## research&innovation



## Concrete eco friendly

Projects to find materials that have less impact on the environment

The European Commission is deploying funds through the Horizon 2020 programme to test new construction materials - cement and coatings that are more environmentally fri endly.

One recent project, which started in January 2018, is called "EnDurCrete", Grant Agreement 760639. It is coordinated by the German corporation HeidelbergCement and includes Nuova Tesi System S.r.l., a Grigolin SpA company, as one of the partners focusing on industrial and commercial prefab structures.

"The main objective of the project," Marco Nucci, coordinator for Nuova Tesi, explained, "is to develop a new low-clinker cement with lower  $CO_2$  emissions and incorporating industrial by-products, including nano-particles with anti-corrosion properties. The underlying idea is to develop solutions able to with-



stand aggressive environments; as a result, current testing is looking at applications in special environments, such as an oil&gas platform, a tunnel, a dock, the piers of a bridge."

This is not the Venetian company's first experience of this kind. "We are working on three EU projects at the moment (www.veep-project.eu, www.ecobinder-project.eu, www.endurcrete.eu); these are important opportunities for us, both to learn about different contexts from our own and to anticipate developments in the prefabricated market. Moreover, these are high-value environmental projects: it is only right that operators in this sector, like ourselves, try to improve the environment..."

