



BUILDING BRIDGES IN EUROPE



Polska Federacja
Producentów i Dystrybutorów
Materiałów Budowlanych



PROGRAMME CONGRESS KRAKOW

29th SEPTEMBER 2012

The conference is divided in an academic part in the morning and a field visit in the afternoon:

MORNING • SHERATON — WISLA I, II, III

- 09:00 - 09:30 Registration of the participants
- 09:30 - 09:35 Welcome by the Ufemat President Giuseppe Freri
- 09:35 - 09:40 Welcome by the President of the Polish federation, Roman Tarnowski
- 09:40 - 09:45 Welcome by Marnix Van Hoe, Secretary General Ufemat

1st Part: Polish topics/Speakers

- 09:45 - 10:05 Ryszard Florek, CEO FAKRO, www.fakro.pl
- 10:05 - 10:25 Romuald Loegler, Polish architect, www.loegler.com.pl
- 10:25 - 10:45 Jerzy Hausner, Politician, Economist, former economy minister
- 10:45 - 11:00 Q & A on the Polish market
- 11:00 - 11:15 Coffee break

2nd Part: EU topics/Speakers

- 11:15 - 11:35 Patrick Balemans, Managing Director Benelux Etex Group, Sustainable products
- 11:35 - 11:55 Bart Van Rossen, Managing Director Safar, Division Manager Rhenus Logistics, Sustainable logistics
- 11:55 - 12:10 Wilfred Aspinall, Director and Strategy Adviser FOCOPE, Introduction CPR
- 12:10 - 12:30 Gabriele Nicoli, CEO Dörken Italy, Competitive opportunities in regulated materials' production, www.doerken.de
- 12:30 - 12:50 Tapani Mikkeli, EU Deputy Head Unit Construction, CPR
- 12:50 - 13:00 Q & A on CPR

NOON

- 13:00 - 14:00 Lunch in "The Olive" at the Sheraton Hotel

AFTERNOON

- 14:00 - 14:30 Transfer to ATTIC - PSB Logistical & Distribution Center
- 14:30 - 15:15 PSB Distribution Center, www.grupapsb.com.pl
- 15:15 - 16:30 ATTIC Logistical & Training Center, www.dystrybucja.attic.pl
- 16:30 - 17:00 Transfer to the Sheraton Hotel



EUROPEAN COUNCIL
THE PRESIDENT

Brussels, 8.5.2012

Dear Mr. President,
Dear members of the board of directors,
Dear Participants,

The building industry in Europe is of great importance for Europe. It creates jobs and welfare. It is not only about producing and selling building materials, but also about providing shelter and a home for families and businesses as well as administrations and public offices. Of course also the construction of infrastructure such as highways, ports, air ports is not possible without your industry.

Sustainability and the construction sector need to go hand in hand. The building sector is a sector where sustainability can be brought into practice on a large scale; through ecological labels and certifications. Through sustainable processes such as waterway transport, efficient city distributions systems etc. Concepts such as LCA, "cradle to cradle", zero emissions become more and more wide spread.

Many EU policy initiatives were taken the past years to stimulate sustainable housing. Currently, the important energy efficiency directive is being discussed in Council and Parliament. It will offer a renewed framework. I believe that European federations such as Ufemat can contribute to divulge these European policies to its professional members. You inform manufacturers and distributors of building materials about the existence and the nature of these European policies and you explain the consequences on your day to day businesses. I think this is a very valuable role and I encourage you in your further work.

I wish you a very good conference.

Herman Van Rompuy

UFEMAT
Mr Marnix Van Hoe
Secretary General
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FOREWORD UFEMAT CHAIRMAN

Ladies and gentlemen, authorities, dear friends and colleagues,

Our community here in Poland, and in particular in the superb Krakow, celebrates the 54th international congress in a particularly difficult time for economic and social fortunes of our dear and old Europe.

The financial crisis crosses the whole continent from north to south, from east to west, with more or less tenacity, depending on the level of social cohesion that reveals in each country.

For the first time in history, the crisis has a global value, but also characteristics of originality that never before had been given to be recorded.

For these same reasons, there are no magical formulas or recipes that allow the solution of the problem.

The same governments and economists of the most prestigious universities in Europe and worldwide have failed until now to find a way out, that free from anguishes and worries families, enterprises, workers.

Many certainties arising from the construction of Europe, among the many and important accomplishments (including the Euro) that have allowed in 70 years of peace to work together, today are put under discussion and re-emergence of negative values condemned from history are there to witness our mistakes, but at the same time to encourage us to take the road again, that becomes day by day more and more difficult.

The construction industry plays along this path a strategic and determining role for the social and economic growth in Europe.

For this reason operators in the chain have, in this particular historical moment, a role of social responsibility and at the same time a great opportunity for their business.

The responsibility consists just in getting into play, in building bridges between us and others, in supporting with conviction the project of European integration, in promoting the unity of the states into one great federation, in which all people of Europe feel citizens from one country.

Only starting from this goal we can find together the enthusiasm and create conditions for a great new era of development and economic and social progress. Only then companies will find a favorable setting for their growth and their market size.

Hurrah for Ufemat, hurrah for Poland, hurrah for Europe!

Giuseppe Freri
Ufemat Chairman
May 2012



BUILDING BRIDGES IN EUROPE

Back in 1958 European leaders decided they had to enhance the life value of their citizens by working together. The foundation of a united Europe were laid and the roaring sixties started !

The building industry always plaid an important role in this evolution in all its components, i.e. the producers of Building Materials, the Distributors and of course the contractors.

Ufemat was created in 1958 to be the sound board of distributors and producers of Building Materials in Europe, this was a very visionary step towards the future. More then ever we now see happening what they expected to happen. Europe becomes more and more an important reality in all our lives and businesses. To be heard in this respect is a necessity. Items such as packaging, environment, sustainability, product mobility, responsibility, city-logistic, electronic data interchange, internet,... are concepts in which we must have our opinion and influence European decision makers.

This is why Ufemat has an important role to play in your day-to-day business. We used European bridges as a symbol to express our conviction that building bridges is precisely what we are doing; bridges between countries, professions, people.

We hope you enjoy the creations of our artists and thank our sponsors for their help in making this project possible. We also congratulate the Polish federation for its successful start up and commit ourselves to support them unconditionally. A very special thanks to Ryszard Florek for his never ending support to our cause!

Marnix Van Hoe
Secretary General Ufemat
April 2012



FOREWORD PRESIDENT POLISH FEDERATION

Globalization, as a result of dynamic development of technology, is for construction companies an opportunity for growth and development. It opens new markets for products and services. Unfortunately, globalization also carries risks.

The economic difficulties of Europe, are also the result of globalization. So what does this mean for us?

We can do many different things, create a lot of different strategies.

Today, however, it is important not to be lonely in these activities.

Just as a countries force lies in alliances, so does the strength of each company grow if it works in good cooperation with other companies. Each team of individual companies, if joined with other similar teams, will become more important and will increase the chances of further development for all participants.

This awareness was the foundation of the finding of the Polish Federation of Producers and distributors of building materials. Our main mission objectives are:

- Protecting the economic interests of the members of our organization,
- Assistance in maintaining on their business,
- Implementation of the principles of sustainable development in construction.

Our actions are subordinated to the belief that the most important thing is mankind and it's natural surroundings. We make sure that everything we do is friendly to people and the environment.

The future of Europe, as it is a bit shaky, is not dependent on the strength of the euro, franc or dollar, it depends only on whether Europe can find common to all its people, values and to submit it's decisions and actions to those values.

To speak about common action, based on universal values, it is worth meeting.

See you in Krakow,

Roman Tarnowski
Ufemat President Polish federation
May 2012



BUILDING BRIDGES TO COMICS

When it comes to designing, constructing and building architectural projects, it all starts with an idea. To communicate this idea, professionals are using pencil, paper and computers. This year, Ufemat is building bridges to another kind of professionals who are their own professional designers and constructors on paper. Ufemat has selected several Belgian comic authors and illustrators to perform their arts and crafts. They have used international constructions — most of them bridges — to tell us an entertaining story.

WHY BELGIAN COMIC AUTHORS?

Belgium has since the creation of TINTIN in 1929 by Hergé always been the home for many popular comic series. Morris, the Belgian author of LUCKY LUKE, introduced the term 9th Art. Maybe you also know THE SMURFS, BLAKE AND MORTIMER, BUCK DANNY, XIII, LARGO WINCH, and international series who have been written by Belgian writers like the Viking saga THORGAL or the western BLUEBERRY. Even ASTERIX has its fundamentals in Belgian soil.

Even today, on the crossroad of various directions, styles and genres, Belgium is known for its remarkable comic history with dozens translations throughout Europe. Within the selection of the authors in this book, several of them have won prizes for their albums. Some of them are available in other languages. They are all using a unique, refreshing and modern style which appeals to an audience with taste and with an eye for design. And yes, in their drawings they don't just copy the European constructions, they recreate them in their own style, in order to tell a story with humor, drama, emotion, history,...

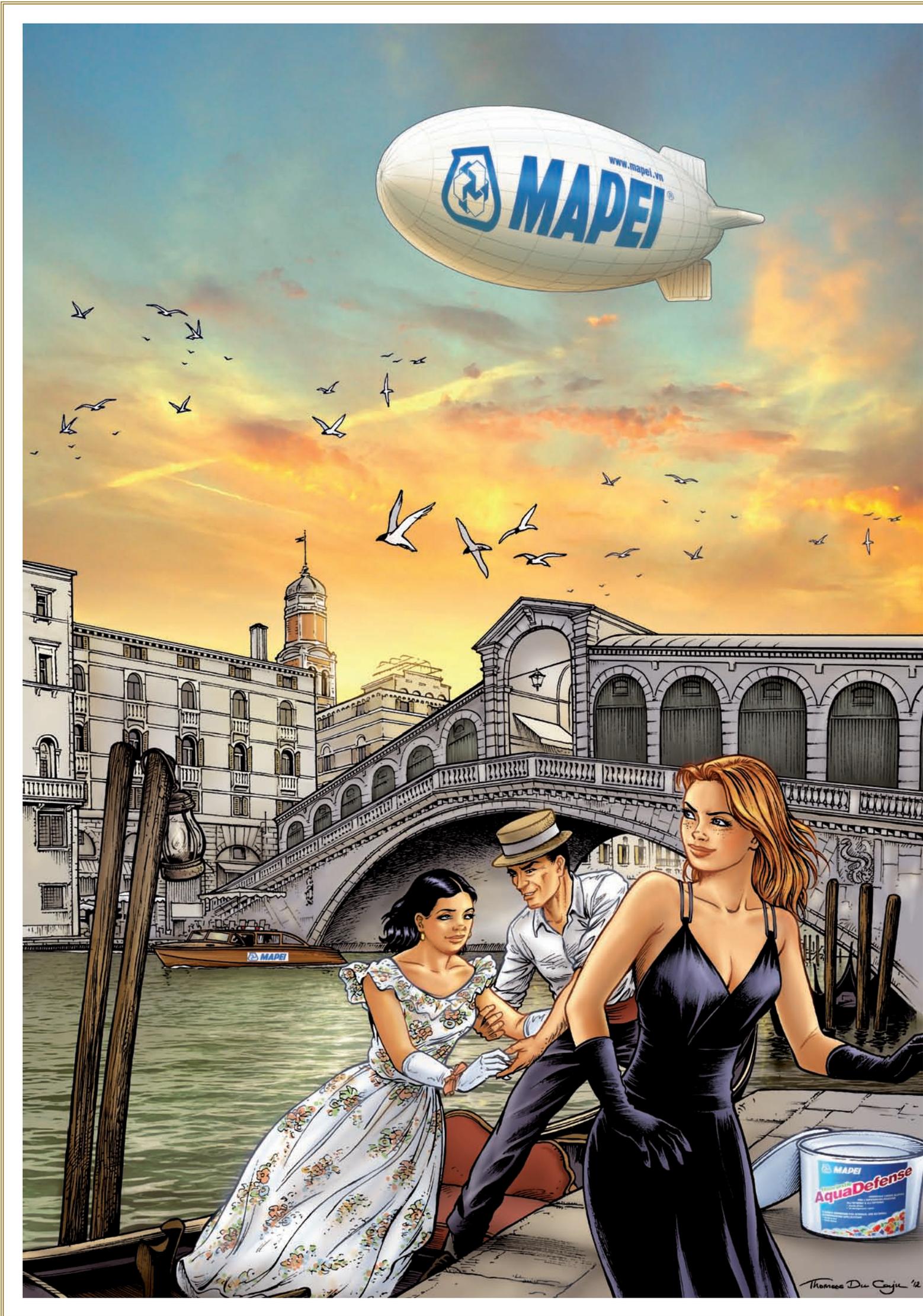
THE SELECTION OF UFEMAT

You will see that the selection is not at random. Ufemat is proud to present the works of all of the authors.

