more accurate industry SDIs	Continue to lobby on and achieve better access to local resources, better minerals planning and permitting in all EU countries, promoting recycling and resource efficiency	
Technical Committee	Reviews of CEN standards & associated issues With EPRA, promotion of recycling	Issues on implementing Construction Products Regulation End-of-Waste Criteria	CEN developments closely monitored, including debates on dangerous substances, CLP and REACH Created more awareness of need for higher recycling levels	Ensure industry interests are achieved in technical standards. Resource Efficiency & Innovation Union: develop good practice guidelines to promote more recycling across Europe	
Health & Safety Committee	Promoting Safer by Design Further promoting the ESDA on RCS	Furthering fatality and accident prevention Postponement of Directive on Explosives for Civil Uses	Atlantic Alliance 6 Meeting in Oct 2010, Safer by Design promoted at European level: UEPG invited to be partner within EU-OSHA Campaign Further roll-out of the ESDA to more EU countries Adopted CSI initiatives on fatality & accident prevention	Atlantic Alliance 7 meeting planned to take place in US in 2012 to roll out Safer by Design globally Further improve next ESDA/NePsi reporting in Feb/Mar 2012 Continue to create awareness and action on fatality & accident elimination	
Environment Committee	Monitoring of and alerts on all emerging EC initiatives Promoting Biodiversity & Natura 2000 aspects Water Management Marine Strategy TEEB initiative and associated issues on ecological offsets		Developed biodiversity strategy to 2015, including KPls, analysed case studies, joined B@B Platform, strengthened IUCN links Developed good practice guidelines on water management and case studies	Further develop biodiversity as a key industry strength, including TEEB and offset issues Further develop marine aggregates task force Continue to lobby on the many emerging environmental initiatives	
PR & Com- munications Task Force	Good PR Practice Exchanges Industry Image & PR Messages	Supporting European Minerals Day and other PR initiatives Create more awareness of funding opportunities	Good PR Practice Exchanges Industry Image & Messages 2010 Sustainable Development Awards, next in 2013	Continue to share excellent activities between members. Keep driving positive industry messages on responsibility and dedication to excellence	

Acronyms:

CLP = Classification, Labelling and Packaging (where aggregates are deemed as "articles".)

EPRA = European Platform for Recycled Aggregates

ESDA/RCS = European Social Dialogue Agreement on Respirable Crystalline Silica,

NePSi = European Network for Silica,

PR = Public Relations,

TEEB = The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity.

An introduction to UEPG and Aggregates

In Summary:

- UEPG now has Members in 31 European countries (see map)
- The European aggregates demand is 3 billion tonnes per year, representing a turnover of around €20 billion
- The aggregates sector is by far the largest amongst the non-energy extractive industries
- The European average aggregate demand is 5.5 tonnes per capita per year
- Some 90% of all aggregates produced are from natural resources in quarries and pits
- The remaining 10% comes from recycled aggregates (6%), the rest being marine and manufactured aggregates (2% each)
- The aggregates industry comprises some 16,000 companies (mostly SMEs) operating in 24,000 quarries and pits across Europe, employing 300,000 people directly and indirectly.

What is UEPG?

UEPG stands for "Union Européenne des Producteurs de Granulats" (European Aggregates Association). Since 1987, UEPG has strongly promoted the interests of the European aggregates industry by representing its Members on economic, technical, health & safety and environmental policy.

UEPG pro-actively identifies EU initiatives and policies that are likely to impact on European aggregates producers. It provides Members with brief and concise information through regular publications and ad-hoc updates, and ensures UEPG positions are considered by EU decision-makers. UEPG also positively promotes the profile and image of the European aggregates industry.

UEPG Membership 2011

In May 2011, UEPG was delighted to welcome seven new Members, namely Björgun ehf of Iceland, CLOOS of Luxembourg, SALONIT ANHOVO Kamnolomi d.o.o. of Slovenia, BRA of Latvia, Holcim Česko of the Czech Republic, AB Dolomitas of Lithuania and OAO Pavlovskgranit of Russia. This brings the total number of UEPG member countries to 31 and UEPG will continue to actively seek further new members in the years ahead.



Legend:

- Full Members
- Associate Members

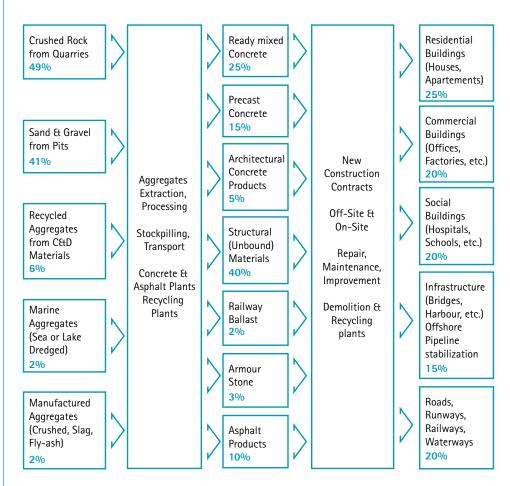


Did you know that?

- Aggregates are indeed the core building material in all our homes, offices, social buildings and infrastructure: without aggregates these would literally fall apart
- Every new home typically requires up to 400 tonnes of aggregates
- Every new school typically requires some 3,000 tonnes of aggregates
- A new sports stadium may require up to 300,000 tonnes of aggregates
- Every new 1km of roadway requires up to 30,000 tonnes of aggregates
- Every new 1km of highspeed railway typically requires 9,000 tonnes of aggregates
- Every different application requires a different technical specification of aggregates, some with extremely demanding requirements in respect of shape, durability, abrasion, frost resistance and other factors

Aggregates - the Fundamental Building Material

Aggregates are a granular material used in construction. The most common natural aggregates of mineral origin are sand, gravel and crushed rock. The diagram below illustrates the sources, intermediate and end uses of aggregates:



Aggregates are produced from natural sources extracted from quarries and gravel pits and in some countries from sea-dredged materials (marine aggregates). Aggregates are also sourced from other industrial processes, like blast or electric furnace slags or china clay residues. Recycled aggregates derive from reprocessed materials previously used in construction, including construction and demolition residues.



Our Vision, Mission, Core Values and Objectives

Our **Vision** is a Sustainable Industry for a Sustainable Europe

Our **Mission** is to be the Industry Champion and a trusted Partner

Our **Core Values** are to be Open, Transparent and Honest

Our **Objectives** are as follows:

Economic Objectives

Economic Survival

Many UEPG members continue to suffer highly adverse market conditions in their national economies. Drastic actions were necessary to survive the recession. European economic recovery is now beginning, albeit at a slow pace. UEPG campaigns to create better economic conditions for the aggregates industry in Europe.

Supplying essential Building Materials

UEPG member companies supply materials vital for the residential, social, transport and commercial infrastructures of modern society. Continued long-term access to local raw materials is a vital issue for the industry, and is central to our lobbying on the Raw Materials Strategy.

Retaining Jobs

Despite the current recession, UEPG member companies continue to be an important source of long-term jobs, both direct and indirect, particularly in rural areas.

