



The Federation of the European Precast Concrete Industry

PRESS RELEASE

28 September 2023

BIBM welcomes its new President and Vice-President

Brussels, Belgium - September 28, 2023 - The Federation of the European Precast Concrete Industry (BIBM), at its General Assembly held during the BIBM Congress on September 28, 2023, has elected **Stefan Van Buggenhout** as the new President for the term 2023 – 2026. He is the third Belgian to hold this prestigious position, after Patrick Declerck (2011-2014) and Raf Bulcke (1981-1984).

During the meeting, the General Assembly also elected a new Vice-President, **Ignacio Bruj3 Sánchez-Harguindey**, who is the General Director of Memorial Parks S.A. and a Spanish representative on behalf of ANDECE.

The Federation expresses its deepest gratitude to the outgoing President, **Bart van Melick**, CEO of BTE Holding B.V. in the Netherlands, for his dedicated service over the past three years.



Stefan Van Buggenhout

Stefan Van Buggenhout has had a long career in the concrete sector. Since 2012, he has been the Managing Director of CRH Structural Concrete Belgium, a leader in precast concrete products. He was also the chairman of FEBE asbl, the Belgian precast concrete federation, for seven years (2014-2020). He is currently also the Vice-Chairman of FEBE.

Over the next three years, under President Van Buggenhout's leadership, BIBM will continue its mission to advocate for a stable, business-friendly legislative environment at the European level, focusing on the challenges facing the concrete sector. Stefan Van Buggenhout is committed to working towards closer collaboration between members and other players in the construction sector. He will strive for an equal playing field for the precast concrete industry, emphasizing energy efficiency, sustainable construction, and circular economy practices.

Key areas of focus for BIBM's advocacy work include:

- Promoting innovation, research, and communication in areas such as circular economy and digital transition;
- Positioning precast concrete as a material of choice for energy efficiency and sustainable construction;
- Raising awareness of the construction sector's importance on the political agenda and promoting long-term policy goals;
- Stabilizing normative frameworks to facilitate long-term development and fair competition for precast businesses;
- Engaging the sector in health and safety issues to reduce risks for all stakeholders.

The BIBM secretariat congratulates Stefan Van Buggenhout and Ignacio Bruj3 on behalf of all its members and wishes them every success in their new roles.

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BIBM is the Federation of the Precast Concrete industry, involved in the supply of sustainable solutions for the built environment. The sector employs more than 160.000 people in 7.000 production plants around Europe, generating more than 30 billion Euros of turnover.