

## **Heidelberg Materials Benelux's ANTHEMIS gets support from the EU Innovation Fund**

**Braine-l'Alleud, 04 November 2025 – The ANTHEMIS carbon capture project in Heidelberg Materials' clinker plant in Antoing has been selected by Europe's Innovation Fund for Grant Agreement Preparation. These grants are awarded to industries deploying innovative near-zero technologies.**

In order to contribute to the decarbonization strategy of Belgium and to the EU climate targets, Heidelberg Materials Benelux plans to equip its Antoing clinker plant with a carbon capture unit. The project, called ANTHEMIS (an acronym for **Antoing Heidelberg Materials Emissions Integrated Solution**) is based on an innovative oxyfuel carbon capture unit.

Gunnar Ullrich, General Manager Heidelberg Materials Benelux, said: "Being selected for the Grant Agreement Preparation represents a significant milestone and brings us meaningfully closer to realizing the vision behind ANTHEMIS. It serves as a strong validation of the project's potential. This support is an encouraging sign providing both momentum and confidence to advance our work—yet it is one of several essential conditions for success."

Heidelberg Materials Benelux is also currently seeking other financial support from national and regional funds. In this context, the Antoing site has also been preselected by the Walloon government to receive support from the Just Transition Fund (JTF), co-financed by the Walloon Region and the European Union. These subsidies will be granted to Walloon manufacturers implementing solutions to limit their environmental footprint. The decision by the Walloon Government is expected by the end of 2025.

A permit application for the construction of the carbon capture facilities is currently underway, marking another important condition toward the deployment of the CCS plant besides the current clinker plant.

### **Drastic reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

Thanks to its recent modernization, the plant's kiln is ready to integrate CCS technology without major reconstruction. This smart reuse of existing infrastructure significantly reduces the project's carbon footprint. Once operational, the unit will capture over 95% of the site's emissions — equivalent to more than 800,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Through the ANTHEMIS project's operation, Heidelberg Materials plans to supply its customers with evoZero®— world's first carbon captured near-zero cement retaining all the superior properties of traditional cement.

**Kick-starter of a whole value chain**

While the ANTHEMIS project focuses on the carbon capture process, Heidelberg Materials Benelux is establishing collaborations with several partners to ensure the transport and permanent storage of CO<sub>2</sub>, with the ambition of building a full value chain — with the Antoing site as a key catalyst. Preliminary agreements have been signed with Fluxys and Equinor, that are necessary to develop the onshore and offshore pipeline infrastructure to transport CO<sub>2</sub> to permanent storage sites in the North Sea, off the coast of Norway.

To ensure successful deployment, Heidelberg Materials Benelux is actively collaborating with national and European authorities to establish a coherent and supportive framework that will allow the project to enter into operation as planned.

**Heidelberg Materials Benelux Antoing's environmental excellence**

The Antoing site also stands out for its environmental commitment. Already recognized as one of the most energy-efficient clinker plants in the world, Heidelberg Materials Antoing has long operated using a dry-process technology that ensures efficient and sustainable production. While the company is gradually phasing out fossil fuels, 70% of the fuels that are currently used, come from alternative sources.

**About Heidelberg Materials Benelux**

Heidelberg Materials is one of the world's largest integrated manufacturers of building materials and solutions, with leading market positions in cement, aggregates, and concrete in Belgium and the Netherlands. The Benelux entity employs around 2,200 people across 80 production sites.

At the centre of our actions lies the responsibility for the environment. As the front runner on the path to carbon neutrality and circular economy in the building materials industry, we are working on sustainable building materials and solutions for the future. We enable new opportunities for our customers through digitalisation.

**Contact**

Fredericq Peigneux - Head of Government and Public Affairs, Tel +32 475 87 23 81,  
[fredericq.peigneux@heidelbergmaterials.com](mailto:fredericq.peigneux@heidelbergmaterials.com)