Contributing to Europe's Competitiveness

The Aggregates Industry is highly competitive. Its activities are a key pillar of the European Economy.

Social Objectives

Promoting Health & Safety

UEPG member companies are dedicated to ensuring the health and safety of its employees, contractors and visitors.

UEPG has developed further partnerships with several health and safety initiatives such as EU-OSHA and the NePSi Agreement.

On safety, the industry recognises that further improvement is much needed, and it is committed to actively addressing that challenge.

Partnering with Local Stakeholders

UEPG member companies aim to engage with all relevant stakeholders. Their operations are an integral part of regional and local communities.

The industry is committed to Open-Door communications with its neighbours and other key stakeholders.

Contributing to Europe's Heritage

UEPG members acknowledge the importance of the common natural and built European heritage and will continue to promote best practices in its extractive and restoration activities.

Environmental Objectives

Promoting Biodiversity

UEPG members are strongly committed to promoting Biodiversity both during its extractive activities and subsequent restoration. UEPG is convinced that quarries and pits are Biodiversity havens.

UEPG has established a database of impressive Biodiversity case studies across Europe and has developed leading partnerships with IUCN and the B@B Platform.

Sustainable Production

UEPG actively promotes the recycling of construction and demolition materials, and is strongly committed to Resource Efficiency.

UEPG also promotes the further development of marine and manufactured aggregates in order to conserve land-based resources.

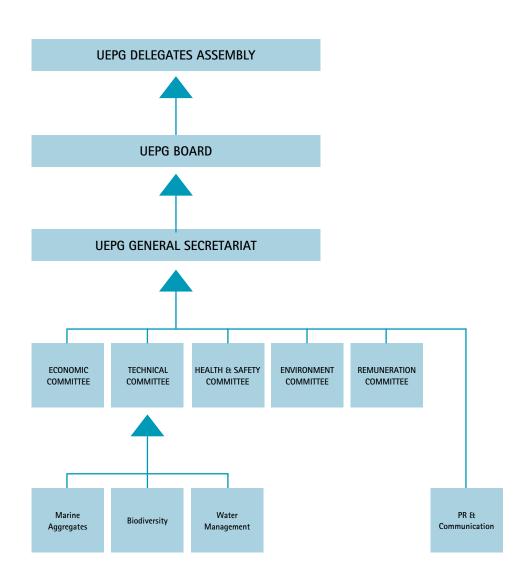
In all activities, the highest standards of environmental stewardship are set as an operational imperative of the aggregates industry

Awards

UEPG promotes triennial Sustainable Development Awards in order to recognise and further promote excellence in the Industry.



Our Organisational Structure



The Health & Safety, Environment, Technical and Economic Committees and their associated Task Forces are the "engine-room" of UEPG activities. These Committees meet twice yearly over two days and report with the General Secretariat to Board. The Board reviews progress and strategy twice yearly in April and November/December. The highest level meeting is the Delegates Assembly, held in May of each year, where all Members debate and decide ongoing UEPG budgets, administration, activities and strategy.

European Economic Developments

"As a consequence of the onset of economic problems, aggregate production declined to 3.25 billion tonnes in 2009, and is predicted to have declined further to around 3 billion tonnes in 2010."

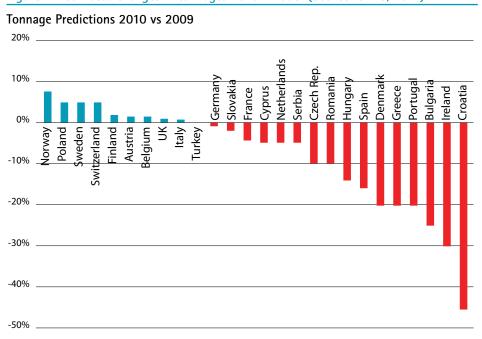
Current trends for the European Aggregates Industry

In 2009, just on 3.25 billion tonnes of aggregates were produced in 24,000 quarries and pits, as shown in Table 1 (on page 13). This makes aggregates as the largest non-energy extractive sector, and the direct value of this production amounts to over €20 billion,

Recent years have shown a dramatic decline in numbers of producing companies, down from nearly 30,000 in 2006 to about 16,000 in 2009, an indication both of the severity of the economic crisis and of ongoing consolidation in the industry. Annual aggregates production peaked in 2006 at about 3.7 billion tonnes. As a consequence of the onset of economic problems, aggregate production declined to 3.25 billion tonnes in 2009, and is predicted to have declined further to around 3 billion tonnes in 2010 (See Figure 1 below). Some countries are reporting even further declines in 2011, though this will hopefully reverse as economic recovery gradually takes hold.

In 2009, it is estimated that 300,000 people were employed in the aggregates industry, including both direct employees and contractors. The economic crisis has unfortunately led to loss of over 100,000 jobs since 2006/2007 in the industry, as companies took drastic measures to survive. Better economic and legislative conditions are essential for the industry to create more jobs, in line with UEPG's mission.

Figure 1: Estimated changes in tonnages 2010 v 2009. (Source: UEPG, 2011)





"The European 2009 average was 5.5 tonnes/capita, down from 6.2 tonnes/ capita in 2008, further down from 7 tonnes/capita in 2006, again dramatically confirming the extent of the economic crisis over the last 5 years."

"Once the current economic crisis is over (hopefully as of 2012), the demand for aggregates across Europe will return to growth."

Figure 2 below shows the variation in tonnes/capita across the various countries. These figures are influenced by several factors, including state of economic development, population densities and climatic conditions. The European 2009 average was 5.5 tonnes/capita, down from 6.2 tonnes/capita in 2008, further down from 7 tonnes/capita in 2006, again dramatically confirming the extent of the economic crisis over the last 5 years.

Figure 2: Aggregates production in 2009 in Europe by decreasing tonnes/capita. (Source: UEPG, 2011)

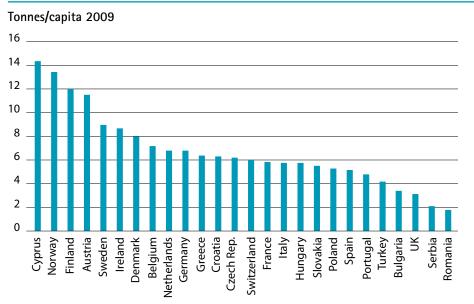
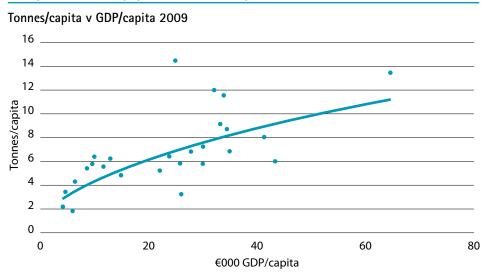


Figure 3 below demonstrates the relationship between tonnes/capita and Gross Domestic Product (GDP)/capita, each point representing a country. The key positive message from this graph is that the tonnes/capita continues to increase as the GDP/capita increases. Therefore once the current economic crisis is over (hopefully as of 2012), the demand for aggregates across Europe will return to growth.