Enjoy it!

David Steenhuyse
chief editor De Stripspecialzaak, www.stripspecialzaak.be
April 2012





RIALTO BRIDGE, VENICE (ITALY)

Illustrated by Thomas Du Caju

Sponsored by



Founded in Milan in 1937, Mapei is today the world leader in the production of adhesives and complementary products for the installation of all types of floor and wall coverings. The company is also specialized in other chemical products for building: from waterproofers to special mortars, from admixtures for concrete to products for the restoration of ancient buildings.

Since the 1960's Mapei has started its internationalization. The strategy is always the same: maximum proximity to the needs of local markets and reduction of logistic costs to a minimum.

The Group now counts 68 subsidiaries with 60 plants in 29 countries in the five continents.

Furthermore, Mapei has developed a sales and technical service network with offices all over the world. Mapei offers an efficient Technical Assistance Service that is much appreciated by architects, engineers, contractors and owners, with experts available for on-site consultation.

Thomas Du Caju (©1970 - www.bettyendodge.com): Lived nearby the Mira bridge along the Scheldt. As an animator he worked for series such as IVANHOE, TURTLE ISLAND and WINITOONS. For Studio 100, the Belgian equivalent of Walt Disney with own television series, movies and amusement parks, he mastered in 3D and CGI. Nowadays, he's an

assistant for FANNY & CO, one of the most popular comic series in Flanders, and the author of his own series BETTY & DODGE. Dodge is a young photographer and Betty a British lady. Together they travel around the world in the late thirties.



BROOKLYN.

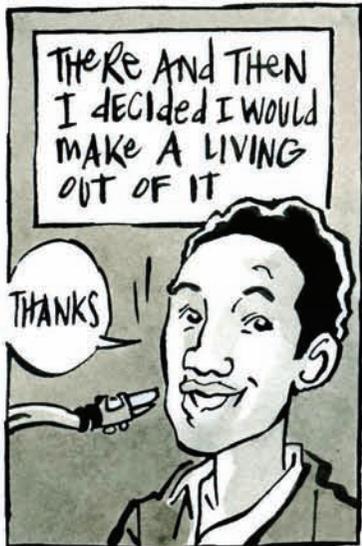


THIS IS THE SPOT WHERE I EARNED MY FIRST DOLLAR PLAYIN' MY HORN.

FUNNY THING THOUGH, I DON'T REMEMBER THE TUNE BUT I DO REMEMBER THAT LADY'S FACE!!!



SHE WAS SMILIN



THERE AND THEN I DECIDED I WOULD MAKE A LIVING OUT OF IT

THANKS

PRACTICED LIKE A MADMAN, 24/7. SOON I WAS PLAYIN' 52 STREET! SO IT HAPPENED!!!



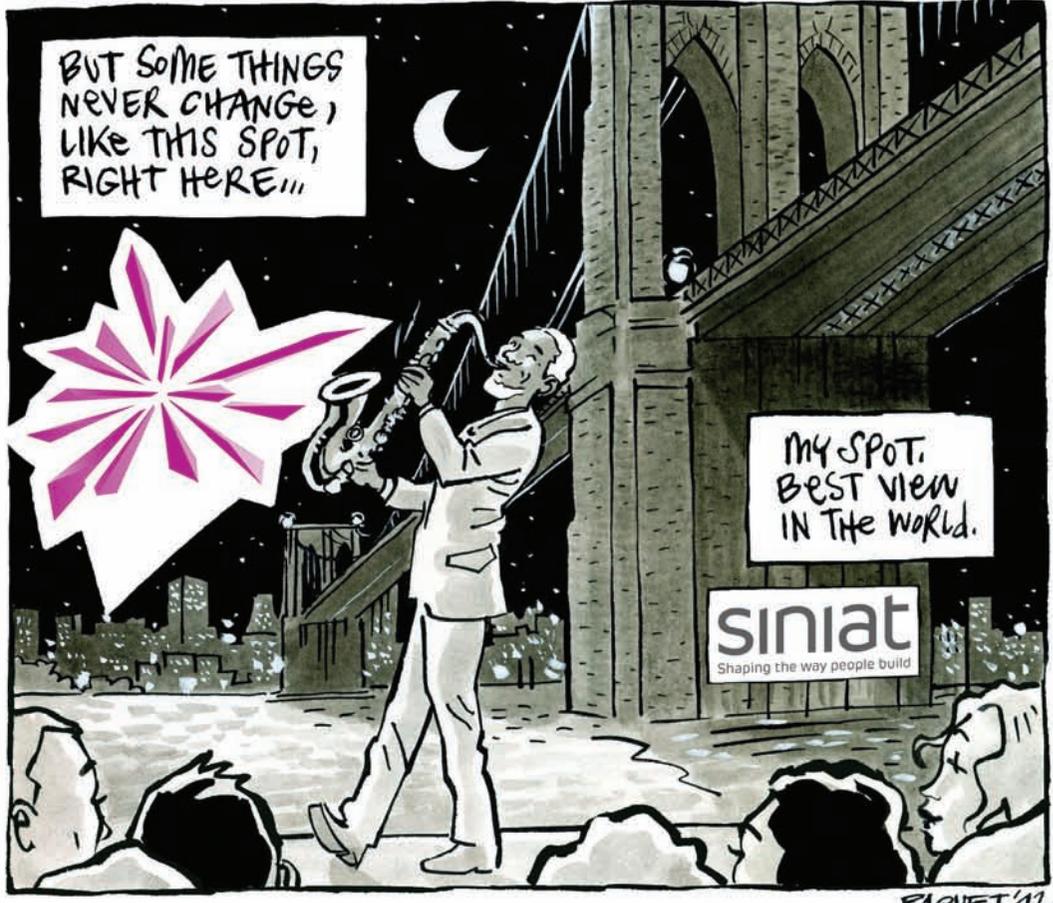
BLUE NOTE

PLAYED WITH DIZZY. SHARED THE STAGE WITH BIRD. JAMMED WITH MILES, MAX ROACH, MONK AND BUD!!! THE LIST GOES ON!

I SAW THE WORLD! STOCKHOLM, PARIS, TOKYO!!! PARIS, MAN, THAT WAS IT! THEY TREATED US LIKE ROYALTY OVER THERE!



THINGS CHANGED. THE WORLD CHANGED. I GOT OLDER!!!



BUT SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE, LIKE THIS SPOT, RIGHT HERE!!!

MY SPOT. BEST VIEW IN THE WORLD.

siniat
Shaping the way people build

FARVET '12

BROOKLYN BRIDGE, NEW YORK (USA)

