# BolognaFiere President Gianpiero Calzolari speaks at SITEB Assembly: The importance of ASPHALTICA 2024

BolognaFiere President, Gianpiero Calzolari, spoke during the SITEB Assembly on 19th June, emphasising the crucial importance of ASPHALTICA 2024.

The Exhibition, that will take place from 9 to 12 October 2024, is now a not-to-be- missed event for the road infrastructure sector.

Calzolari has pointed out how this edition of ASPHALTICA, for the first time in Bologna, is already numbering more than 100 exhibitors with further participations expected.

"This extraordinary result reflects not only the evolution of the event, but also the growth and dynamism of the SITEB Association that created the event. The steady growth of ASPHALTICA is a matter of pride for BolognaFiere" said President Calzolari.

## A Programme Full of Opportunities and Innovations

ASPHALTICA 2024 is an essential meeting place for all the professionals in this field.

The event offers a unique opportunity for networking, professional development and exchange of new ideas, confirmed as a place of excellence for those professionals that wish to discover the latest products, technologies and services dedicated to the world of paving, safety barriers, signage and paving machines, as well as chemical additive companies.

### SITEB Assembly: Greetings and Speeches

The SITEB Assembly, held on 19 June 2024 at the Service Centre of BolognaFiere, featured speeches by Gianpiero Calzolari, Alessandro Pesaresi, SITEB President, and Stefano Ravaioli, SITEB Director.

ASPHALTICA represents a significant new acquisition of the BolognaFiere trade-fairs calendar, attracting more than 40.000 visitors from 91 countries.

# A Growing Success

The trade fair, conceived in 2003 by the SITEB (Strade Italiane e Bitumi) Association, involves institutions, the bitumen industry and companies committed to working together for the progress of infrastructures, thanks to an increasingly high level of expertise and quality of the Italian supply chain.

The bitumen supply chain in Italy is worth around 40 billion euro, with 400 plants and 40.000 direct employees, rising to 500.000 when considering satellite activities.

#### ASPHALTICA 2024 News and Conferences

During the four days of the Exhibition, ample space will be devoted to high-level scientific debates, workshops, seminars and conferences on the most topical issues in the sector.

Institutional conferences, organised by SITEB, and the exhibiting companies'workshops will catch the attention of many visitors looking for technological novelties, regulatory updates, new projects and ideas, with a focus on safety, environmental protection and the health of the citizen, involving both private individuals and Public Administrations.

#### What the President said:

I want to thank President Pesaresi and Director Ravaioli for choosing Bologna as the headquarters of SITEB Association as well as the place to host the exhibition Asphaltica.

Siteb not only represents the market for road and waterproofing membranes, but is also an association that invests heavily in innovation and training in a forward-looking manner. Bologna is a fertile ground for this sector.

We have here a University with over nine centuries of history, with which the Association has already started to collaborate on odour control research; we have the European Weather Centre and a Supercomputing Centre, the CNR and ENEA sites. Finally BolognaFiere has the lead among Italian trade fairs for internationalisation.

I am happy about the arrival of this trade fair in Bologna: **Asphaltica** is already giving good results, **with 25% more exhibitors already confirmed for the next 2024 edition (over 100 exhibitors have already signed the application form ),** compared to the past and the return of important exhibiting companies such as ANAS and PIARC (World Road Association).

I believe that the product expansion on barriers and signage, the great interest the event is generating in the public administration, and the collaboration with the Engineering Department of the University of Bologna are equally important.

For these first results I would like to thank Siteb and BolognaFiere teams who are working for **Asphaltica** in a close-knit way.