Figure 3: Aggregates production in 2009 in Europe – tonnes/capita (vertical scale) & GDP (horizontal scale), (source: UEPG, 2011)





"According to Euroconstruct, 2009 was the worst year for construction in this decade."

"Recovery is forecast to be variable, however, with some countries remaining in a depressed state, while activity is predicted to be significantly stronger in Central and Eastern Europe than in Western Europe."

Construction Activity in Europe

According to Euroconstruct, 2009 was the worst year for construction in this decade. Total construction output fell by 8.8%, and a further shrinkage of 3.3% on average is forecast for 2010. The difficulties of high public deficits in Ireland, Spain and Portugal forced further significant austerity measures, cuts in housing construction and public investments. Lack in domestic demand, the curtailment of public investments, avoidance of long-term commitments and the reassessment of ongoing public projects also led to lower performance in many other countries. In the meantime, the best performers (Finland, Germany, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK) are benefitting from growing domestic confidence and demand.

According to the new country-by-country analysis done by the Euroconstruct members, 2011 will be a year of change. A slight decline of about 0.1% on average will consolidate construction markets on the level of the previous year. After three years of recession, construction market players have one more year to restructure themselves before positioning to a very moderate recovery. By 2013, Euroconstruct countries anticipate a lower than 2007 total construction output, €1,341 billion (€1,506 billion in 2007). Recovery is forecast to be variable, however, with some countries remaining in a depressed state, while activity is predicted to be significantly stronger in Central and Eastern Europe than in Western Europe.

Among the three subsectors, civil engineering proved to be the most stable during the crisis years and after. The overweight of transport infrastructure construction will slacken and a shift towards energy and water construction will be experienced. A potential threat of public expenditure cuts will influence the infrastructure in Czech Republic, Ireland, Spain and the UK negatively. The previously most severely hit residential construction will hardly recover from its poor position – nevertheless a growth by 1.9% in 2011 is expected. In 2013, output of the residential sector is not predicted to reach the performance of 2008. According to the forecasts, 60% of the residential output will come from renovation activity in 2013. Non-residential construction is forecast to see the slowest recovery; the output in 2013 will hardly reach the level of the early 2000's. Publicly financed health, school construction and renovation might suffer from the shrinking sources. Small signs of recovery can be discovered in the commercial area.

Construction is a vital sector in the European economy, the ten-year-period between 2004 and 2013 showing important structural changes within the sector. It is experiencing a shift from new construction towards renovation and modernisation, so practically 50% of the total construction output is renovation. Actual demands in the near-future (due to efficient energy consumption, upgrading the built environment, housing replacement, new health utilities for the ageing population, lower-CO $_2$ emission buildings) are expected to force construction to turn into a higher value and higher quality performing sector. This will require new products, new technologies and new skills.



Best Estimates of Production Data by Country for 2009

Table 1: Best Estimates of Aggregates Production Data for 2009

	Total Number of Producers (Companies)	Total Number of Extraction Sites (Quarries and Pits)	Sand & Gravel (millions tonnes)	Crushed Rock (millions tonnes)	Marine Aggregates (millions tonnes)	Recycled Aggregates (millions tonnes)	Manu- factured Aggregates (millions tonnes)	Total Production (millions tonnes)
Austria	1062	1362	61	31	0	4	2	97
Belgium	78	104	16	43	3	15	1	78
Bulgaria	190	280	11	14	0	0	0	25
Croatia	260	338	7	22	0	0	0	29
Cyprus	23	23	0	12	0	0	0	12
Czech Rep	198	384	24	41	0	0	0	65
Denmark	350	500	30	0,2	9	5	0	44
Finland	400	2091	16	47	0	1	1	65
France	1428	2481	140	209	6	15	6	376
Germany	1280	2265	236	217	5*	61	36	555
Greece	192	213	1	70	0	0	0	71
Hungary	100	100	37	20	0	0	0	57
Ireland	150	600	19	20	0	0	0	39
Italy	1550	2460	210	140	0	0	0	350
Netherlands	65	160	47	0	45	22	0	113
Norway	710	927	13	51	0	2	0	66
Poland	2044	1786	131	49	0	22	1	203
Portugal	617	1081	25	25	0	0	0	50
Romania	430	745	25	12	0	1	0	38
Serbia	20	70	12	8	0	0	0	19
Slovakia	180	305	11	18	0	0	0	30
Spain	1555	1765	66	171	0	1	0	238
Sweden	985	2109	20	58	0	1	6	85
Switzerland	540	535	33	5	4	5	0	47
Turkey	770	770	25	290	0	0	0	315
UK	727	1275	45	86	10	46	10	197
Totals	15904	24729	1259	1658	82	200	63	3262

^{*}Note: As there are less than 3 marine aggregates producers in Germany, the figure given is an estimate, for confidentiality reasons

Economic Committee

"UEPG was recognised by the Commission for its many constructive inputs and technical contributions."

Chaired by Hans-Peter Braus (BKS, Germany) and vice-chaired by Jerry McLaughlin (MPA, United Kingdom) the UEPG Economic Committee focuses on key economic and strategic issues affecting the industry, and then actively lobbies key stakeholders on the vital interests of the industry. During 2010-2011, the main focus of the Economic Committee has been the EU Raw Materials Initiative, its transition into a Strategy, in parallel with the recent Communication on Resource Efficiency, part of the EU 2020 Strategy. The Committee has also focused on transport efficiency and the TEEB project as well as the compilation and improvement of industry Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs).



"Member States need to develop simplified, more rapid, permitting systems, ideally as 'one-stop-shops'."

EU Raw Materials Initiative and Strategy

Since its very beginning UEPG has been heavily involved in the EU Raw Materials Initiative. In October 2007, a meeting with then Commission Vice-President Günter Verheugen successfully created a high-level political awareness of the importance of continued access to local raw materials to maintain the steady supply of aggregates that society needs.

During 2009 and 2010, UEPG pro-actively contributed to the two ad-hoc Working Groups on defining Critical Raw Materials and on exchanging Best Practices on land use planning, permitting, geological knowledge sharing and on integrating sub-surface information into GMES. UEPG commissioned Leoben University to carry out a review on Planning Policies and Permitting Procedures to Ensure the Sustainable Supply of Aggregates in Europe, which then became the centrepiece of UEPG's contribution to the EU Raw Materials Initiative. UEPG was recognised by the Commission for its many constructive inputs and technical contributions.

The Leoben Review analysed Minerals Policies across Europe, and more specifically Aggregates Planning Policies. It concluded that few Member States had a well-structured approach to address the future sustainable supply of aggregates. Aggregate supplies may therefore become critical in several regions, with associated inefficiencies in aggregates transport and energy usage. Hence it is vital to encourage the adoption of appropriate Aggregates Planning Policies across Europe.

