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Roman cement – the almost forgotten group of highly hydraulic binders of Europe's built heritage from the 19th century

The EU-project ROCARE is focussing on the re-introduction of the Roman cement technology by combining knowledge of a historically well-established building material with modern aspects of its manufacture, use and marketing. Our main target is the huge stock of buildings originating from the nineteenth/early twentieth centuries, representing a period of rapid urban growth of European towns and cities.



rocare ROMAN CEMENT

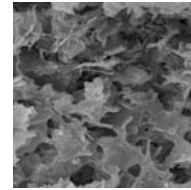
Roman Cements
for Architectural
Restoration to
New High Standards

www.rocare.eu

Design by Christine Klett | www.christine-klett.com

EU-PROJECT No. 226898 | ROCARE FP7-ENV-2008-1

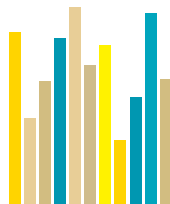




The ROCARE-Project

Highly hydraulic binders, known as natural or Roman cements, were key materials to cover façades of buildings of the European historicism, art nouveau and modernism during the 19th and early 20th centuries, a period of rapid urban growth in Europe. The maintenance, restoration and reconstruction of historic Roman cement façades form therefore an important issue in Europe's efforts to preserve its architectural heritage. The former EU FP5-project ROCEM (2003-06) has re-established manufacturing of Roman cements at a pilot scale and initiated their use in conservation practice.

Increasing awareness of the conservation profession and their interest in the product call now for further actions encompassed by the ROCARE-project, which aim at filling gaps in knowledge, providing conditions for the industrial development and commercialisation of this innovative, promising technology, and reducing the entry barriers to the market.



The main steps of ROCARE are

- scaling up of the RC technology to a competitive level by optimising the process technologies at various conditions of production
- laboratory tests and studies to fully understand cement hydration and property development, as well as optimum conditions of mortar processing and handling in the conservation practice
- broad dissemination measures to enlarge the market potential of the technology.

The project is designed for three-year duration (Sept. 2009 – Aug. 2012) and is jointly conducted by 14 partners from industry, SMEs and research centres in 7 countries. With substantial help of the ROCARE – End User Advisory Panel (EAP) comprising over 20 experts representing all relevant European countries, the project will allow the fascinating concept of low-energy Roman cements to establish itself on the European market of building construction.

