



# Cement industry in Europe and worldwide

Cement production worldwide keeps growing. In the last decade it increased by about 50%. In 2003, 1940 million tonnes of cement were manufactured worldwide. Such a quick growth in the world cement production mainly results from the dynamic development of cement industry in Asia.

Asia's share in the world cement production in 2003 totalled 67%. In China, which is presently the largest cement manufacturer, 862 million tonnes of cement were produced, which constituted 41% world production. Similarly dynamic is the growth of production in other developing countries in Asia, such as India or Thailand. In other regions of the world, cement production increases much slower, or it even remains at the same level. Exception here is formed by Africa, which records a higher pace of production growth, yet its share in the world cement production is small, and amounting only to 4.1%. At the background of world cement production volume, the production of European cement industry seems rather modest. Europe's share (without the Commonwealth of Independent States) in the world cement production totalled 14.4%, of which 13.9% belonged to member countries of the Cembureau European Cement Association (10.3% to countries which were EU Member States in 2003), while 0.5% belonged to other countries.

The largest cement producers in Europe are: Germany, Italy, Spain, Turkey, France, and Greece. In the recent decade, European production volume has remained at a similar level of 270 million tonnes annually. It is envisaged that also in 2004 it will be similar. There are, however, vast changes concerning cement consumption level and its production in particular countries. Growth in cement production and consumption mainly occurred in Spain, Portugal, Greece and Turkey. In turn, in countries where the cement production volume has remained on a high level for years, such as: Germany, France, or the United Kingdom, production has remained at a similar level or is even decreasing.

Historically, Europe, together with the United



States and Japan, was a world region where largest volumes of cement were consumed. This translates to existence of all types of facilities and infrastructure in these regions, which are ahead in this respect as compared to other regions. Hence, the demand for cement in Europe grows increasingly slower, even with a tendency to stabilization. Despite this, average cement consumption per inhabitant in Europe is still over 50% higher than worldwide. In 2003, in Cembureau member countries it amounted on average to 467 kg per inhabitant, as compared to world average totalling 304 kg per inhabitant. In the coming years, one can expect further growth in cement production worldwide, yet the share of European cement industry in this production will decrease.

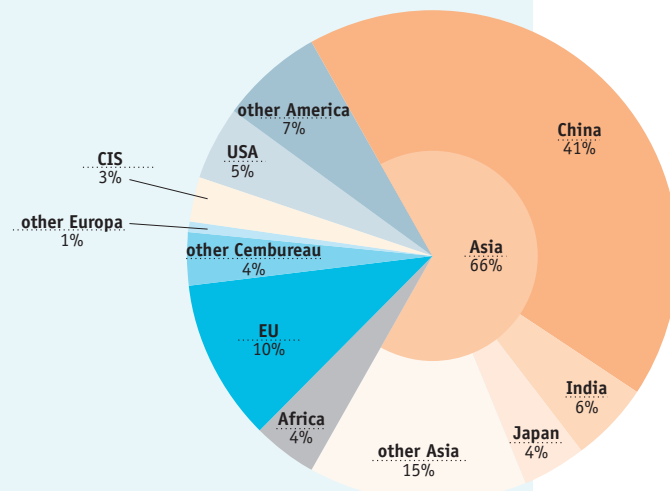
The area where European cement industry acts as a world leader is its technical level. In this respect it can only find competition among just a few countries, such as Japan or South Korea. Cement in Europe is practically only manufactured with energy-saving dry method. In Cembureau member countries, consumption of heat energy for clinker burning on average amounts to 3700 kJ/kg, and in the latest furnace installations – slightly over 3000 kJ/kg. For comparison, in China, over 500 million tonnes of cement clinker (twice more than the entire European production) is burnt in technically outdated shaft furnaces, characterised with rather high heat consumption. The industry considers environmental issues as a priority. In this respect, the industry has recorded significant successes. The industry has radically limited dust and gas emissions to air, and also managed significant volumes of waste from other sectors of economy, using it as secondary raw materials or alternative fuels. Such activities are an element of sustainable develop-

ment strategy implemented by the industry, according to which aiming at the best economic result is equally important as environmental issues and the broadly understood employee care. European cement industry is represented by European Cement Association Cembureau. Cembureau is based in Brussels. As of 1 January 2005, Cembureau is participated by 25 national cement producers associations. These are associations from the European Union countries (except for Cyprus, Lithuania, Malta and Slovakia) and Turkey, Norway, Switzerland, Rumania and Latvia – the two latter as affiliated members.

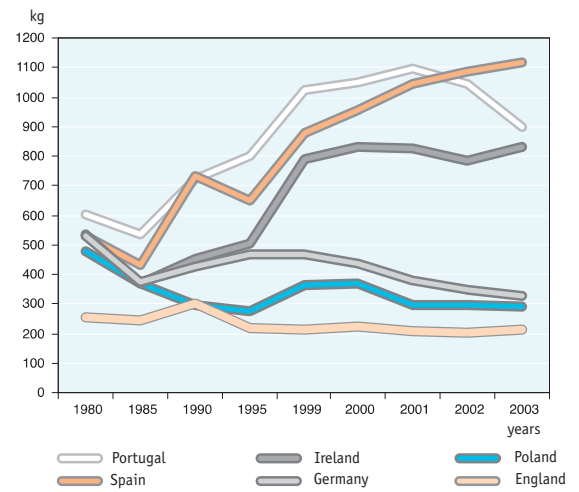
In 2003, the countries whose associations are members of Cembureau, produced 267 million tonnes of cement. This constituted 13.9% of world production. Cement industries of such countries employ about 80,000 people in total. The main objective of Cembureau, which is to act in the interest of its members, is achieved through active representation of the industry on the European and international arena. The activities mainly comprise of:

- Presentation and popularisation of the indu-

Distribution of World cement production in 2003



Per capita cement consumption in the European countries



stry's position on all issues, particularly referring to the development policy as concerns technology, environment protection, energy use and promotion of industry's products,

- Maintaining continuous dialogue with the European Union's institutions, international organisations and other associations.

Cembureau supports the activities of member associations through:

- Establishment of a platform for their cooperation at an international level and a forum for experience sharing,
- Popularisation of benefits of the cement industry and its products to societies,
- Cooperation with the cement industry for its development in a sustainable way and compatible with the binding regulations.

Poland has been a member to Cembureau since 1993. Since 1999 it has had the status of a member with full rights in the organisation. In June 2005, our Association will act as the host and organiser of General Assembly of Cembureau, to be participated in representatives of all member countries, Cembureau authorities, and authorities of the largest cement concerns.