The Review also concluded that most Permitting Systems for extraction of aggregates were unduly complex and slow, unnecessarily constraining access to resources, and that many permissions eventually granted were too short to justify adequate investments. Hence Member States need to develop simplified, more rapid, permitting systems, ideally as "one-stop-shops", by rationalising links and procedures between the national, regional and local agencies often involved.

The Review concluded with recommendations to the Raw Materials Initiative urging the development of a comprehensive European Raw Materials Strategy for aggregates. This should focus on the development of Aggregates Planning Policies and timely Permitting Systems in Europe, to ensure sustainable long-term access to local aggregate deposits. While these areas are ultimately subject to subsidiarity, each Member State should ideally adopt appropriate good practices already proven in other Member States. These issues were strongly iterated by the UEPG President at the European Minerals Conference in Madrid in June 2010, at which Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani was the guest of honour.

In February 2011, the Commission published



"Greater transport sustainability can primarily be achieved through better local access to resources thereby reducing transport distances."



"UEPG insists that biodiversity at a site level should be evaluated on a scientific rather than an arbitrary commercial basis."

"UEPG is committed to reporting SDIs in order to annually measure industry progress." a Communication reviewing progress in implementing the Raw Materials Initiative and developing a Raw Materials Strategy. UEPG has relentlessly maintained the focus on the three pillar structure of the Raw Materials Strategy, particularly emphasising the need to develop further the second pillar of the Initiative on fostering sustainable access to resources within Europe.

In March 2011, UEPG updated its Position Paper calling for good future access to aggregate resources. This concise position was presented at the April 2011. All Party Minerals Forum Dinner Debate in the European Parliament hosted by Judith Merkies MEP (Socialist Group, Netherlands), Rapporteur of the Innovation Union, also attended by Reinhard Bütikofer MEP (Greens, Germany), Rapporteur of the EU Raw Materials Initiative and by Gwenole Cozigou, Director DG Enterprise and Industry. UEPG continues to follow up the Raw Materials Strategy through the various Parliamentary Hearings, and continues to actively lobby the Raw Materials Group.

In parallel, UEPG is making inputs to the Communication on Resource Efficiency, using the opportunity with EPRA to actively promote more recycling of construction and demolition materials, and is also investigating the possibility of submitting recycling projects under the Innovation Union Partnership.

Sustainable Transport

Related to the topic of Resource Efficiency, UEPG is also looking at means for achieving a more sustainable transport policy. Greater transport sustainability can primarily be achieved through better local access to resources thereby reducing transport distances, as well as optimising transport logistics, where possible encouraging despatch by barge, ship or rail rather than y truck.

The Economic Value of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity (TEEB)

UEPG has followed the TEEB project through all its phases, in particular its final D3 Report which focuses on industry. While appreciating that ecosystems and their associated services indeed have an economic value, UEPG insists that biodiversity at a site level should be evaluated on a scientific rather than an arbitrary commercial basis, in order to prioritise, enhance and develop ecosystems, habitats and species with real scientific value.

Sustainable Development Indicators (SDI)

UEPG is committed to reporting Sustainable Developments Indicators in order to annually measure industry progress under Economic, Environmental and Social Pillars. The best available key industry data for 2009 is summarised in the European Economic Developments section of this review.

All these statistics point to the key importance of the aggregates industry in both economic and employment terms in Europe. Continued good access to local aggregates resources is vital for economic and social sustainability of the aggregates industry in Europe. The economic data demonstrates the deep impacts left behind by the recent economic downturn. UEPG members now look to gradual economic and industry recovery, already evident in several countries, with cautious optimism.



Technical Committee

"UEPG Technical Committee members are forming a well coordinated European team of aggregates technical experts."



"A key benefit for UEPG is the possibility of supplying the Declaration of Performance of the products for CE-marking electronically, simplifying the administrative burden."

Has the network of UEPG Technical Committee (TC) members effectively addressed all key technical issues relevant to the sector of aggregates? As Molly Bloom in James Joyce's 'Ulysses' said in her famous soliloguy: "yes I said yes I will Yes..". The Committee has worked on all aspects of technical standards for naturally-occurring aggregates as well as recycled or secondary sources of aggregates, the common goal being to establish a truly open and competitive European market for all aggregates. The TC maintained a close liaison with EPRA (the European Platform for Recycled Aggregates) as well as CEPMC (the Council of European Producers of Materials for Construction), and the relevant CEN TCs.

TC members are forming a well coordinated European team of aggregates technical experts, convened by Markus Schumacher (Secretary), John Lay (Vice-Chair) and Jean-Marc Vanbelle (Chair), working as a closely-linked network on all technical issues for aggregates.

The Construction Products Regulation (CPR)

The CPR has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 04/04/2011 (Regulation EU 305/2011). It entered into force in April 2011. However a majority of articles and annexes will be valid only from July 1st, 2013. All products placed on the market according to the Construction Products Directive (CPD) and consequently CE-marked before this date shall be deemed to comply with the CPR.

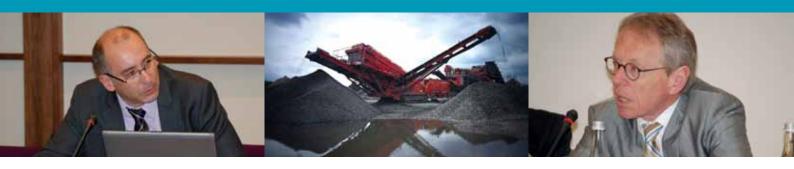
A key benefit for UEPG is the possibility of supplying the Declaration of Performance of the products for CE-marking electronically, simplifying the administrative burden. Some new provisions are established; for example all constructions products will have to be described in a safety instruction document similar to the Material Safety Data Sheet as mentioned in the REACh regulation. There are still some unclear issues which have to be clarified by the Commission before July 2013, such as how to declare the performance regarding the Basic Work Requirement on recycling and durability of construction, or what data is to be printed on documents accompanying the products.

The UEPG Technical Committee will continue to follow developments very closely to ensure a reasonable outcome for UEPG members in the implementation of the CPR.

Harmonised Standards for Aggregates and the debate on "Dangerous Substances"

The UEPG Technical Committee members worked actively to improve the consistency of the aggregates harmonised product standards. Amended drafts are now submitted by CEN for Unique Acceptance Procedure (UAP). The UEPG Technical Committee will continue the work on this issue

Regarding the release of so-called "Dangerous Substances", CEN/TC 154 has answered the amended mandate M125 of the Commission and has now to work on sampling, leaching tests and criteria to be included in the future generation of harmonised aggregates product standards. TC 154 works in close cooperation with CEN/TC 227 on this issue. UEPG Technical Committee members are involved in the activities on both TCs. Coordination on this issue will be done through a UEPG specific task force. UEPG will keep monitoring the developments on the



"Aggregates do not need to be classified as dangerous nor notified under the CLP Regulation, nor do they require any hazardous labelling with respect to RCS on transport vehicles."



"UEPG and EPRA are committed to promoting a significantly higher degree of recycling in the years ahead."

"UEPG is striving to achieve better national data reporting on recycling." "Dangerous Substances" issue and will strive to ensure that any extra testing requirements for aggregates will be little or none.

