

PRESS RELEASE

Eurogypsum appoints Tristan Suffys as new Secretary General for the EU plaster and plasterboard industry

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Tristan Suffys has been appointed as the new Secretary General of Eurogypsum, the European Manufacturers Association for Plaster and Plasterboard Products. He will replace Thierry Pichon, who assumed this position temporarily for the past eight months.

Suffys, a French and Belgian national educated at Sciences Po Lille (France) and the ZEI Centre for European Integration Studies in Bonn (Germany), has significant experience in European public affairs and communications. During the past 15 years, he has worked for renowned consultancy firms, advising trade federations and large companies in the construction, energy and metal industry. Most recently, he was the Secretary General of the European Heating Oil Association, Eurofuel.

Commenting on his appointment, Suffys said: *"Gypsum is one of the most versatile and sustainable building materials and has so much potential to make buildings healthy, safe, sustainable and resilient for the future. I am thrilled to join an industry with such a good environmental, economic and societal record and with such existing projects ahead"*.

Eurogypsum, a Brussels-based association founded in 1961, is committed to promoting a sustainable built environment in Europe. Gypsum is a natural product used to manufacture plaster and plasterboards, which are widely used in buildings all over the world. Plasterboards, which are easy to install and dismantle, are particularly valued for their fire protection, sound and thermal insulation properties. They can also store and release humidity according to the ambient air quality. Eurogypsum has long been involved in projects to improve the quality of buildings and close the loop in the production and recycling of plasterboards.

Christoph Dorn, the President of Eurogypsum, Managing Director of Knauf Group Central Europe and Chairman of the Management Board of Knauf Gips KG, said: *"We are very pleased to have Tristan on board. 2019 will be a year of significant change in Brussels and we are looking forward*

to having him at the helm, setting the course of our organization in this important year for Europe”.

Suffys added: “I would like to thank Thierry Pichon for the great work he has carried out in the past months. I look forward to working closely with our members, European policy-makers and all partners to speed up the transition to a more sustainable built environment in Europe”.

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Eurogypsum is a European federation of national associations of producers of gypsum products (i.e. plaster and plasterboard). It is one of the few fully integrated industries (from cradle to cradle) within the construction products field. The companies which mine gypsum also process it and manufacture the value-added products and systems used extensively in construction and other industries.

With a turnover of EUR 7 billion, the European gypsum and anhydrite industry operates some 160 factories and 154 quarries and generates employment directly to 28,000 persons and indirectly for 300,000 persons. The Gypsum industry provides jobs to 1,100,000 plasterers and plasterboard installers. It trains around 25,000 persons per year across Europe.

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