



Day 1- 12 May: The current status of bitumen in Europe

Declining production of bitumen in Europe

8am	Registration and welcome refreshments
9am	Opening remarks/conference welcome Belle Andrews, <i>Conference Producer</i> , Argus
9.05am	Chairperson's opening remarks Keyvan Hedvat, <i>Argus Bitumen Editorial</i> , Argus
9.10am	Host sponsor's address Dr. Robert Heger, <i>Vice President - Business Management Polymer Dispersions for Architectural Coatings & Construction EMEA</i> , BASF
9.20am	Argus presents: The bitumen market, past and present Argus Editorial will delve into the historical and current status of the European bitumen market <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have been the biggest challenges in the bitumen market this past year? • There has been a significant amount of unexpected market volatility over the past two years. What has historically been the cause of this? • Updates on general supply and demand issues and opportunities in the market. Jonathan Weston and Keyvan Hedvat, <i>Argus Bitumen Editorial</i> , Argus

Getting back to basics and looking at logistics

10am	The evolving crude oil and refining landscape: What are the impacts for the bitumen market A panel discussion about the realities of the crude oil market in direct connection to bitumen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the political climate and market evolves, will Iran and Venezuela gain entry into the global crude market again? • What are the consequences (both negative and positive) of the EU energy transition goals on the crude market's ability to produce, sell and use crude products like bitumen?
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- What are the impacts of a changing feedstock and crude supply?

Sebastien Le Corre, *Bitumen International Supply Manager*, **TotalEnergies**

Rafael Renaudaeu, *Vice President Bitumen*, **Nynas**

Moderator:

Jonathan Weston, *Editor Speciality Products*, **Argus**

10.40am Coffee and discussion break

A discussion about the trade flows and transport sessions.

11.30am Colas presentation: The challenge of bitumen supply in Europe

An introductory presentation on the declining supply of bitumen in the European market from Arnaud Wache, Business Development Manager at Continental Bitumen, the new bitumen supply arm of Colas

- What perspective can Colas offer on the buy side on the status of bitumen supply in Europe?
- Why has local production of this crucial crude product declined over the past decade?
- How will the term regional supply evolve in the future?

Arnaud Wache, *Business Development Manager*, **Continental Bitumen (Colas group)**

11.50am Bye bye local supply: Solutions for European bitumen quality

The conference will turn its attention to buy-side concerns surrounding bitumen quality and, more specifically, consistency of quality.

- What are the issues with bitumen quality from the demand side of the bitumen market?
- From the buy-side perspective, how can chemical companies and asphalt producers help to remedy the issue of quality and inconsistency?
- Policy-wise, what are some ideas on how to update bitumen quality specifications and hold producers accountable to them?

Speakers include:

Dr. Mario Sandor, *Head of Business Management Asphalt Performance EMEA*, **BASF**

Irina Cotiuga, *Technical Manager*, **Nordbit**

Moderator:

Keyvan Hedvat, *Europe/Africa Argus Bitumen*, **Argus**



12.30pm Fireside chat: Mediterranean exports and trends from a refiner's perspective

A moderator will lead a roundtable of experts from refineries in the Mediterranean about the exports into the European market and trends within the Mediterranean market specifically

- From a refiner's perspective, what affects has HSFO had on the bitumen economics in the Mediterranean and the wider European market?
- Updates on the export market and trends in the Mediterranean – where is the bitumen going? Who are the main consumers?
- Is the Mediterranean bitumen market a viable and sustainable pipeline for Europe?

Speakers include:

Sergio Bovo, CEO, **Alma Petroli**

Moderator:

Keyvan Hedvat, Europe/Africa Bitumen, **Argus**

12.50pm Networking lunch

Producers, end buyers, and in-between: Looking across the bitumen supply chain

2.10pm The construction company perspective: Looking at post-pandemic plans, projects and market predictions

This panel will include four of the biggest construction companies in Europe who will give updates on their projects post Covid-19.

- How has a decline in local bitumen supply affected the construction company industry?
- What changes or efforts is the construction industry making to improve the market's carbon footprint and remain aligned with the EU's carbon emission goals?
- The panel aims to also provide updates on various companies' current and future projects.

Mikael Arnestrand, Bitumen Manager, **Peab Asphalt AB**

Fredrik Norman, Nordic Bitumen Manager, **Skanska**

Jean Louis Pettier, Group Category Director, Bitumen, **BMI Group**

Eivind Olav Andersen, Bitumen Manager, **Veidekke**

Moderator:

Jonathan Weston, Editor Speciality Products, **Argus**

2.55pm The search for terminal space in Europe: The role of new and existing terminals in Europe

This session is focused on the availability and future plans for bitumen terminals in Europe

- As local supply begins to dwindle and imports become more prevalent, will the bitumen market in Europe have to begin thinking about creating a more robust terminal infrastructure?
- Where are the best, and most geographically available, locations for terminals to be placed and developed?
- What goes into investing, building and maintaining a bitumen terminal?