CEN/TC 351 has launched a new working group (WG3) on possible radioactivity measurements of construction products. The UEPG Technical committee will monitor the development of that CEN/TC 351 WG3.

Classification Labelling and Packaging (CLP)

The UEPG Technical Committee also addressed the issue of the CLP Regulation and its impact on aggregates. The issue was thoroughly and intensively discussed both at the Technical and Health and Safety Committees. Based on those discussions, the UEPG Board then issued a note to inform UEPG Members on the Implications of the CLP Regulation. This note advised that all Aggregates produced according to the CEN harmonised standards developed by TC154, used for construction purposes, should be deemed as "Articles" according to REACh. Consequently Aggregates do not need to be classified as dangerous nor notified under the CLP Regulation, nor do they require any hazardous labelling with respect to RCS on transport vehicles.

European Platform for Recycled Aggregates (EPRA)

EPRA is a joint initiative of UEPG and FIR (the International Federation for Recycling). EPRA strives to encourage greater levels of high-quality recycling across Europe. However recycling rates are determined by many economic factors (such as price differential between natural and recycled aggregates), technical factors (such as type of demolition, transport distances, degree of urbanisation), social factors (such as market perception of recycled materials) and regulatory factors (such as availability of permits).

The UEPG Technical Committee has decided, through its members, to seek to encourage greater recycling across Europe, in parallel campaigning against legislative, technical and marketing barriers where this exist. In leading countries, such as Belgium, Netherlands and the UK, over 90% of available construction and demolition materials are already recycled, equivalent to over 20% of the national demand for aggregates. In other countries the recycling rates are still unfortunately very low, and therefore are now the focus of UEPG and EPRA proposals.

An EC Innovation Union proposal is under consideration in which EPRA would document proven best practices in recycling and offer these to other countries to stimulate recycling. In each country different measures are needed, including technical, legal, marketing and financial initiatives. Taxation on land-fill may be considered in some circumstances to trigger recycling and re-use, whereas taxation on resource use and extraction of natural raw materials would be regarded as highly inappropriate.

There is still quite some work to do on the End-of-Waste criteria. Good documents now being prepared by several countries could be adopted, thereby eliminating the need for the EC to prepare criteria, thus removing legal uncertainty for the recycling industry.

UEPG is also striving to achieve better national data reporting on recycling, as in some countries the quantities of materials recycled appear to be significantly underreported.

Through all these initiatives, UEPG and EPRA are committed to promoting a significantly higher degree of recycling in the years ahead. However as experience shows, even high levels of recycling of construction and demolition materials can only partly fulfil national demand for aggregates.

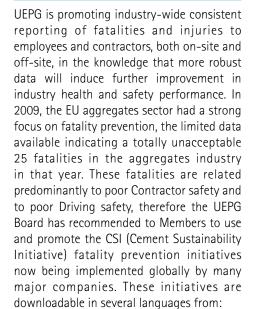


Health & Safety Committee



Under the Chairmanship of Martin Isles (Mineral Products Association, United Kingdom) and vice-chaired by César Luaces Frades (FdA, Spain), the UEPG Health & Safety Committee's mission is to actively promote better Health & Safety in the industry. This is to be achieved through improving awareness and knowledge sharing, acting as an industry leader in voluntary initiatives, and lobbying on key Health & Safety policy issues at European level. During 2010-2011, the Health & Safety Committee has actively addressed a number of key Health and Safety areas with considerable success.

Fatality and Accident Prevention



http://www.wbcsdcement.org/index. php?option=com_content&task=view&id =170&tltemid=229

Progress on fatality and accidents elimination will be monitored at future Health & Safety Committee meetings.

Further implementing the Social Dialogue Agreement on Respirable Crystalline Silica

In 2010, despite the recession, UEPG Member NePSi Reporting demonstrated a significant increase in the number of enrolled sites and continued positive progress on the exposure reduction measures. UEPG continues to extend implementation of the European Social Dialogue Agreement, with preparations already underway for the next reporting in February/March 2012.

Continuous efforts with numerous awareness campaigns are made by UEPG Member Associations, for example, the successful NePSi Workshop on 7 April 2011 in Bulgaria, co-organised by its BAPIM Association. Two further workshops are planned in 2011, with the support of National Associations in Romania and Poland. UEPG, together with other NePSi partners, aims at promoting the Social Dialogue Agreement via NePSi reporting quidelines, presentations at Social Partners meetings, IT tools, website and campaigns to demonstrate the increasing success of the Agreement in protecting the occupational health of workers. UEPG is also driving to get the involvement of the construction sector. It is very important to have solid progress in all sectors associated with potential exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica in advance of the completion of the review of the 'Carcinogens' Directive in 2013.

Extended Liaison with European Commission on Safety-related Activities

UEPG continues as an EU Social Partner in the European Commission's Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for the Extractive Industry (SSDCEI). In 2010, the Social Partners finalised the accident prevention guidelines to improve safety and to prevent accidents on site. The project targeted Young Employees



"Continuous efforts with numerous awareness campaigns are made by UEPG Member Associations."



"In 2011, the "Safer by Design" initiative continues to be promoted successfully." and Contractors in Bulgaria, Poland, Sweden, Hungary, Germany.

In 2011, discussions started on preparing a 2012 EU campaign, on safe machinery and safe behaviours using 'Safer by Design' as a role model. In 2010, UEPG became a Member of the International Social Security Association, Mining Section (ISSA-Mining). In 2010-2011, the 'Safer by Design' project has been presented to the SSDCEI and also to the Standing Working Party for the Mining and Other Extractive Industries (SWPEI). UEPG was recently honoured to be invited to become an EU official partner of the Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2010-11 on Safe Maintenance.



The UEPG "Safer by Design" Project

The "Safer by Design" project originated as a UK Mineral Products Association (MPA) initiative. The aim of this project is to persuade mobile plant manufacturers to include essential safety features in new and re-engineered equipment as standard and preferably without additional costs. These features are clearly set out on the "Safequarry.com" website http://www.safequarry.com/safer_by_design.aspx.

This successful project received top recognition within the MPA Health & Safety Awards and later in UEPG's Sustainable Development Awards 2010. Accordingly, the Board accepted this as a UEPG project, and endorsed the wider promotion and specification of safer mobile plant. The project was widely recognized at the biennial 'Atlantic Alliance' Conference in October 2010 by user companies, manufacturers, standardsmakers, trade associations, academia, legislators, the European Commission, and representatives from aggregates associations from the United States, Brazil, Columbia, Australia and International Organisations such as ISSA-Mining.

In 2011, the "Safer by Design" initiative continues to be promoted successfully through several EU/EC channels including

CEN/TC 151, CEN's Strategic Advisory Body for Occupational Health and Safety (CEN SAB OHS), MACHEX (network to exchange information on problems encountered in the control and monitoring of the application of the Community legislation on worker protection and internal market) and via the Sectoral Social Dialogue. Links with the parallel Australian Earth Moving Equipment Safety Round Table (EMESRT) initiative will allow the "Safer by Design" principles to be refined, thus enhancing the case for wider implementation by mobile plant specifiers and purchasers.

