



## Report of the 11<sup>th</sup> European Asphalt Technology Association (EATA) conference

9-13 June 2025, Ancona, Italy

The 11th European Asphalt Technology Association (EATA) conference, held in the picturesque Mole Vanvitelliana, in the city of Ancona, Italy, brought together researchers, scientists and professionals, from around the globe to discuss advancements in asphalt technologies and road infrastructure. With 162 submissions from 31 countries reviewed by 150 dedicated experts, the conference was a remarkable testament to the global scale and collaborative spirit of the asphalt research community.



Delegates of the 11th EATA conference in Ancona, Italy. Image courtesy of A. Graziani.

The conference featured a rich program comprising 3 keynote lectures delivered by:

- Prof. Mihai O. Marasteanu, University of Minnesota, USA, presenting "The golden age of asphalt rheology: the development of the PG binder specification"
- Prof. Michael Kaliske, Technische Universität Dresden, Germany, presenting "Modeling and simulation of pavements – core of a digital twin"
- Prof. M<sup>a</sup> Carmen Rubio-Gámez, University of Granada, presenting "Circular, Resilient and Tech Asphalt Materials. Bridging the gap between Research and Implementation"

and 42 presentations spread over 9 podium sessions during the 3 conference days; the presentations covered the following topics:

- Sustainable asphalt technologies
- Advanced predictive models
- Innovative testing and monitoring methods
- Digitalization and resilience in road infrastructure.

Lunch breaks were enriched by 2 poster sessions where around 40 works were presented.

The event was organised by the Department of Construction, Civil Engineering and Architecture – Area Strade, of the Università Politecnica delle Marche (RILEM Corporate member). The Chairs, Francesco Canestrari, Andrea Graziani, Hervé di Benedetto, and Gabriele Tebaldi, together with the local organising committee members, Fabrizio Cardone, Gilda Ferrotti, Andrea Grilli, Lorenzo Paolo Ingrassia, Amedeo Virgili and Arianna Stimilli, created a delightful atmosphere by taking care of all the details, from the locally sourced food and wine to the breathless gala dinner which took place at the





"Fortino Napoleonico", in Portonovo. A dedicated team of students and staff from the Università Politecnica delle Marche ensured the event ran impeccably.

Many of the around 250 conference delegates were members of the Technical Committees of Cluster F, enjoying the interdisciplinary collaboration offered during the following RILEM Technical Committee (TC) meetings, which provided a dynamic platform for in-depth discussions on cutting-edge research and innovations:

- 307-PPB Physicochemical Effects of Polymers in Bitumen
- 308-PAR Performance-based Asphalt Recycling
- 316-FEE Fume Emissions Evaluation for Asphalt Materials
- 323-APD Alternative Paving Materials Design and Performance.

The conference ended with the Post-Conference Workshop "Latest Advancements in TSD monitoring of Road Pavement Networks TSD (Traffic Speed Deflectometer)", which focused on advanced techniques for road condition assessment, ensuring the resilience and sustainability of modern transport networks.

In conclusion, the 11<sup>th</sup> EATA conference in Ancona was a resounding success, marked by an impressive assembly of submissions, thought-provoking presentations, and meaningful discussions. The next edition will be held in Antwerp, Belgium, in 2027, and it will be again a RILEM co-sponsored event!





On the left, Prof. Gabriele Tebaldi, Conference Chair, EATA President, and RILEM officer, presenting the association at the opening ceremony. On the right, the "Orfeo Tamburi" Auditorium of the Mole Vanvitelliana, the conference venue. Images courtesy of D. Ciancio.





On the left: PhD students consulting the RILEM/Springer publications. On the right: delegates at the foyer of the event. Images courtesy of D. Ciancio.







On the left: Prof. Andrea Graziani, Conference Chair, speaking at the opening ceremony. On the right: the RILEM desk. Images courtesy of D. Ciancio.















Some moments during the conference gala dinner. Images courtesy of D. Ciancio.









On the left: delegates at the conference gala dinner. On the right: the entrance of the "Fortino Napoleonico". Images courtesy of D. Ciancio.





Members of the local organising committee and staff of the Università Politecnica delle Marcheat the conference gala dinner. Images courtesy of D. Ciancio.





TC meetings held during the 11<sup>th</sup> EATA conference. On the left: TC 308-PAR: Performance-based Asphalt Recycling (image courtesy of A. Grilli); on the right: TC 323-APD: Alternative Paving Materials - Design and Performance (image courtesy of D. Ciancio).