France’s cement industry prudent for 2016

According to the French union of the cement industry, Syndicat français de l'industrie cimentière (SFIC), the sector remains prudent for the future.

Sales in 2015 fell 5.3% year-on-year to 17.2 million tonnes, as low as 1964. The market suffered the flatness of the new construction market, a continual drop in non-residential construction and an absence of investment in public works.

Consumption has fallen by around 1 million tonnes/year since 2007, reports Raoul de Parisot, president of SFIC.

He believes the lowest point in the cycle was reached in 2015, although the sector remains “prudent for the future.”

In the first two months of 2016 consumption rose 3.7% and production has ceased to drop. SFIC expects an end in the lowering of business in 2016 and a stabilisation of consumption at around 17.2 million tonnes.

It is reported that the five cement groups present in France and members of SFIC, Lafarge, Ciments Français, Eqiom, Vicat and Kermos, have lost just over €1 billion (US$1.12 billion) in revenue since 2007.

In 2015, revenue stood at €2.3 billion, compared to €2.5 billion in 2014.

Despite the business cycle, overcapacity remains significant with production in 2015 of 15.6 million tonnes, while the current production capacity stands at 27 million tonnes.

As a result, Lafarge France announced the closure of two of its nine cement plants in France (Le Havre and Angoulême) and their transformation into grinding stations, with the loss of 202 jobs in total.

The cement industry is counting on major projects such as the Grand Paris Express; the Lyon to Turin trans-Alpine road, and the densification of cities, notably underground.

Companies in this article

Vicat
www.Vicat.com

Lafarge
www.Lafarge.com

SFIC
www.infociments.fr

Related News...

- Hyundai appoints Kang as new chief operating officer
- Continued diversification drives Afrimat earnings growth
- Hilhead 2018 dates revealed
- Geoscience Industry Days highlight rock solid career opportunities

Related Products...

- Related Features...

Latest News

- UEPG Sustainable Development Awards 2016 gets underway
- Hilhead 2016 deal sees Gallagher Aggregates boost Bell Equipment fleet
- CEMEX announces 25th anniversary Building Award winners
- Volvo CE climate seminar hears cost-saving potential of carbon reduction on infrastructure works
- New young driver graduates from the CEMEX Logistics Apprenticeship scheme

World Highways

- Mexico roads and bridges being planned
- Fugro uses Traffic Speed Deflectometer scans for Highways England
- DEUTZ sees encouraging rise in net income for Q3
- Volvo CE climate seminar hears cost-saving potential of carbon reduction on infrastructure works
- Wacker Neuson improves Q3 earnings in despite challenges