Early proposals are being considered for the next 'Atlantic Alliance' meeting in 2012, which will focus upon global promotion and implementation of "Safer by Design". This increasingly-global project is a clear all-round 'win-win' for manufacturers, industry employers, and, most importantly, the workforce, through ensuring proper standards of health & safety in mobile plant manufacture, with the consequent reduction in industry workplace risks.

A system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses

UEPG supports the 2008/43/EC Directive, pursuant to the Directive 93/15/EEC, dedicated to setting up a harmonised system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses. UEPG campaigned strongly in collaboration with the Federation of European Explosives Manufacturers (FEEM), the explosives supplier companies and national administrations for a postponement of full implementation of the Directive until, 'one unique code system for the complete supply chain' is developed. UEPG's advocacy campaign with the "Explosive Working Group" was a success as a majority of Members States, Europol and the European Commission have now agreed provisionally on the postponement of the Directive for 3 years.

"This increasinglyglobal project is a clear all-round 'win-win' for manufacturers, industry employers, and, most importantly, the workforce."



Environment Committee

"UEPG has been active in working to enhance biodiversity, often in cooperation with local communities or NGOs."

Janez Potočnik, Commissioner for Environment





Chaired by Arnaud Colson (Lafarge, France) and vice-chaired by François Pétry (Holcim, France), the UEPG Environment Committee continued to actively address and represent the environmental interests of the aggregates industry on key EU and wider stakeholder issues. It draws on the considerable professional shared expertise of its members while ensuring well-coordinated advocacy actions across Europe, in paralell growing liaison with NGOs. Its workload is shared by three Task Forces focused on Biodiversity, Water Management and Marine Aggregates respectively which report to the Environment Committee, the activities of each being summarised below in sequence.

Biodiversity Task Force

Biodiversity is a top priority for UEPG. Since the beginning of its partnership with the IUCN project Countdown 2010 in May 2007, UEPG has become one of the industry leaders in biodiversity management. It is committed to quantifying and enhancing biodiversity before, during and after extraction takes place, demonstrating the creation of new nature conservation areas and habitats.

UEPG committed itself to communicating the EU 2010 biodiversity target and disseminating Countdown 2010 materials, making every effort towards a net positive impact of the aggregates sector on biodiversity, also promoting compatibility between extractive sites and Natura 2000 areas. As Countdown 2010 came to completion in October 2010, UEPG is now pursuing its cooperation with IUCN through the European Commission Business and Biodiversity Platform (the B@B Platform), which UEPG joined as the first industry association in April 2010. Our President Jim O'Brien has been nominated

as a Steering Committee Member of the Platform. UEPG is currently discussing possible further cooperation with IUCN.

The Biodiversity Task Force, chaired by Robert Wasserbacher (FSKI, Austria), has establishing new, ambitious but realistic targets for the European Aggregates Industry. The new targets include both qualitative and quantitative items, such as encouraging UEPG Members (most of which are SMEs) to develop and implement biodiversity promotional initiatives in their own countries. As one of the few industry sectors represented among major actors on the EU biodiversity policy, the European Aggregates Industry is now widely recognised as a trusted partner in biodiversity by EU Institutions and a growing number of NGOs.

In 2009, UEPG launched its online database of now more than 135 biodiversity case studies, promoting best practice of the sector. An inventory of good practice guidelines is being compiled to assist operators, particularly SMEs. Following the success of 2009, UEPG members participated in the European Minerals Day in 2011. The UEPG Sustainable Development Awards 2010, with special awards for Biodiversity, were the highlight of the International Year of Biodiversity for UEPG. The brochure features many outstanding biodiversity case studies. The next UEPG Awards are planned for 2013.

UEPG is closely following the development of the study on "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity" (TEEB). This study is striving to put an economic value on ecosystem services such as pollination by bees, filtering of drinking water, storm protection and anti erosion effects by forest and vegetation. UEPG is analyzing the TEEB D3 Report, which is particularly focused on business. It should



"UEPG is concerned that any benchmarking proposal should be objective, pragmatic and easy to implement, particularly for SMEs."

"Water will continue to be an important topic for the industry."



"The next important fields of activity for this Task Force will be marine spatial planning and Natura 2000 in the marine context." be recognized that aggregates-producing companies already invest millions of Euros in environmental restoration, biodiversity and ecosystems.

UEPG is partnering its biodiversity activities with other NEEI members and NGOs. In September 2010, UEPG organized a workshop with all its stakeholders to brainstorm its biodiversity policy, targets and indicators for the next 5 years. Further analysis of a total of 212 case studies is proceeding in cooperation with certain other NEEI members, and the pilot investigation of the 47 French case studies is indicating very positive results.

UEPG and other NEEI members have been involved in extensive discussions with the Business and Biodiversity Platform on its proposals on benchmarking biodiversity progress. This topic is still under discussion at the time of writing. UEPG is concerned that any benchmarking proposal should be objective, pragmatic and easy to implement, particularly for SMEs.

Water Management Task Force

Chaired by César Luaces Frades (FdA, Spain), the Water Management Task Force aims at exchanging good practice in ground and groundwater management in quarries and pits, ensuring that the aggregates industry maintains water quality.

The Task Force has built up a database of best practices, now shown on the UEPG website, as well as UEPG internal guidelines on water management good practice. The next step for this group is to promote this good work and to ensure that the industry further improves its record of good environmental stewardship in this area. Water will continue to be an important topic for the industry.

Under the banner of Resource Efficiency, UEPG is also taking the opportunity to further promote its work on water management as well as biodiversity.

Marine Aggregates Task Force

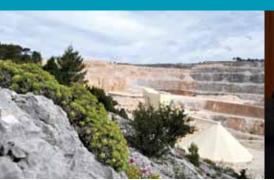
Chaired by Arnaud Colson (UNPG, France), the UEPG Marine Aggregates Task Force has established many key contacts with both the European Commission and Parliament.

The Task Force has been particularly active in the development of the chapter on marine extraction in the guidelines for the non-energy extractive industry in and close by marine Natura 2000 areas. The Task Force advocated that the terrestrial model for Natura 2000 should not be applied to the Marine Environment due to significant differences in circumstances.

After an intense advocacy campaign on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the chapter on marine protected areas (originally stating that it should include areas of a sufficient size to be fully protected from all extractive uses) has rightly been removed. The Task Force is now involved in the implementation of the Marine Framework Directive, with a particular focus on the definition of "good environmental status" and the associated three key indicators for biodiversity, sea floor integrity and underwater noise. This work is essential, as it will help define whether a marine area is in good environmental status and which might impact on the requirements for marine aggregates extraction.

The Members of the Task Force recognise the need to further improve the knowledge of the minimal environmental impact of marine aggregates extraction. There is also a need to campaign for a better image of the industry, notably through involvement in research programs, better marine industry representation, improving the data on production, license areas and employment, as well as arranging site visits for EU decision makers.

