



Editorial, SI EATA2023

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To cite this article: Adam Zofka & Piotr Jaskuła (2023) Editorial, SI EATA2023, Road Materials and Pavement Design, 24:sup1, 1-2, DOI: [10.1080/14680629.2023.2206279](https://doi.org/10.1080/14680629.2023.2206279)

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680629.2023.2206279>



Published online: 12 May 2023.



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The European Asphalt Technology Association (EATA) is an organisation of leading European engineers and scientists involved in the asphalt material research. Every two years, the EATA celebrates its international pavement conference, with the aim of disseminating the key advances in scientific knowledge related to asphalt materials and technologies, and to encourage the transfer and application of this knowledge worldwide. Since the first event strictly selected papers are also published in a Special Issue of Road Material and Pavement Design Journal (RMPD) journal.

The anniversary tenth EATA conference will take place on June 12 to 14th, 2023, and hosted by the Gdańsk University of Technology (Gdańsk, Poland). Bringing together academia, industry and public stakeholders, it provides a unique opportunity for engineers, scientists and practitioners to share their diverse worldwide experience and to discuss the most advanced developments in asphalt technologies.

As Guest Editors, we would like to thank all the Authors for submitting their work to be considered for publication in this special issue of the Road Material and Pavement Design Journal. This volume contains 42 papers selected through a rigorous double-blind peer-review process from almost 120 papers submitted, that will be presented on the podium during the conference sessions at the Gdańsk Tech.

The topics cover the current issues in our field, from binders and mastic to mortar and asphalt mixes. Among others, studies on ageing are included, as well as on rejuvenation and chemistry-linked performance. Interestingly, bio-binders are looked into by several papers. The methods employed by the studies range from nano-scale microscopic and spectroscopic techniques to rheology and mechanical testing, as well as modelling and pavement analysis in the laboratory and the field. Some papers deal with functional additives and modifications for long-term continuous serviceability. Other papers focus on the particular distresses such as low-temperature cracking, fatigue cracking and permanent deformations. Finally, one session comprises papers with studies on innovative functional pavement structures.

We strongly believe that all contributions to the EATA2023 conference in Gdańsk will support our ambition to further enhance pavement materials and structures for the user-oriented sustainable transportation infrastructure that will meet upcoming challenges and opportunities.

This issue of the RMPD journal would not have been possible without the tremendous support of more than 120 experts in the Scientific Committee who dedicated their valuable time to improve submitted manuscripts. We would like to thank them for all their efforts! Special thanks also go to the local organising committee at the Gdańsk Tech for their efficient and effective work during the conference preparation. And we would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all sponsors and partners who made a significant contribution in order for this conference to be successful.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge Prof. Hervé di Benedetto for his commitment in making the EATA2023 conference a success one more time, this time in Gdańsk, Poland. It has been a great honour and pleasure to walk along this road with him.

We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming all attendees of the EATA2023 conference at the Gdańsk Tech!

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