Illustrated by Philip Paquet

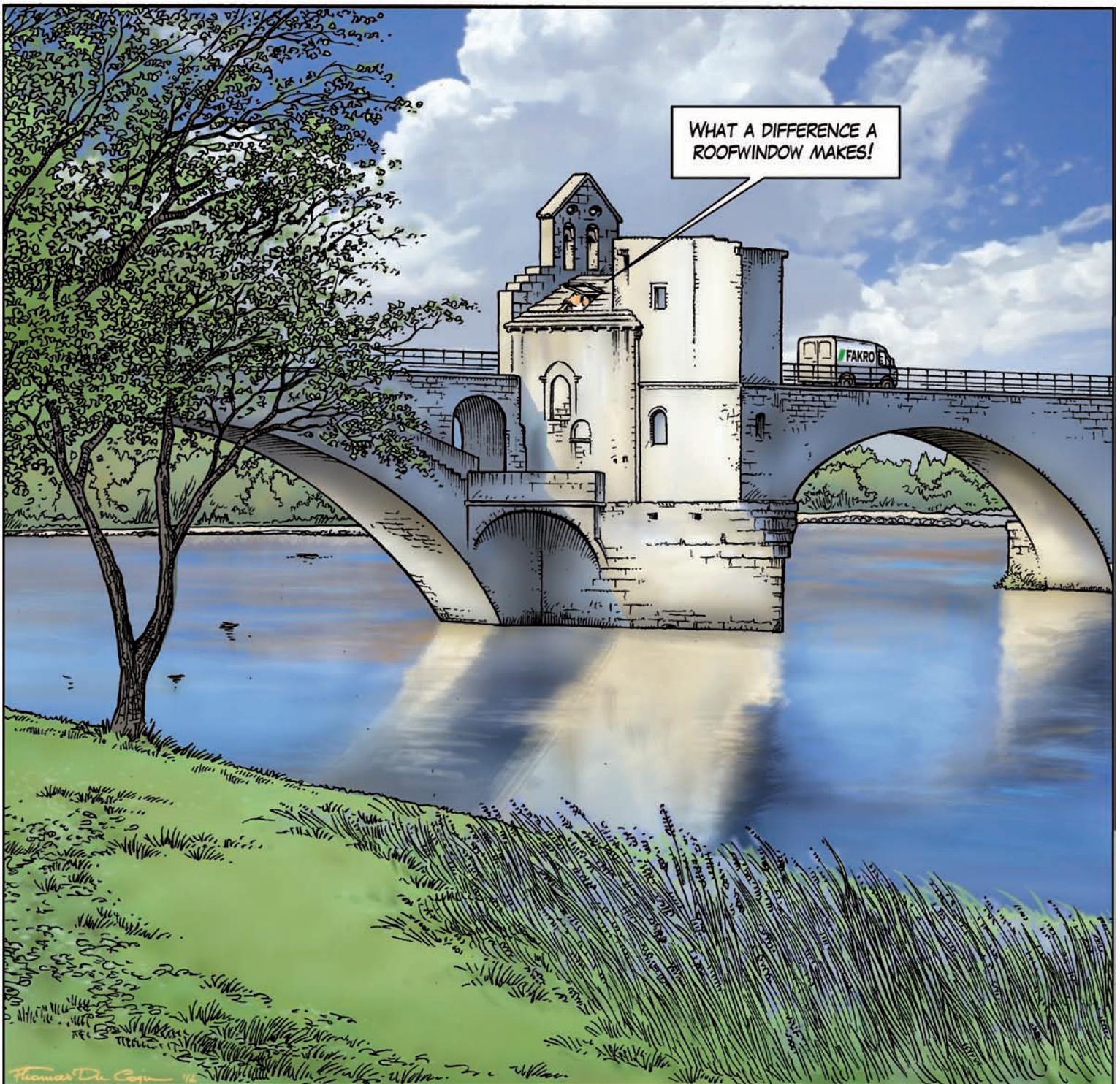
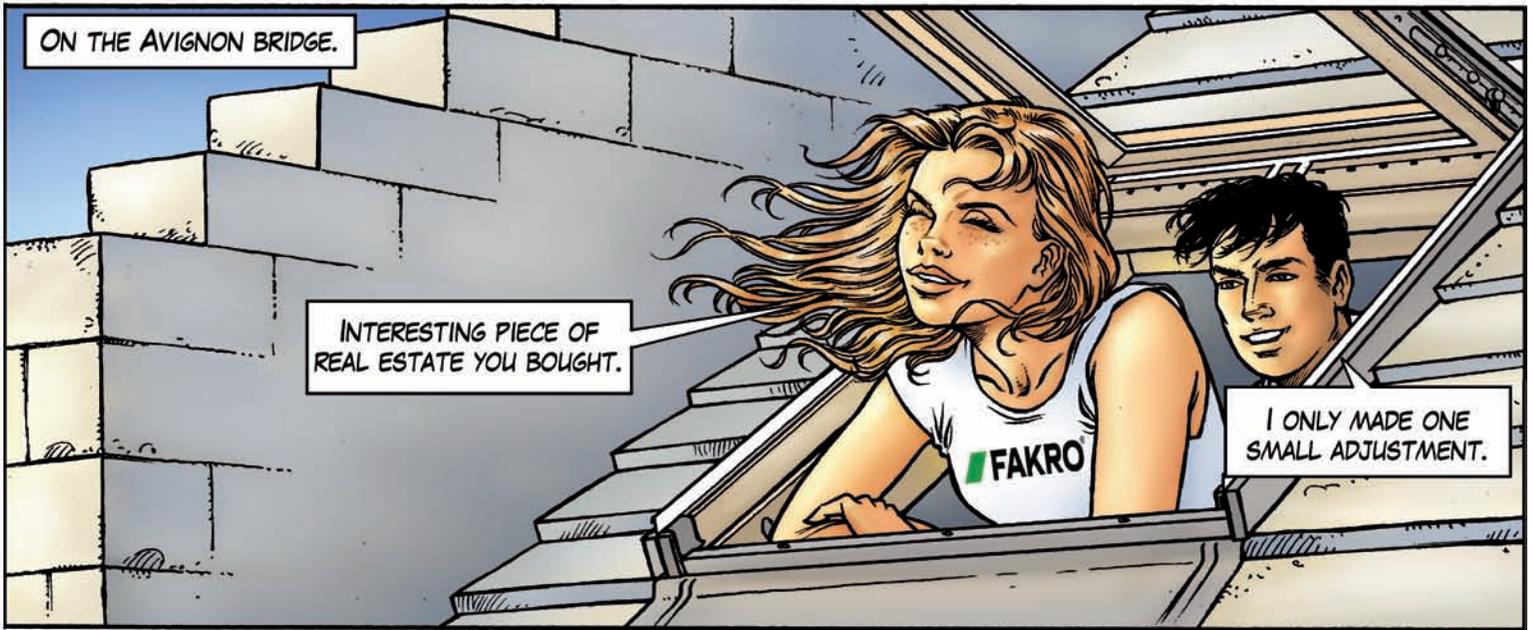
Sponsored by



SINIAT is a leading supplier of gypsum-related building products and systems in Europe, with top-ranking positions across most of its product range and markets. The Company covers the whole of Europe with production capacities in France, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Italy, Poland, Ukraine and Romania. Headquartered in Avignon, France, SINIAT manufactures and markets a comprehensive range of value-added and innovative products, systems and solutions.

Philip Paquet (°1973 - www.philippaquet.com): Philip lives and breaths jazz music. He dedicates his comic work to the sound, its culture and its icons. About Louis Armstrong he made a biographical comic. The compilations SNAPSHOTS and PLAYIN' / SMILIN' / FIGHTIN' / COOKIN'

(designed as a jazz record) are two other music driven comics. For OVER NAAR JOU and the sequel WEER OVER NAAR JOU he worked together with a theater producer and a musician. His trilogy YUME (and a tattoo on his body!) represents his fascination for the exotic Japan.



PONT SAINT-BÉNEZET, AVIGNON (FRANCE)

Illustrated by Thomas Du Caju

Sponsored by



FAKRO Group is an international corporation established in 1991 operating in the construction industry. Nowadays, the company is one of the world's leading manufacturer with an estimated 15% global share of the roof windows market. FAKRO Group, which employs more than 3,300 people, is made up of 12 manufacturing and 15 distribution companies, located in Europe, Asia and America. Thanks to well developed distribution network, FAKRO products are available in all countries, where there is demand for roof windows. They can be found in 47 countries all over the world. 70% of our production is exported to foreign markets. In the commercial offer there are roof windows, skylights, roof access windows, loft ladders and a wide range of accessories. The products have a reputation for class-leading workmanship, durability and high aesthetic values. FAKRO Company means an innovative look at the roof windows. The Company changes viewpoints by creating innovations which help to lead a more comfortable life.

Thomas Du Caju (©1970 - www.bettyendodge.com): Lived nearby the Mira bridge along the Scheldt. As an animator he worked for series such as IVANHOE, TURTLE ISLAND and WINITOONS. For Studio 100, the Belgian equivalent of Walt Disney with own television series, movies and amusement parks, he mastered in 3D and CGI. Nowadays, he's an

assistant for FANNY & CO, one of the most popular comic series in Flanders, and the author of his own series BETTY & DODGE. Dodge is a young photographer and Betty a British lady. Together they travel around the world in the late thirties.

DEEP SONAR

DR. BRICK WAS ALWAYS SEEKING FOR THE BEST RAW MATERIALS. HE HAD HIS OWN METHODS. I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT FIRST, BUT THEN AGAIN, CAME THE SIGNAL ...



I'VE TOLD YOU LISA !... GUSTAVE EIFFEL WAS AHEAD OF HIS TIME ...



THIS BRIDGE IN PORTO ISN'T JUST A BRIDGE ... IT'S A RADIO !

DR. BRICK HAD IT ALL FIGURED OUT.

THE EIFFEL BRIDGE HAS THE RIGHT MEASUREMENTS ... SHE RESONATES WITH ULTRASONIC SOUNDWAVES ...



... AND IT'S ... GONE AGAIN ... WOW ! WHAT WAS THAT ?!...

HMMM... I RECOGNIZE THE SIGNAL ... IT'S TWO BELUGA'S LOCATING THE OBJECT ...



... THE LOST MINE ...



... IN THE ATLANTIC ?

... IT'S ON HYPERION !

...A MOON OF SATURN.



LOPE DEVROE

EIFFEL BRIDGE, PORTO (PORTUGAL)

Illustrated by Lode Devroe

Sponsored by



Founded in 1819 in Vienna and traded since 1869 on the Vienna Stock Exchange, Wienerberger can look back on a great tradition. Only in 1986 the company started its dynamic expansion, which has focused on building materials since the introduction of Value Management in 1997. This transformed Wienerberger from a local Austrian brick-maker into the world's largest producer of bricks within a few years. During this time the number of production facilities rose from 11 to a level of groupwide 232 plants in 27 countries including 30 production sites for the pipe systems.

A GATHERING OF ENGINEERS NEAR MILLAU, FRANCE...

GENTLEMEN! WHILST PLANNING A TRAJECTORY TO SPAN THE TARN VALLEY, WE WERE ONCE AGAIN FACED WITH THE BRIDGE BUILDER'S WORST NIGHTMARE...



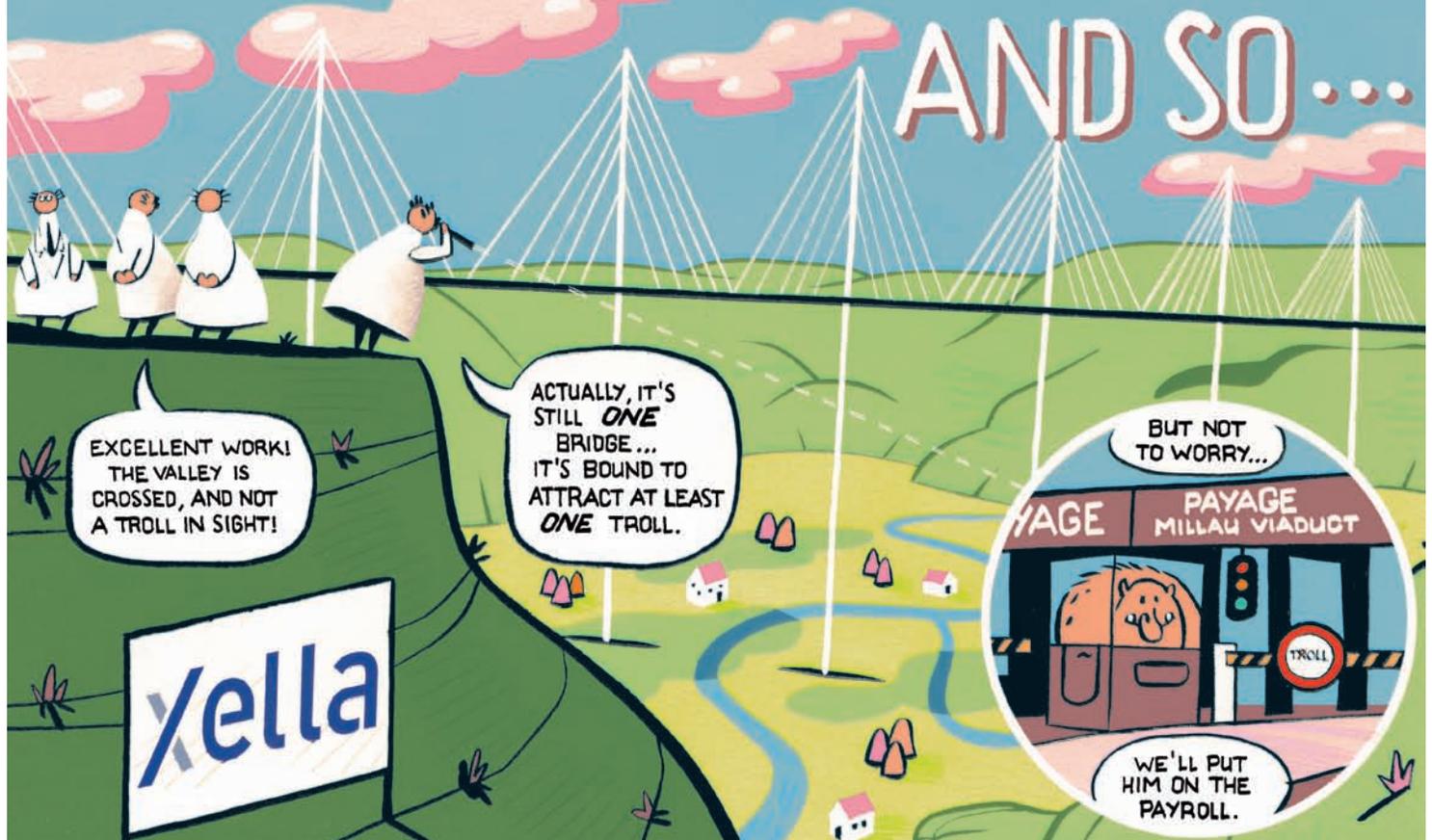
AS YOU ALL KNOW, THESE CREATURES ARE ATTRACTED TO BRIDGES, SETTLING UNDERNEATH, AND IMPOSING A TAX OF ONE GOLD COIN ON EVERYONE WHO DARES TO CROSS.



STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT A 'CLASSIC' ROUTE COMPRISING OF MULTIPLE INDIVIDUAL BRIDGES WOULD RESULT IN A COMBINED CROSSING FARE OF ASTRONOMICAL PROPORTIONS!



THUS, IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE INFLUX OF TROLLS, WE ALL AGREED ON SPANNING THE ENTIRE VALLEY WITH *ONE GINORMOUS MOTHER OF A BRIDGE!*



VIADUCT OF MILLAU (FRANCE)

Illustrated by Simon Spruyt

Sponsored by



Xella

Xella is one of Europe's leading companies in the construction materials and raw materials market. Xella has around 6,800 employees across the world. In 2010, the company recorded a turnover of 1.1 billion euros. Xella International is owned by a consortium of the investment companies PAI Partners and Goldman Sachs Capital Partners. The construction division of Xella is involved with producing and supplying building materials (Xella) and additives (Fels). Xella produces calcium silicate blocks, aerated concrete and dry lining in Belgium through its leading brands Silka, Ytong, Hebel and Fermacell. The latest Xella BE brand is YtongMultipor, a non-flammable insulation material with high compressive strength.

Simon Spruyt (©1978 - sgfcorp.wordpress.com): For his political and royal satire DE BAMBURGERS, Simon created an entire (but small) island with its own monarchy. In a more fantastic way he tells in DE FUROX the

story of the last dragon from its kind in New York in – again – the thirties. S.G.F. is an epic and absurd tale about the comics industry.



BERLIN WALL (GERMANY)

Illustrated by Steven Dhondt

Sponsored by

ARDOISES &

MATERIAUX

GOBERT

MATERIAUX

www.groupegobert.com

The companies Gobert Matériaux and Ardoises & Matériaux specialise in supplying building materials to trade and private customers. We have 11 sales outlets throughout Wallonia: Charleroi, Liège, Mons, Noville-les-bois, Strépy-Bracquegnies, Soignies, Roucourt, Verviers, Nivelles and Anderlecht. We continually invest to improve our depots and offer new infrastructure, products and services. In the medium term, we are planning to open a new sales outlet in Tubize. We are also working on a logistics hub and a huge showroom in Ghlin, Hainaut. With a turnover of almost 85 million euros, Gobert and Ardoises Matériaux have become the sector's francophone leader. Gobert Matériaux and Ardoises & Matériaux are your guarantee of choice, quality and exceptional service! Fast home or onsite deliveries anywhere in Belgium are a speciality, thanks to our fleet of trucks.

Steven Dhondt (°1974 - www.stedho.be): When the Flemish popular youth author Marc De Bel was looking for an illustrator for his books, he didn't have to look far. In his classroom he met Steven who made hundreds of illustrations since then. A few books and series made a

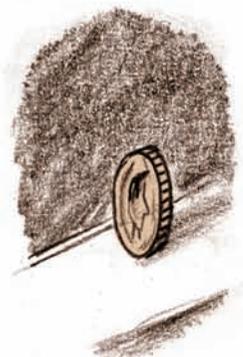
transfer to movies and comics, of course drawn by Steven. For different occasions he put aside his work for children books to bring adult work in various styles of drawing and telling.



THERE ARE MANY HANSOME MEN, JUST LIKE ME.



SHUT UP, YOU!



PONTE VECCHIO, FIRENZE (ITALY)

Illustrated by Maarten De Saeger

Sponsored by



Ebema is a leading manufacturer of high-quality concrete paving materials, active in the public and private market. The wide range of products within our Stone&Style brand is aimed at the private market. Just as the interior of a house reflects the soul of its inhabitants, you can recognize the individuality of people by their taste of garden decoration. It's no coincidence that trend conscious consumers and landscapers are charmed by Stone&Style. The vast collection of pavers, Megategels and Megasmooth ensures a perfect synergy between a home's style and its green outdoor room.

Vandersanden Group is a family company established in 1925 and sells worldwide handformed facing bricks, pavers and brick solutions by continuously maintaining and improving the production process. Based on a rich experience and knowledge in innovation Vandersanden Group profiles itself as the Belgian market leader in handformed facing bricks. Vandersanden Group offers facing bricks in different colours, shapes and textures to obtain a unique esthetic result for every project. The products are worldwide distributed in more than 30 countries. There is a continuous improvement and prevention of energy use. Vandersanden Group is positioning itself as a real force for sustainable development and demonstrating its active concern for the environment.

Maarten De Saeger (°1981 - maartendesaeger.blogspot.com): One of Maartens first comics was a publication in Bruxxxel Noord, a compilation of several stories about the red light district in Brussels.

Since then he illustrated for a wide range of (comic) magazines and websites. He also colored THE FUROX and SGF for Simon Spruyt.



GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, SAN FRANCISCO (USA)

Illustrated by Thomas Du Caju

Sponsored by



Etex is a leading industrial Group with a worldwide presence

Etex manufactures and sells high-quality building materials and solutions. With headquarters in Belgium, the Group is present in 44 countries, operates 121 production sites and employs more than 17,000 dedicated people.

The Group's activities encompass small and large roofing elements (small and large roofing elements), dry construction solutions based on boards in fibre cement and plaster, integrated systems of passive fire production (passive fire protection and thermal insulation) and high performance insulation and ceramic floor and wall tiles.

In 2011 the revenue reached 2,300 million EUR after acquiring the European gypsum activities of Lafarge and its Latin American Gypsum business in November 2011.

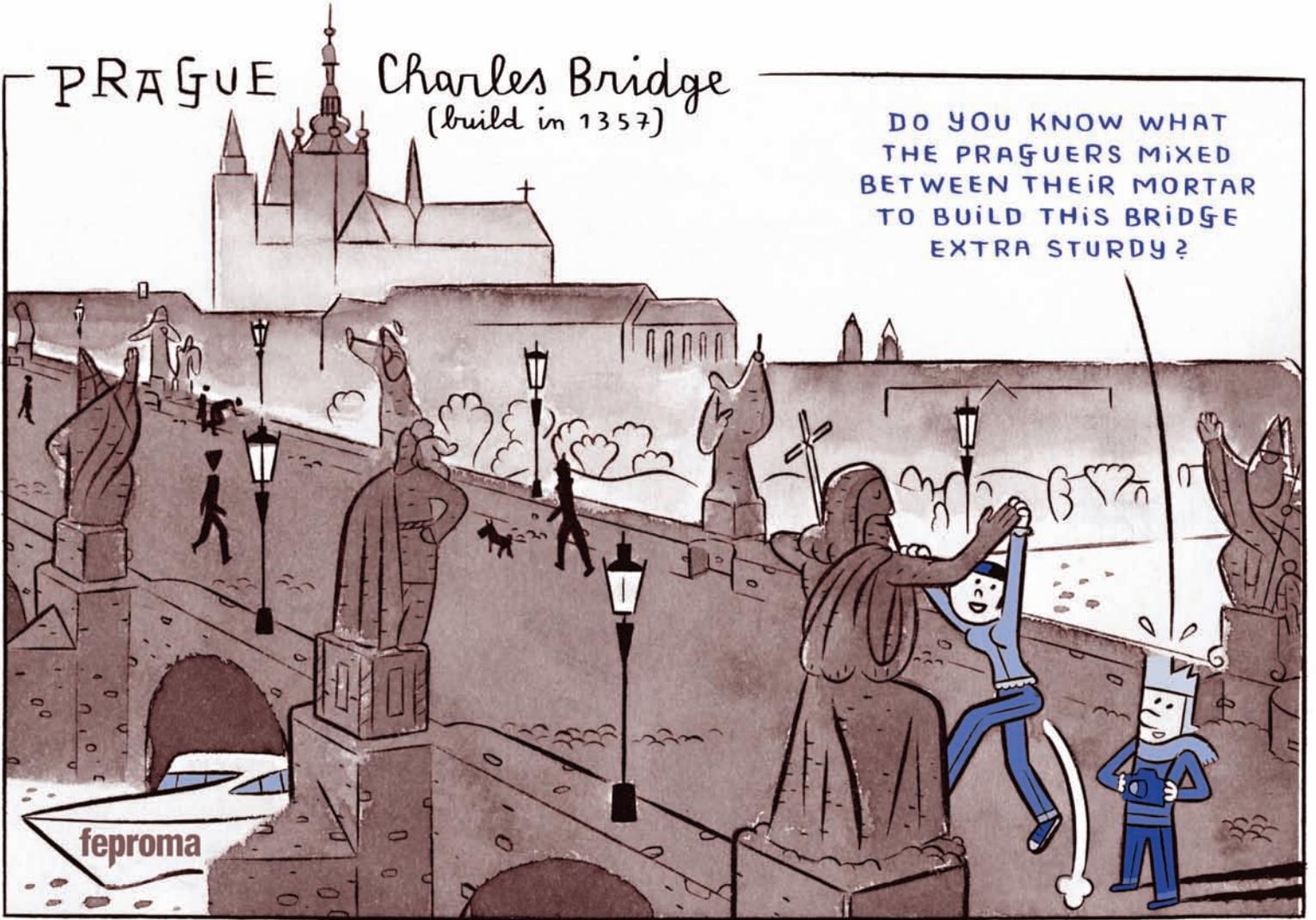
Thomas Du Caju (°1970 - www.bettyendodge.com): Lived nearby the Mira bridge along the Scheldt. As an animator he worked for series such as IVANHOE, TURLE ISLAND and WINITOONS. For Studio 100, the Belgian equivalent of Walt Disney with own television series, movies and amusement parks, he mastered in 3D and CGI. Nowadays, he's an

assistant for FANNY & CO, one of the most popular comic series in Flanders, and the author of his own series BETTY & DODGE. Dodge is a young photographer and Betty a British lady. Together they travel around the world in the late thirties.

PRAGUE

Charles Bridge
(built in 1357)

DO YOU KNOW WHAT
THE PRAGUERS MIXED
BETWEEN THEIR MORTAR
TO BUILD THIS BRIDGE
EXTRA STURDY?