The next important fields of activity for this Task Force will be marine spatial planning and Natura 2000 in the marine context.





"The European Aggregates Industry is one of the leading sectors to make a contribution to creating new habitats for endangered species and has already gained experience on extraction methods in environmental protection areas."



"Natura 2000 designations do not a priori prohibit existing or new extraction activities. On the contrary, it recognizes that extraction activities can actually contribute to biodiversity."

Other Environment Committee Activities

Natura 2000 Guidelines

The European Commission had invited UEPG to contribute to the Guidelines for the Non-Energy Extractive Industries for extraction in and close by Natura 2000 areas. The initiative addresses the key issue of sustainable access to mineral deposits, a priority for UEPG in the context of the Commission's Raw Materials Strategy.

UEPG emphasized that the European Aggregates Industry is one of the leading sectors to make a contribution to creating new habitats for endangered species and has already gained experience on extraction methods in environmental protection areas. In fact, the European Aggregates Industry produces not only essential materials for the EU economy but at the same time can create new Natura 2000 areas. Aggregates extraction sites have indeed been declared Natura 2000 during or after extraction. UEPG provided the European Commission with good practice examples of extraction sites within Natura 2000 areas.

UEPG attended expert group meetings and made a significant input to the drafting of the guidance paper. UEPG deliberately made the link between Natura 2000 and the Raw Materials Initiative, in order to promote sustainable access to resources. A Position Paper addressing both subjects was circulated to EC Officials, followed up by the Leoben 2010 Report, and UEPG will maintain the momentum on this vital issue.

As a result, the Guideline Document, published in August 2010, was a significant improvement for the Industry, particularly in its crucial acceptance that Natura 2000 designations do not a priori prohibit existing or new extraction activities. On the contrary, it recognizes that extraction activities can actually contribute to biodiversity. The Guideline Document has now been translated

into 10 additional EU languages. UEPG produced an internal summary information document to help National Associations to promote the Guideline.

Transposition of the Mining Waste Directive

UEPG has collated data on the process of transposition in the various Member States, in order to encourage consistency of application across the EU, and to ensure that inert wastes are listed correctly from the industry perspective. This work was completed in the second half of 2010.

Other Environmental Work Areas

Chaired by Jim Rushworth (Lafarge, France), a small Ecological Offset Working Group is developing a UEPG Position Paper, to ensure consistency in interpretation and application by regulators, authorities and the industry. This will also make the link to the study on "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity".

UEPG plans to develop a generic Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) for aggregates. It is believed that it would indeed be useful, both for the aggregates industry itself and for its customers (concrete and asphalt industries), to have harmonised methodology and to prepare a generic EPD which would demonstrate the very small ecological footprint of aggregates.

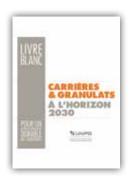


PR & Communications Task Force









Industry Image

Chaired by Carl Hennrich of the Austrian Association, FSKI, this Task Force continues to do trail-blazing work towards improving PR (Public Relations) and Communications in the aggregates industry. Its work is based on the conviction that the industry has a really good story to tell on its dedication to environmental stewardship and biodiversity, to improving health & safety, to being a good employer, a friendly neighbour and a solid supporter of the local community.

The industry is aiming for high standards of sustainability in all its activities in line with its vision of a 'Sustainable industry for a sustainable Europe'. The industry recognises that many challenges lie on the route to true sustainability, but its focus is on continuous improvement. The Task Force is a platform dedicated to assisting the industry along that path, thereby achieving the better image it truly deserves.

Exchanging Best Practices:

At recent Task Force meetings, participants have shared many outstanding national examples of PR and Communications best practices, which often then get adopted for use in other Member countries. These include for example:

- Austria: "Trails in the Sand" Film, 10 Years WWF-Cooperation, Ecological Footprint work
- Belgium: "Quarry Square" rehabilitation programme, 'Sustainable development' Report
- Bulgaria: Active Media Campaign to promote the new Association and the Industry
- France: National Open Day, Survey on Industry Image, 'Chartre Environnement', 'Livre Blanc'

- Germany: "Die Kiesfibel" formula for Open Days, Aggregates Tool Box, Sand Art Competition
- Norway: Special PR document directed to politicians and the public on the Industry Identity
- Spain: Industry Images Committee, Annual Trees and Aggregates National Events
- Sweden: PR support for Members on how to communicate with Media at local level
- UK: 'Nature Life after Minerals': Biodiversity Strategy, Sustainable Development Webpage

Promotion of the Industry

The aggregates industry is essentially a local industry, with local resources, local markets, local NGOs and other stakeholders, and local employees living in the local community Therefore big emphasis is rightly put on local PR and Communications, most often in the form of Open-Days and local community initiatives. Typically around 5,000 quarries and pits across Europe now hold such events each year. At a higher level, UEPG and its members are key participants in the biennial European Minerals Day events. In May 2011, some 180 locations in 20 EU countries and opened their doors to visitors with great success.

UEPG also increasingly participates in many other events, such as Green Week, in order to better promote the deserved good image for the industry. The industry image is also enhanced through the Annual European Minerals Forum and Dinner Debates. The UEPG Sustainable Development Awards strongly promote the excellence of stewardship being achieved in the industry, the next Awards being in 2013.



General Secretariat

"As of September 1, 2011, Dirk Fincke will take over as Secretary-General, ably supported by Sandrine Devos and Miette Dechelle as Public Affairs Managers."



"The UEPG General Secretariat's first mission is to provide UEPG Members with advance notification of policy initiatives that may impact on the European Aggregates Industry."



The General Secretariat, its location and activities

Up to the end of August 2011, Antony Fell is UEPG's Secretary-General, supported by Dirk Fincke as Public Affairs Manager, with Sandrine Devos and Miette Dechelle as Public Affairs Officers. As of September 1, 2011, Dirk Fincke will take over as Secretary-General, ably supported by Sandrine Devos and Miette Dechelle as Public Affairs Managers. Antony Fell will then step down after long and dedicated service to UEPG, and will continue to be available as a part-time EU Advisor.

The small General Secretariat office is located at Rue d'Arlon 21 in Brussels, close to the European Parliament, within easy distance of the Commission and the many other European institutions. The UEPG General Secretariat is therefore very well placed to attend and participate in Commission Stakeholder consultation meetings, committee meetings in the European Parliament and other external fora.

The UEPG General Secretariat works closely with European Union legislators to contribute to all stages of the policy making process on behalf of the European Aggregates Industry. The General Secretariat is also available to support Member Association activities in Brussels or in their respective countries. The UEPG General Secretariat welcomes support from staff in Member Associations where they have particular expertise.

Providing EU intelligence

The UEPG General Secretariat's first mission is to provide UEPG Members with advance notification of policy initiatives that may impact on the European Aggregates Industry. Its small and highly dedicated team keeps UEPG Members informed of any relevant EU policy developments at all stages of the legislative process through timely and

concise email reports and issue trackers available online.