Speakers include:

Jon Whittall, Managing Director, **TEC**

Leo Brons, CEO, **Service Terminal Rotterdam**

Johan van Roey, Sales Manager BENELUX Industry Business, **Owens Corning Foamglas Industey**

Moderator:

Keyvan Hedvat, Europe/Africa Argus Bitumen, **Argus**

3.30pm Coffee and discussion break

Roundtable topics:

BASF: The European Green Deal: Chances for Asphalt Performance

Argus: Topic to be announced soon

4.15pm Bitumen freight update (shipping trends)

This short presentation will focus on the challenges and opportunities that present themselves when transporting bitumen in Europe, as well as on a global scale.

4.45pm Bitumen transportation: What does it take to build sustainable and efficient bitumen transportation systems?

A panel with transport companies and end-buyers who are investing in different forms of transportation for bitumen products.

- The panel will discuss progress on new builds, as well as the challenges and opportunities in the bitumen transportation market.
- What technologies are being introduced to ensure that the bitumen transport industry is being environmentally conscious?



- Updates on transportation/freight costs and why they are high or low and, what else is at play in the market?

Speakers include:

Lorenzo Bennussi, *Charter*, **N.L. Iver Ships**

Ulrich Nanz, *GPM for Chemicals and Solicitation Specialists*, **IPCO**

George Cholis, *Chartering Department*, **Queensway Navigation**

Moderator:

Keyvan Hedvat, *Europe/Africa Argus Bitumen*, **Argus**

5.20pm Closing remarks

5pm A sponsored evening reception: Drinks on the French Riviera



An opportunity for delegates to relax and enjoy a drink and each other's company. The aim is to provide a relaxed environment for networking and conversation.

Sponsored by:



Shell Construction and Road

Day 2 - 13 May: The future of bitumen

The future of bitumen in Europe

9am Registration and welcome breakfast

9.30am Opening remarks

Conference chairman

9.40am **Keynote: A brief overview of infrastructure plans from the European Commission**

A representative from the commission will discuss budget/policy for road and highway expansion, as well as the commission's future plans to support sustainability in the construction industry in Europe

- What technology and/or projects does the commission expect to invest in or spend money on for road and highway expansion in over the next 10 years?
- How does the commission plan to uphold and support sustainability efforts in the construction industry across the European market?
- What can the market expect policy-wise from the commission in the coming years?

Philippe Moseley, *Policy Officer, Construction Unit*, **European Commission DG GROW**

A brief presentation followed by a Q&A with the audience.

Policy updates

10.10am **Government and policy: Future plans for infrastructure post-Covid pandemic**

A panel with one or two government officials and/or people who operate in public works from three European countries, paired with a large construction company.

- The session aims to spark a discourse about the different government's future plans and projects for infrastructure.
- What are the plans for future investment in infrastructure projects after the significant downturn due to the Covid-19 pandemic?
- Is there an appetite for investment in sustainable construction products as these projects move forward?



Speakers include:

Jose Javier Garcia Pardenilla, *Managing Director*, **Ditecpesa**

Jan-Erik Lundmark, *Senior Advisor Pavement Maintenance*,
Swedish Transport Association

Moderator:

Irina Vinogradova, *Analytics and consulting*, **Argus**

10:50am Coffee and discussion break

Bitumen Alternatives

11:30am The future of sustainable and technologically advanced asphalt: Are bio-bitumen and RAP (recycled asphalt pavement) the answer?

A panel discussion about other potential binders that are being looked at to replace bitumen

- As one of the hottest topics on the market right now, it is important to define and discuss what exactly bio-bitumen is. Is it a more sustainable option or are there potential caveats?
- How can new additive and polymer technology, such as bio-bitumen, help propel the fight for energy transition in Europe forward?
- Market players believe that bio-bitumen and other sustainable alternatives have a marginal effect on today's market. Is this true and when can the market expect to see drastic change?
- What are the different ways in which RAP is being utilized across Europe?
- How effective is RAP as a substitute for virgin bitumen/asphalt, specifically in terms of durability?
- Why is RAP more prevalent in northern Europe? What can other countries and regions learn from those markets' utilization of RAP?

Speakers include:

Dr. Hassan Tabatabaee, *Global Technical Manager for Asphalt Solutions*, **Cargill**

Jean-Nicolas Desprez, *EUAF Technical Manager*, **Shell**

Sebastien Miesem, *Senior Technical Marketing Manager Asphalt Performance*, **BASF**

Moderator:

Irina Vinogradova, *Analytics and consulting*, **Argus**

12.25pm Back to future — in 50 years. Roads: A conversation with Shell

Looking towards the future, will bitumen still a viable option for road construction or are there other binders that can be used?

- What will roads in Europe look like in 50 years as more sustainable cars are in circulation?
- What research is being conducted now to help anticipate what roads technology will look like over the next 50 years?

Speaker:

Richard Taylor, *Global Technical Development Manager*, **Shell**

1pm Closing remarks

1.10pm Goodbye lunch and final networking session