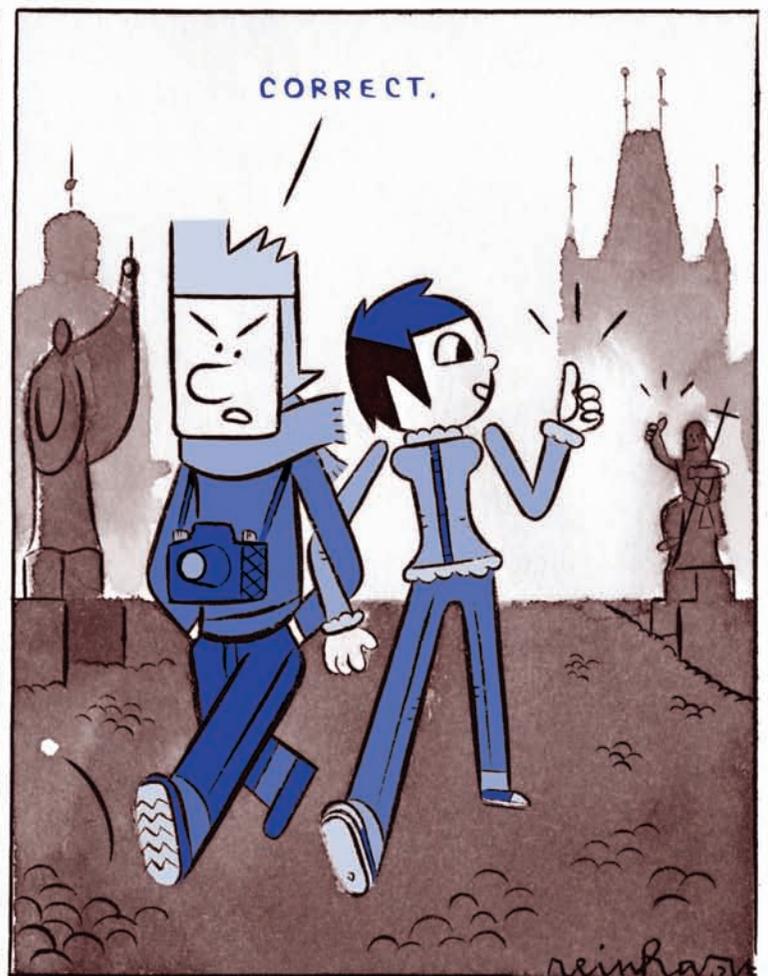
feproma



(WHISPER)

EGG WHITE
PERHAPS?

CLIC



CORRECT.

reinhard

CHARLES BRIDGE, PRAGUE (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Illustrated by Reinhart Croon

Sponsored by



Belgian Federation of manufacturers of Building Materials supports the Builder's Merchants.



Reinhart Croon (°1971 - www.reinhart.be): Reinhart is the author of JUST (THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT) and HUNKER BUNKER, a stop comic with a paranoiac father who lives with his family in a bunker. In 2010 he was the official city drawer of Turnhout that welcomes every two

year one of the biggest comic festivals in Belgium. Reinhart drew therefore a comic with a focus on monuments and buildings in Turnhout which has disappeared.



CALATRAVA, VENICE (ITALY)

Illustrated by Maarten Vande Wiele

Sponsored by

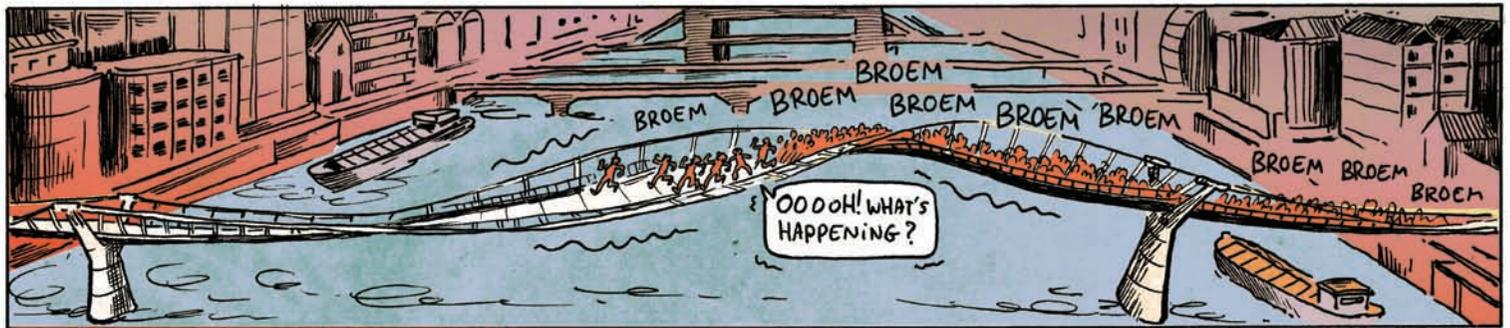
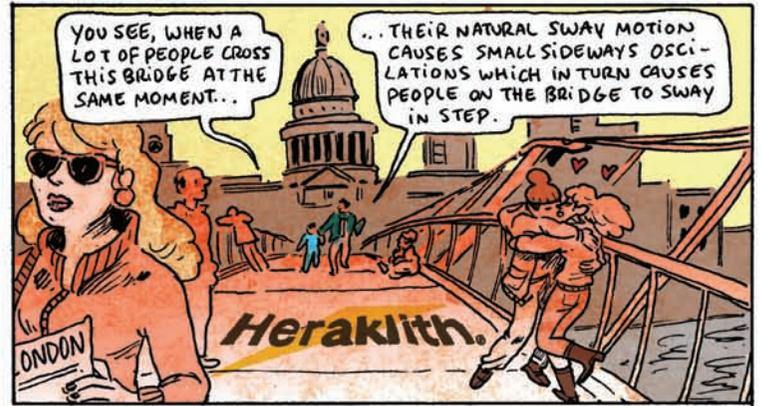


Insulation solutions developed by Saint-Gobain Isover are marketed under the Certainteed brand in North America and Isover in the rest of the world. These brands enjoy strong top-of-mind and very high recognition in their respective markets. They are known for their reliability and the quality of their products. Saint-Gobain Isover: 11,000 employees worldwide. Thanks to its 60 consolidated companies, its sixty or so insulation production sites (mineral wool and expanded polystyrene) and its 12 licence holders, the Insulation activity enjoys a genuine international network of professionals. To respond to each local specificity, the Insulation activity of Saint Gobain is present in some fifty or so countries. Major and regular investments give Saint-Gobain Isover access to state-of-the-art technology.

With its baseline 'Making Buildings Smart', the Belgian company Derbigum, established in 1932, clearly presents its new strategy: to develop innovative products and services for the sustainable construction and renovation sector, offering building owners smart roof solutions to save energy, reduce CO₂ emissions and produce renewable energy via the roof - a much wider action field than the traditional roofing that made Derbigum the global player it is today. Nowadays, the group owns 4 production units, has a 141 million Euros consolidated net turnover and employs 449 people worldwide - a success story due to continuous investments in innovative products.

Maarten Vande Wiele (°1977 - www.maartenvandewiele.be): Maarten is smitten for the glitter and glamour in the sixties. In DOCTOR CARNACKI he revives a character like Emma Peel from the television

series THE AVENGERS. In a similar graphic style he takes on the fashion and modeling industry in Paris in a SEX AND THE CITY context. He calls it a "graphic trash novel".



MILLENNIUM BRIDGE, LONDON (ENGLAND)

Illustrated by Wauter Mannaert

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Albintra is the exclusive dealer of:



Since 1971, Albintra has an important position as importer of construction specialties in Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

We distribute those through professional trades in materials, wood, insulating products and plastics for the construction sector. Roof windows and loft ladders from FAKRO[®], Styrodur[®] XPS insulation, Marmox THERMOBLOCK[®] insulating elements and Knauf wood wool, mineral glass wool and rock mineral wool are only a small selection of the vast range of products we offer. Visit www.albintra.be for more information.

Wauter Mannaert (1979 - wautermannaert.domainepublic.net/wauterstrip): For his adventurous album debut, animator Wauter used dozens and dozens references to cartoons, movies, comics, costumes,

art, fashion, architecture, dances and so much more from the thirties. He traveled throughout Europe to perform with music instruments, build form old gameboys.

THE
P
O
R
T
A
L

BACK IN 1958,
I WAS IN BELGIUM
TO ATTEND THIS
CONGRESS.
UPON RETURNING
FROM THAT PARTY...
I WAS ON MY WAY
TO THE HOTEL.
I WAS DRUNK,
I WAS DRUNK,
SO DRUNK ...
THE BELGIAN BEER
HAD MESSED UP
MY BRAIN AND
MY CAR ...



I SUDDENLY RAN ACROSS THIS BRIDGE.
I HAD TO BE ON 'THE OTHER SIDE'...

AT THE TIME, THE BRIDGE WAS OUT
OF USE ... SOME SAID THE GHOST OF
ITS DESIGNER, ARTHUR VIERENDEEL,
RESIDED THERE. PEOPLE WHO
WENT IN ITS VICINITY HAD
NEVER COME BACK.

PSSST !

LATER ON, I LEARNED THAT IN 1940,
ARTHUR VIERENDEEL WAS INVOLVED
IN TOP-SECRET PROJECTS LIKE ...
THE PHILADELPHIA EXPERIMENT ...

I USUALLY HEAR VOICES WHEN I'M DRUNK. QUITE NORMAL.
BUT THIS TIME, IT WAS DIFFERENT. I FELT A STRANGE
SENSATION THROUGHOUT MY BODY. WAS THE DEVIL IN
THE BELGIAN BEER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ? ...
I SLOWLY TURNED MY HEAD ...



IT FELT LIKE ...

... MARK
RATCLIFF !



... I HAD BEEN TELEPORTED !
THE TWO BRIDGES WERE CONNECTED !
A SHORTCUT IN SPACE-TIME ...

I WAS BACK HOME
IN SHROPSHIRE, ENGLAND ...

MY WIFE NEVER BELIEVED
ME... BUT SHE SURE SMELT
THE SCENT OF ALCOHOL
IN MY MOUTH ...

LOPE DEVRDE

GRAMMENE BRIDGE, MACHELEN (BELGIUM) IRON BRIDGE, SHROPSHIRE (ENGLAND)

Illustrated by Lode Devroe

Sponsored by



FEMA is the Belgian Federation of Builders Merchants, established in 1936. FEMA represents 80% of the professional Building Materials market in Flanders, Brussels and Walloon areas.

Fields of activity:





BERLIN WALL (GERMANY)

Illustrated by Pieter De Poortere

Sponsored by



HEIDELBERGCEMENT Group

Every day, thousands of tons of cement are produced and used in all kinds of construction work. At CBR we have been producing cement for nearly a century, and it is a business that we are proud to be involved in. As suppliers to the construction industry, it is our responsibility to operate sustainably. CBR has opted for an integrated approach to sustainability in the form of an eco-responsibility policy under which our partners in the construction chain are not merely offered environmentally responsible products, but total solutions for sustainable construction in concrete. CBR produces and sells a wide range of cement types. The company's most important clients are concrete distributors, manufacturers of concrete products, developers, dry mortar producers and the building trade. The majority of CBR's production is sold in Belgium. Production takes place in plants at Lixhe, Ghent, Antoing and Harmignies. CBR is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the international HeidelbergCement Group. With 52,500 staff in more than 40 countries, the group is one of the world's largest producers of cement, ready-mixed concrete and aggregates. More info on www.cbr.be.

Pieter De Poortere (°1976 - www.boerke.be): Pieter was in 2006 the city drawer of Turnhout. With his character Dickie, a farmer, he

explores the world and his cultural history in one page gags. No need for translation fees, DICKIE is completely textless.



WURG

SUNNIBERG BRIDGE, GRISONS (SWITZERLAND)

Illustrated by Ward De Graeve

Sponsored by



Holcim is a key player in the Belgian construction industry. Holcim offers a full range of reliable, innovative solutions for the construction of residential and tertiary buildings, civil engineering works and roads: a full range of standard cements, in bags and in bulk; special binders for ground treatment and injection and for environmental techniques; a complete range of ready-mixed concrete and standard mortars. BENOR concrete, aesthetic concrete, road concrete, etc.; limestone, sandstone and porphyry aggregates for all kinds of uses. Holcim has been deploying a sustainable development policy at all levels for many years. But this year, Holcim has decided to go a step further and make commitments to its customers and partners. These primarily concern health and safety, for its employees, suppliers, customers and subcontractors, but also the preservation of natural resources and the promotion of building solutions that respect the environment. Choosing Holcim products means choosing a brand with sustainable commitments!

