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## EU Live Issues

### New Transparency Register

The European Parliament and the European Commission are launching a joint, public Transparency Register which provides more information on lobbyists including law firms, NGOs, think tanks and any organisation or self-employed individual engaged in influencing EU policy making and implementation. The new Register replaces the one set up in 2008, which already contains more than 4000 organisations. These will be gradually transferred to the Joint Transparency Register over the coming 12 months.



Registrants will also have to provide more information than before, such as the number of staff involved in advocacy, the main legislative proposals they have covered, as well as the amount of EU funding they received.

By signing up to the Transparency Register, organisations will commit to a Common Code of Conduct pledging always to identify themselves by name and the entity they work for, and not to obtain information dishonestly. A complaint mechanism and measures to be applied are also outlined for those who break the Code of Conduct. To consult the new register click [here](#).

## UEPG News

### New UEPG Transport Working Group

Victor Tascón Piña, Director Transport and Logistics, CEMEX Spain chaired the kick-off meeting of the newly launched UEPG Transport Working Group. This first meeting took place on 20 July in the UEPG office and addressed the scope, objectives, actions and the timeline of the Working Group.

Key elements to be discussed include:

- Axle weight/increased carrying capacity possibly resulting in enhanced industry competitiveness and a contribution to the CO2 reduction targets set by the EU and member states;
- Working Time Directive – encourage amendments and possible exemptions for aggregate/readymix trucks making frequent, local deliveries;
- CO2 reduction agenda;
- Safety – supporting the drive to reduce road related fatalities and encouraging 'responsible' driving behaviours;
- The Commission's Transport White Paper and 2050 roadmap – the Working Group will consider how UEPG should best represent the membership and ensure membership awareness and full engagement;
- Membership briefings and policy updates.

UEPG Members are invited to comment on the work of this Working Group.

### Next steps

**6 September** Meeting of the Transport Working Group, Brussels

### UEPG benefits from GAIN

By invitation, UEPG President Jim O'Brien visited the Aggregates & Quarry Association of New Zealand ([AQA](#)) in Auckland, Cement, Concrete & Aggregates Australia ([CCAA](#)) in Sydney and the Colombian Aggregates Association ([ASOGRAVAS](#)) in Bogotá during July 2011. In June and July colleagues from China and India visited the UEPG General Secretariat in Brussels.

These visits serve to better understand common challenges and solutions of aggregates companies on other continents including purchase and use of machinery, international standards, health and safety and the communication policy as an organised industry.

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# UE-Insight Special Edition

## European Minerals Day 2011



The European Minerals Day is a biannual pan-European initiative by mainly three European minerals sectors CEM-BUREAU, IMA-Europe and UEPG, to give the opportunity to a wide European public to explore the world of minerals and discover more about an industry that contributes to every aspect of our lives.

UEPG started to participate in the event in 2007 as a voluntary initiative for its members. Since then, the UEPG General Secretariat has been fully dedicated to the event at European level, working in close cooperation with the other partners to make the event each year a success and increasing each time the number of sites participating.

In 2011, 180 sites in 21 European countries participated. The Aggregates Industry was represented by 11 national members, i.e. Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom.

### EMD at European level



Judith Merkies, MEP

Almost 100 decision makers from European Institutions, industry and NGOs participated at the

Premiere Event of European Minerals Day testifying to the importance of the EMD event. Judith Merkies MEP (S&D, Netherlands) hosted the event in the European Parliament on 13 April.

The EMD 2011 Launch event took place in Ruse, Bulgaria on 12-13 May.



Nadya Lazarova, (BAPIM). Launch event in Ruse, Romania

The event was co-organised by the Kaolin Company hosting the event, the Bulgarian

Association of Aggregates Producers (BAPIM), and the three EMD Partners. Among European Commission and Bulgarian Officials' Representatives, Miette Dechelle from the Brussels General Secretariat represented UEPG at the event.

The success of the European Minerals Day is based on the active contribution from aggregates companies. UEPG has gathered examples from its members:

### Hiekkalaatikohiekkaa lapsille – Play sand for children, Helsinki, Finland



Aggregates companies in Infra ry Association have participated in European Minerals Day on 13th of May 2011 in donating aggregates to local cities, so that the play sand sites were filled for the local children and youngsters. Rudus Oy donated sand for the city of Helsinki.

### Discovery of the quarry of Sennecey-le-Grand, CBS - Holcim Granulats (France)

On 13 & 14 May an informative tour with experts as well as an open afternoon were proposed explaining the activating and showing the reconciliation between quarry activities and biodiversity, presenting several protected species, rehabilitation and partnership.



### Day of the Trees & Aggregates, Spain

The Open National Day organised by ANEFA with the collaboration of the Aggregates Spanish Association FdA is a National Day where children plant trees in quarries.



2.700 schools from the whole country participated in the fourth edition of the Day of the Trees and Ag-

gregates. In total, 49 sites (30 companies) opened their doors, spread over the whole national territory.

110 media – including televisions, radio and newspapers have covered the event.

### Open Day in Bugyi Quarry, Hungary

CEMEX Hungary organized an Open Day event in Bugyi Quarry, near to Budapest, on Friday 13th May, inviting local primary schools to visit quarrying operation and see the relationship with the natural environment.



After seeing that all children were so eager and excited to take part in the programme, the Company decided to organise this event bi-annually.

### EMD in Portugal

Eight events were carried out in Portugal coordinated by ANIET (National Association of extractive and transformation of rocks and mining industry). They included the presence of over three hundred participants from schools, customers, residents and workers. At the end of the guided visit of the quarries, crushing plant facilities, transformation of ornamental rocks, mines, production and processing, laboratories, Arouca Museum and workshops. Some companies offered a convivial lunch for participants.



### EMD in Cyprus

Celebrating the 2011 European Mineral Day, a Rock and Mineral Exhibition was organized by the different Associations to show the fundamental importance of mineral resources as well as their benefits for the of development and well being of humans, followed by site visits like at Dali, Latouros Quarries Ltd. Company.

For more information, please consult the EMD website and contact the UEPG General Secretariat.