The Issue Tracker System is an essential tool to monitor latest developments on live issues having an impact on the European Aggregates Industry. Each Issue Tracker is a one-page document which presents, in a precise and concise way, the relevant Communications, Directives, Regulations and EU initiatives. Each Issue Tracker then provides the background, key points, UEPG actions and next steps.

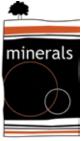
The Issue Tracker Matrix offers Members an overview of all UEPG Live Issues leading via hyperlink directly to the Issue Tracker. Available on the UEPG website, these monitoring tools give UEPG members the opportunity to be briefed on all important EU legislation related to our industry in a precise and effective way, whenever needed.

Providing regular news updates

Since its inception in 2003, the monthly e-newsletter "EU Insight" has proved a popular tool which offers a succinct summary of recent policy developments. It also outlines the next steps, so that UEPG Members can anticipate future developments on any EU initiative and provide constructive inputs to influence the outcome. The newsletter is available on the UEPG website in English (as EU Insight), in French (as Bulletin Europe), German (as Bericht aus Brüssel) and Spanish (as UEPG Actualidad).

UEPG is currently in the process of updating its website (www.uepg.eu), such that it can offer even better information to members on demand. UEPG has also established links with aggregates associations on other continents through its Global Aggregates Information Network (GAIN). which links may be found on the UEPG website.





making more of life

"Over recent years, UEPG has grown into a highly-representative and respected association."



"UEPG sets great value on maintaining its reputation."

Involving the Aggregates Industry in EU Policy Making

The physical proximity to the EU Institutions and day-to-day contact with policy-makers allow the UEPG General Secretariat to identify "early-bird" opportunities to become involved in the policy making process. UEPG President Jim O'Brien was invited to become a member of the Steering Committee of the European Commission Business and Biodiversity Platform. This provides an exceptional opportunity to contribute to the EU policy on biodiversity at the earliest stage.

UEPG has continuously strengthened its network of key contacts within the European Commission, European Parliament, EU Council working groups and NGOs. Useful platforms are the UEPG Board Policy Dinners and All-Party Dinner Debates in the European Parliament in cooperation with the European Minerals Foundation where open and informal discussions with key EU policymakers take place.

In the April 2011 Dinner Debate, keynote speakers were Reinhard Bütikofer MEP, Parliamentary Rapporteur for the Raw Materials Initiative, Vladko Todorov MEP, ALDE Shadow Rapporteur and Konrad Szmanski MEP, ECR Shadow Rapporteur. It was hosted by Judith Merkies MEP, Parliamentary Rapporteur on Innovation Union, and a speech was also made by Ramon Tremosa I Bacells MEP. UEPG acts as a facilitator between EU policy-makers and UEPG Members and thereby provides valuable networking opportunities.

Coordinating EU lobbying campaigns

UEPG targets advocacy strategies and acts as a coordinator in their implementation. Examples include ensuring the sustainable supply of aggregates in Europe; influencing the Raw Materials Initiative by commissioning a study by Leoben University, contributing to the EC Biodiversity Strategy and promoting Safer by Design through CEN and DG Employment.

UEPG works closely with other European Industry Associations of the Non-Energy

Extractive Industry (NEEI) and with the International Federation for Recycling (FIR) within the European Platform for Recycled Aggregates (EPRA). UEPG also works closely with Seabed User Group on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and EU Maritime Policy. UEPG is member of the Council of European Producers of Materials for Construction (CEPMC). UEPG maintains links with the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Mineral Resources (ETP-SMR) and with the European Concrete Platform (ECP). Where there is a consensus on a particular issue, UEPG actively contributes to joint advocacy work.

Raising the industry's profile

The General Secretariat continued to promote the achievements of the European Aggregates Industry by making keynote speeches in international conferences. It has also maintained the close cooperation with the European Minerals Foundation (EMF) in organising the European Minerals Forum 2010. The theme was the EU Raw materials Initiative – What next? A keynote speech was made by Mattia Pellegrini, Member of the Cabinet of EC Vice President Antonio Tajani. Issues debated included improving planning policies and permitting procedures as well as setting biodiversity indicators and strategy for 2010–2015.

Governance

Over recent years, UEPG has grown into a highly-representative and respected association, representing the largest non-energy extractive sector, also the largest sector in numbers of locations, tonnages and employees. Through its small but highly-dedicated Brussels based Secretariat, despite its very tight budget, it has achieved tangible results for the industry, now enjoying high visibility and trust amongst it many stakeholders. UEPG sets great value on maintaining its reputation, and therefore key Secretariat staff are self-declared members of SEAP, the Society of European Affairs Professionals.

nual Review 2010



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UEPG Board

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Materials & Ceramic Industries, Austria

Marine Aggregates

Chair Arnaud Colson, Lafarge/UNPG, France



Biodiversity

Chair Robert Wasserbacher, Austrian Association for Building Materials &

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Chair César Luaces Frades, FdA, Spain

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César Luaces Frades

Non Energy Extractive Industries Panel (NEEIP)

César Luaces Frades

European Network on Silica (NePSi)

Martin Isles and Michel Buzot

Health & Safety - Standing Working Party of the Extractive Industry (Luxembourg)

Walter Nelles

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (Bilbao)

César Luaces Frades

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UEPG General Secretariat

Eastern European and Balkan countries

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Jean-Marc Vanbelle

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Antony Fell

Public Affairs Manager up to 31 Aug 2011

Dirk Fincke

Public Affairs Officer up to 31 Aug 2011

Sandrine Devos, Miette Dechelle

Secretary General from 1 Sept 2011

Dirk Fincke

Public Affairs Manager from 1 Sept 2011

Sandrine Devos, Miette Dechelle

Part-time EU Advisor from 1 Sept 2011

Antony Fell

Annual Review 2010-2011

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We would like to thank UEPG members for their contributions.

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Top, right: Photo courtesy of BRBS Recycling, the Dutch recycling association

Centre, centre: Processing plant Troszyn Poland, Photograph by CEMEX
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President's Introduction

Left: GAIN Group, Atlantic Alliance, Ken Slattery, CCAA, Jim O'Brien, UEPG, Joy Wilson, NSSGA, Milton Akira Kiyotani, ANEPAC, Carlos Fernando Forero Bonell, ASOGRAVAS, Photograph by UEPG

Centre: Jim O'Brien, Atlantic Alliance, Brussels, Photograph by UEPG

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Priorities

Left: Troszyn Poland wheel loader, Photograph by CEMEX Poland Centre, right: Photo courtesy of Chartre Environnement, UNICEM, France Centre, left: Photo courtesy of Chartre Environnement, UNICEM, France Right: Photo courtesy of Chartre Environnement, UNICEM, France

An introduction to UEPG and Aggregates

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Organisational Structure

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Right: Viaduc de Millau Bridge, Photograph by UNPG, France

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Economic Committee

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Right: Tank truck watering the ground, Le Tertre quarry, in Chaze-Henry, France, Photograph by DR Médiathèque Lafarge

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Right: Nadya Lazarova, European Minerals Day 2011 Launch event, Vetovo Quarry, Ruse, photograph by Kaolin company, , Bulgaria

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