Ward De Graeve (°1967): Ward studied a year animation in England. After a period in the advertising business with few possibilities to illustrate, he became a full time illustrator for De Ballon, a Belgian editor specialized in color books and children books for the international market. He mainly drew labyrinths. They became highly popular in the

USA. He illustrated children books about the hedgehog Ekki. Furthermore he is active for Studio 100, the Belgian firm specialized in tv programs, films, books, amusement parks and merchandising for children. As a comic drawer he assists for BOB AND BOBETTE and a few times for F.C. DE KAMPIOENEN, another popular comic series in Flanders.



ØRESUND BRIDGE (DENMARK / SWEDEN)

Illustrated by Thomas Du Caju

Sponsored by



With the support of:



For more than 20 years, WPL has provided innovative and reliable wastewater treatment, rainwater harvesting and grease management solutions for domestic, commercial and industrial markets, as well as being one of the main suppliers to the UK's water companies. Internationally recognised as a leader in the design, manufacture and supply of both standardised and bespoke environmental solutions WPL is dedicated to providing the highest quality products and services.

Federcomated, National Federation of Merchants in Building Materials, was established in 1983 and represents through the Provincial Associations of Merchants in Building Materials, more than 9,000 distributors who develop an overall production value of about 18 billions Euros. The Federation is based in Milan and joins to Confcommercio — Imprese per l'Italia, the organization that represents trade business, tourism and services in Italy. The aims of this associative organization, in addition to political representation and bargaining unit, are to enhance the identity of companies of distribution of building materials and products, to assess and solve the economic and social problems related to the category and to promote any initiative to modernize the sector of building distribution.

Thomas Du Caju (°1970 - www.bettyendodge.com): Lived nearby the Mira bridge along the Scheldt. As an animator he worked for series such as IVANHOE, TURTLE ISLAND and WINITOONS. For Studio 100, the Belgian equivalent of Walt Disney with own television series, movies and amusement parks, he mastered in 3D and CGI. Nowadays, he's an

assistant for FANNY & CO, one of the most popular comic series in Flanders, and the author of his own series BETTY & DODGE. Dodge is a young photographer and Betty a British lady. Together they travel around the world in the late thirties.



Each year, more and more ships from China came to our ports. Containers loaded with



computers, teddy bears and Chinese porcelain came to Europe. Other containers went



back with Belgian beer, bricks and brains, ...



... In the Long run, oceans were so packed with ships that water jams were created. The ports and seas became overcrowded, everything stood still.



No more containers could pass through from here to China and vice versa. The economy was threatened to run down.



The Great Chinese Wall was their inspiration... Everything comes back...

Jeroen
DANSEN
2012

TAIZHOU BRIDGE, JIANGSU (CHINA)

Illustrated by Jeroen Janssen

Sponsored by



With the support of:



Polish Federation of Producers and Distributors of Building Materials, operates since 1st March 2012 and is an organization exclusively for the elite of Polish construction. It brings together only those representatives of manufacturers and distributors of building materials who operate according to the law and ethical merchants.

Lobbying activities carried out in the legislative process will influence the shaping of laws favorable to the members of the Federation. In particular, we want to change many existing laws, hurting businesses. The Federation supports its members by providing them with legal and organizational support in the face of a threat posed to them by the various agencies and institutions.

FNBM is the professional organization of timber and builders' merchants. Together with its social partners, FNBM is conducting the collective labour agreements of the timber and builders' trade. The association defends the profession at the government and the European institutions. Figures FNBM: 11 regional associations, 30 departmental unions, 1061 companies employing 75,000 salaried employees within 5,500 sale points, realizing a turnover of 18 milliards €.

Jeroen Janssen (°1963 - www.bakame.be): Between 1990 and 1994 Jeroen worked for an art school in Rwanda. There he started to adapt true stories and autobiographical elements in his first comics. He never

stopped with the integration of African fables in his work. The rabbit Bakamé is his best known character. He published in several international magazines.



Gedimat

THE 'PONT NEUF' OR 'NEW BRIDGE' IS ACTUALLY THE OLDEST BRIDGE IN PARIS. IT IS A VERY ROMANTIC SPOT FOR YOUNG LOVERS...

IT WAS ON THE PONT NEUF THAT I FIRST KISSED GUILLAUME, WHEN HE WALKED ME HOME FROM LE SARAH BERNHARDT. AND A VOICE IN MY HEAD SAID: "CHRISTINE, THIS IS THE MAN YOU WILL MARRY."

ON YOUR LEFT SIDE YOU SEE THE NOTRE DAME, BUILT IN THE 12TH CENTURY. A VERY ROMANTIC PLACE.

IT WAS ON THE STEPS OF THE NOTRE DAME THAT I FIRST TOLD GUILLAUME THAT I LOVED HIM.

AND HE SAID: "I LOVE YOU TOO, ISABELLE-UH, I MEAN CHRISTINE!" AND WE BOTH LAUGHED ABOUT THAT SLIP OF THE TONGUE.

ON YOUR RIGHT SIDE YOU SEE THE EIFFEL TOWER, BUILT FOR THE WORLD FAIR IN 1889. SUCH A ROMANTIC PLACE. IT WAS HERE THAT GUILLAUME TOOK A PUFF OF HIS GITANE AND ASKED ME IF I KNEW WHAT A 'MENAGE A TROIS' WAS AND IF SO, HOW I FELT ABOUT IT.

AND HERE IS THE REPLICA OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, ALSO INAUGURATED AT THE 1889 WORLD FAIR.

... A VERY ROMANTIC PLACE WHERE ASSHOLES LIKE GUILLAUME TAKE THEIR NAIVE YOUNG GIRLFRIENDS TO EXPLAIN TO THEM THAT THEY ARE AFRAID OF LOVE, AND THAT THEY NEED TO FIND THEMSELVES, AND THEN THEY GO FIND THEMSELVES IN THE BED OF A BRAINLESS SKANK LIKE ISABELLE WITH HER THICK KNEES AND HER ORANGE SKIN.

Gedimat De Groot

BE 12

PONT NEUF, PARIS (FRANCE)

Illustrated by Brecht Evens

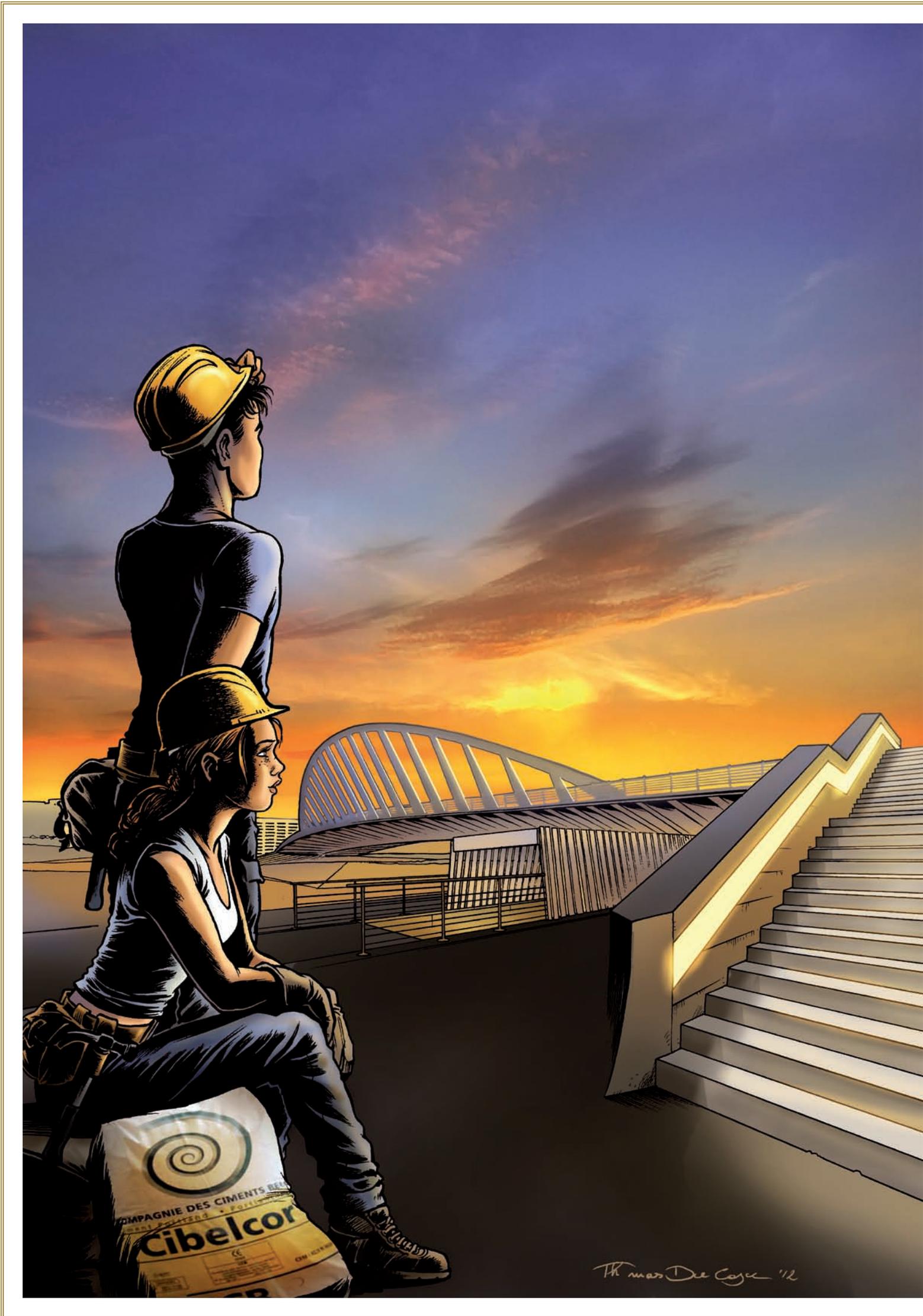
Sponsored by



Gedimat Belgium is a group of independent resellers in building materials with founding roots in France. It is the only group in his kind with a full country coverage. Nowadays the group consists of 37 points of sales; 16 in Flanders, 20 in Wallonia and 1 in the Brussels area. The group has known a significant organic growth of +14% compared to last year and has the ambitious to keep growing faster than the market. Our vision is helping building companies and self-builders with professional advise supported by qualitative brands.

Brecht Evens (°1986 - brechtnieuws.blogspot.com): In 2005 Brecht was the winner of the first edition of a Flemish comic contest. His prize was the publication of his first full length album, a textless story about an alien who visits Earth. From then on, with each new graphic novel he gained international recognition. *THE WRONG PLACE* and his latest

THE MAKING OF were true revelations. They obtained several nominations (and winnings!) on important comic festivals in France and the USA. His work is translated in English, French, Spanish, German and even in Korean.



JARDÍN DEL TURIA, VALENCIA (SPAIN)

Illustrated by Thomas Du Caju

Sponsored by



Located in the area of Tournai, in Belgium, CCB, subsidiary of the 5th world cement producer, Italcementi Group, is a key player on the Benelux market, developing cement, ready mix concrete and aggregates products for sustainable building solutions.

CCB activities have been following for over 20 years a corporate strategy based on the Group commitment to Sustainable Development, a combination of economic prosperity, environmental protection and social responsibility.

In that respect, Research and Innovation, aiming at a contribution to a better quality of life, is of strategic importance.

The main objective of CCB is to continuously improve the quality of its products and services in order to meet his customer satisfaction.

On the product side, CCB promotes a complete range of cement meeting all building market needs and bringing dedicated answers to ready mix concrete, precast and distribution customers.

Thomas Du Caju (°1970 - www.bettyendodge.com): Lived nearby the Mira bridge along the Scheldt. As an animator he worked for series such as IVANHOE, TURTLE ISLAND and WINITOONS. For Studio 100, the Belgian equivalent of Walt Disney with own television series, movies and amusement parks, he mastered in 3D and CGI. Nowadays, he's an

assistant for FANNY & CO, one of the most popular comic series in Flanders, and the author of his own series BETTY & DODGE. Dodge is a young photographer and Betty a British lady. Together they travel around the world in the late thirties.

THIS TIME BILL HAD A BIG STORY TO SELL.



OUR SECRET RENDEZVOUS TOOK PLACE AT THIS OLD BRIDGE OVER CHEVELON CANYON ALONG A STRETCH OF ROUTE 66 THAT WAS OUT OF SERVICE...

THE YEAR WAS 1966. AS MY SOURCE INSIDE NASA BILL KAYSING HAD BEEN VERY USEFUL FOR MY SCIENCE COLUMN IN THE NEW YORK TIMES. I KNEW HE WOULDN'T DISAPPOINT ME ON THAT VERY DAY... NASA WAS UP TO 'SOMETHING'.



IS 'IT' FROM ANOTHER WORLD, BILL?

YOU TELL ME, MISTER VAN ALLEN. I WON'T GO IN THERE TWICE!

I DID TAKE SOME SAFETY PRECAUTIONS. YOU NEVER KNEW WHAT NASA HAD STUMBLED ON. A METEOR FROM OUTER SPACE WITH THINGS ON IT JUMPING YOU RIGHT IN THE FACE. SCRATCHING YOUR EYES OUT ...



BE MY GUEST, MR. VAN ALLEN...



IT LOOKS PRETTY INTELLIGENT... PROBABLY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD... FROM SOME LOST CIVILIZATION THAT WAS HERE ON EARTH LONG BEFORE MANKIND...

BILL HAD A VIVID IMAGINATION ...



I HAVE TO TAKE IT TO SOME GUY NAMED 'KUBRICK'. PLEASE HURRY!



I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF IT AT THE TIME, BUT THREE YEARS LATER, ON THAT FAMOUS HOT SUMMER NIGHT OF 69 ...

... ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN...

... I REALIZED WHAT A BIG STORY I HAD MISSED.

LOPE DEVRÖE



IT WON'T BITE, I GUESS, BUT HURRY... I DON'T LIKE IT HERE...

CHEVELON CANYON BRIDGE, ARIZONA (USA)

Illustrated by Lode Devroe

Sponsored by

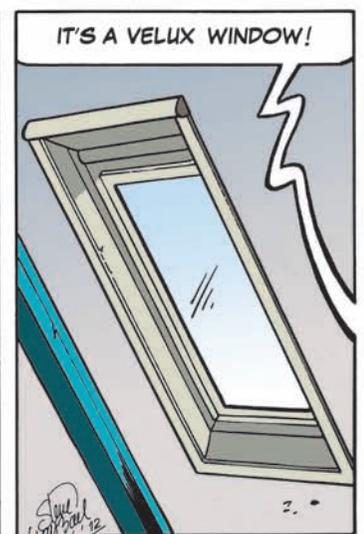
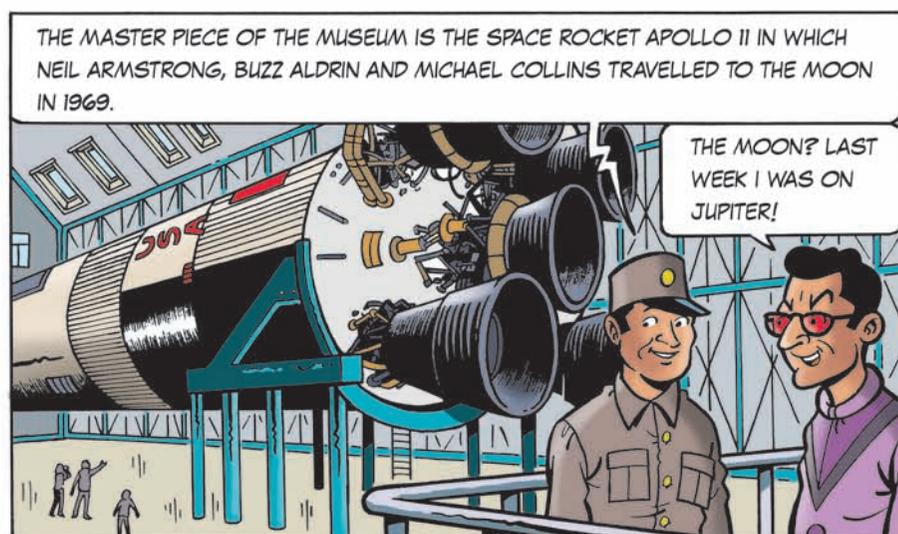
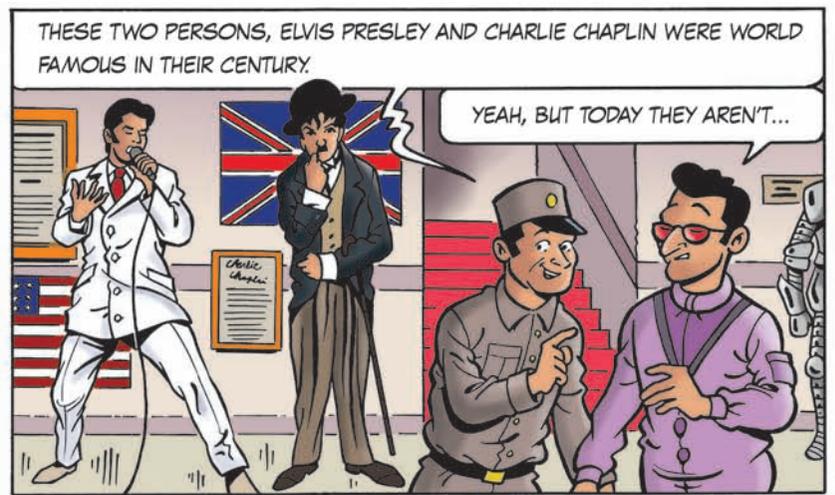
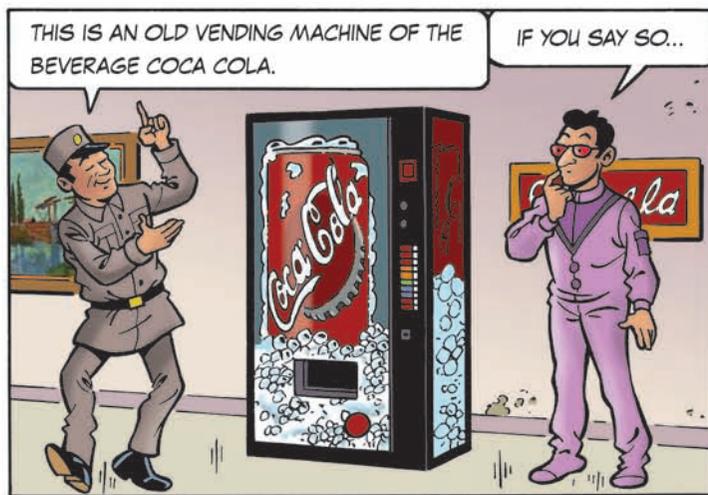
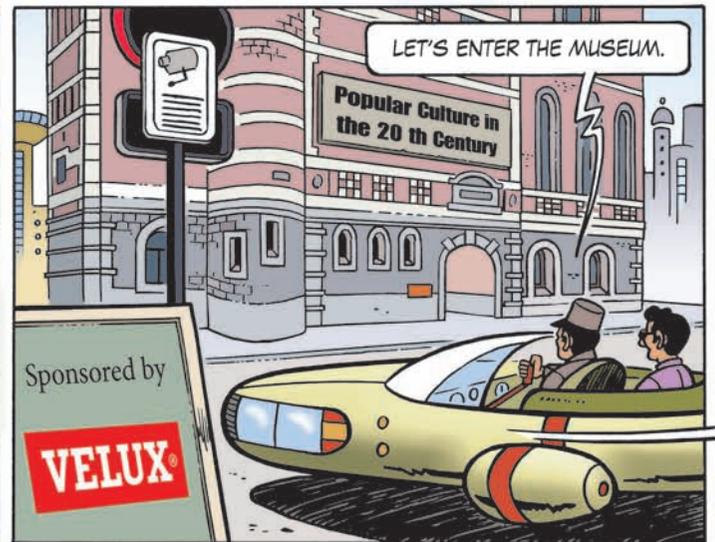
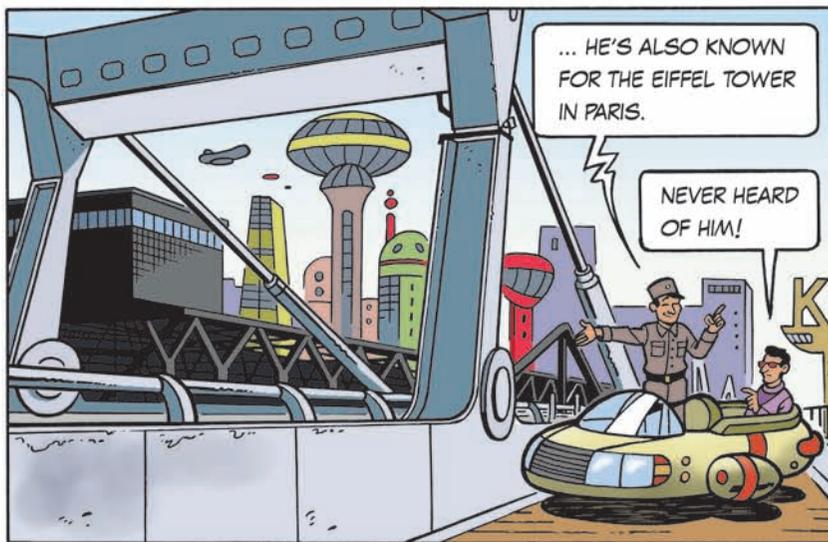
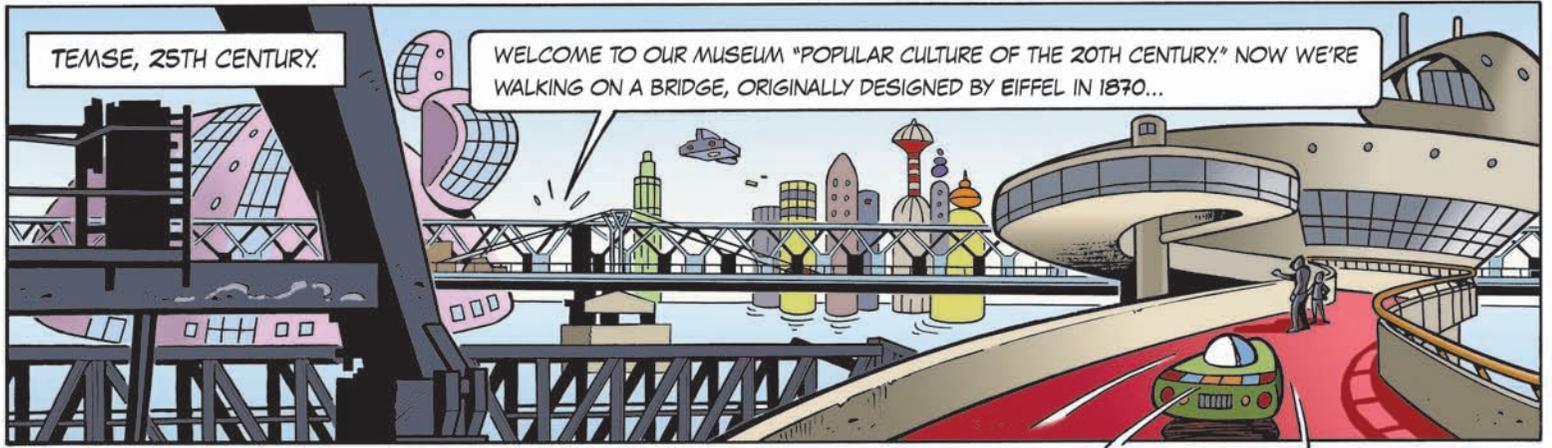


BigMat is the first international chain of independent traders for construction materials. BigMat offers construction professionals and large-scale DIYers a range of high-quality building materials for new builds and refurbishment, acting as the main link in the professional ladder between the manufacturer and the end client.

Created by the heads of companies close to their professional clients in 1981, BigMat has since shared their same values of being anchored locally and having a human dimension as the strength behind building SMEs. In Belgium, BigMat is a network of 27 sales outlets in Wallonia.

With over 820 sales outlets in Europe (Belgium, France, Spain, Italy and Czech Republic) and a desire to grow sustainably in several countries, BigMat represents an unstoppable force in the construction materials market.

More information on www.bigmat.be or www.bigmat.com (in English).



TEMSE BRIDGE, TEMSE (BELGIUM)

Illustrated by Steve Van Bael

Sponsored by

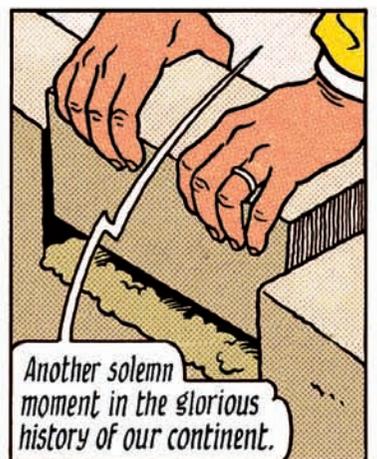
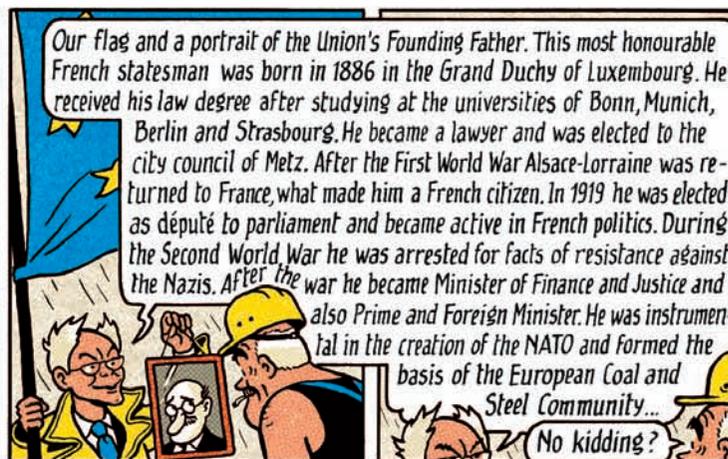
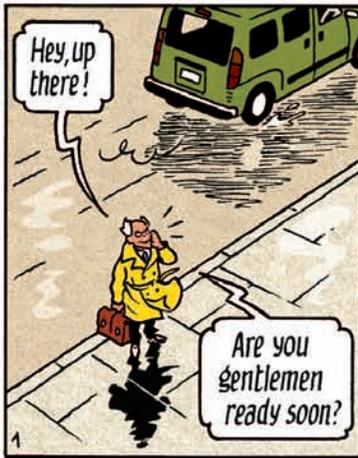


The VELUX name is derived from two words – Ventilation and Lux, the Latin word for light. The VELUX Group, which has manufacturing companies in 11 countries and sales companies in just under 40 countries, is one of the strongest brands in the global building materials sector and its products are sold in most parts of the world.

The VELUX Group has about 10,000 employees. The VELUX Group head office is in Hørsholm, north of Copenhagen. The VELUX Group creates better living environments with daylight and fresh air through the roof. VELUX product programme contains a wide range of roof windows and skylights, along with solutions for flat roofs. In addition, the VELUX Group offers many types of decoration and sun screening, roller shutters, installation products, products for remote control and thermal solar panels for installation in roofs. VELUX Technology also supplies original VELUX components to our partners working in the field of roof window sunscreening.

Steve Van Bael (°1978 - www.studiosteve.eu): Steve has won several illustration competitions at school. After his first promotional comic for a comic festival and between some assistant jobs for Studio MAX! (the comic series STAM & PILOU, the two young mascottes of the Belgian

postal services) and FANNY & CO, he publishes his own series, LINK and FIGARO. Nowadays he's working on a biographical story in a more realistic style for the Dutch/Flemish organisation EurEducation.



EUROPA Building © Philippe SAMYN and PARTNERS, architects & engineers LEAD and DESIGN PARTNER, Studio Valle Progettazioni architects, Buro Happold Limited engineers.

EUROPA BUILDING, BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)

Illustrated by Dirk Stallaert

Sponsored by



From capital goods (machine tools, aerospace, etc.), consumer durables (automotive, household appliances, etc.), fast moving consumer goods (food, health, electronics, etc.) and packaging, construction and renovation of buildings, most of end markets served by Imerys' specialty minerals held well overall compared with 2010, a year of sharp upturn and inventory rebuilding. The Group benefited from the vigor of emerging countries, where it made 27% of its sales.

In 2011 Imerys records year of strong growth: financial results improved significantly and the Group invested for the future: external growth with the acquisition of Luzenac Group, industrial layout to enter new markets and expand its geographic presence.

Dirk Stallaert (°1955 - www.dirkstallaert.be): Before Dirk entered Studio Vandersteen as an assistant for SPIKE AND SUZY, he took care of two other popular Flemish family series, NERO and FANNY & CO. He manages different styles but is mostly known for his humoristic style. With stand-up comedian and actor Urbanus he's on top of absurd gags

for children. For the magazine TINTIN he drew NINO, about an orphan who experiences his big adventure in the States during the thirties. The three albums were published in Europe, Canada and Turkey. He's also known as the man who turned down BLAKE AND MORTIMER to follow in the footsteps of its creator. Dirk wished to follow his own path.

This artbook was made possible with the support of the following commercial members:



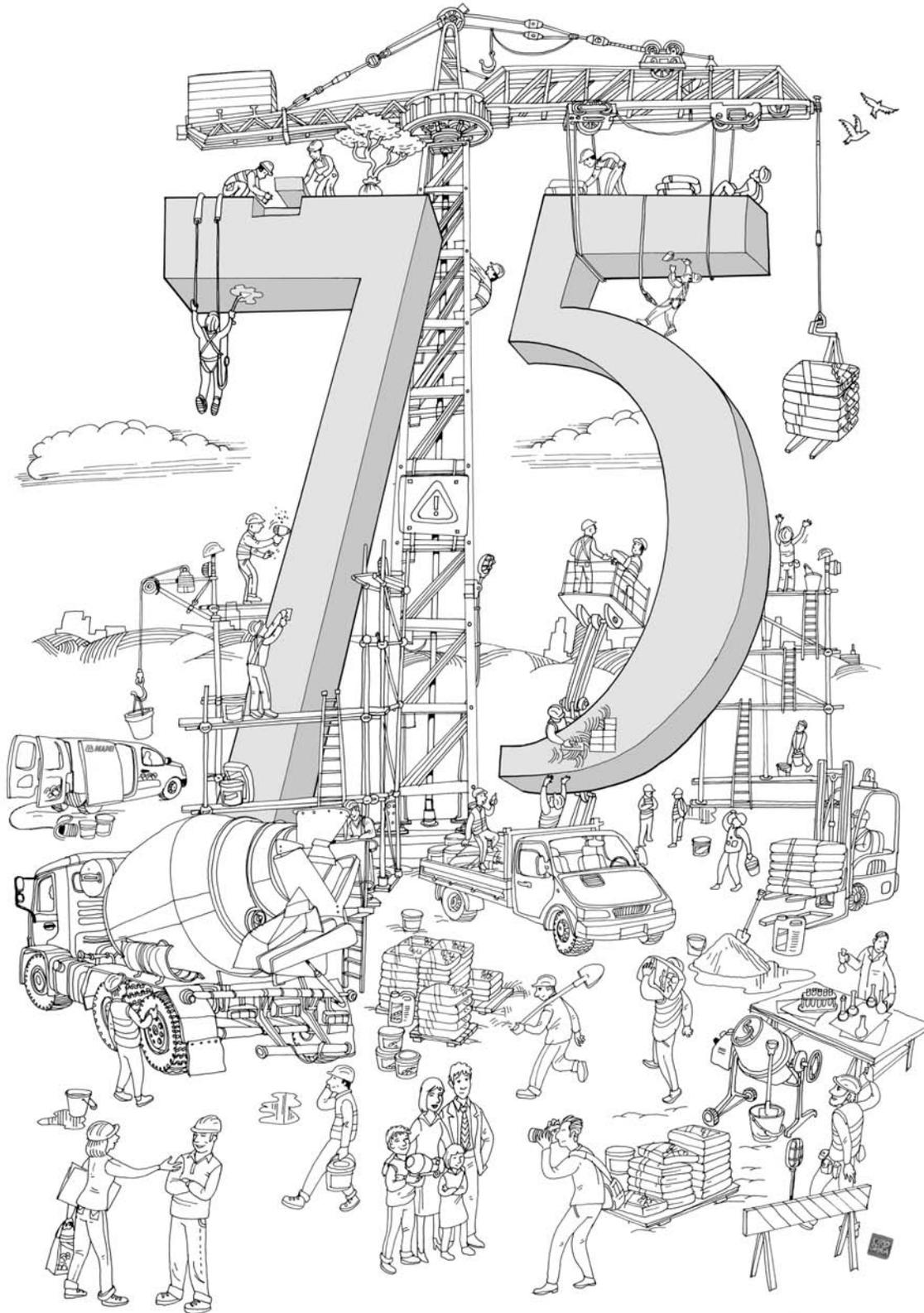
Industrial members:



Adherent members:



Winner 2011 Ufemat-award at Copenhagen



For 75 years we've been helping to build large and small dreams.

For 75 years, Mapei has been at the top with their quality chemical products for the building industry, products for a better job on both large and small sites. Their commitment became reality with 59 production facilities in the 5 continents, 18 main Research & Development centres with more than 900 researchers, a range of more than 1,400 products and more than 200 new products every year. These are the "figures" which make Mapei the leading international Group of chemical products for the building industry. **Discover the world of Mapei: www.mapei.com**

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