

## PRESS INFORMATION

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### GIC 2026 SET TO BREAK NEW RECORDS ON 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*International concrete exhibition GIC – taking place 16-18<sup>th</sup> April at Piacenza Expo in Italy – is on course to surpass both the exhibitor and visitor records set at the last edition in 2024, with a focus on sustainability, competitiveness, and safeguarding critical bridge, tunnel, and airport infrastructure.*



*The Saint-Gobain stand at GIC 2024.*

The European concrete sector will once again turn its attention to northern Italy as [GIC](#) – Italian Concrete Days – returns to Piacenza from 16-18<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Since the exhibition was first held 10 years ago, GIC has evolved from a strong national showcase into an international meeting point for the full concrete supply chain. As of February 2026, exhibitor bookings are set to exceed the 263 companies represented at the last edition in 2024, with around a third joining from outside Italy.

“GIC 2026 is gearing up to be another busy event,” said Fabio Potestà, director of Mediapoint & Exhibitions, the organisers of GIC. “Booked exhibition space, including outdoor areas, has already exceeded previous editions at this point in the year.

“It’s also exciting to see so many international participants registered – from France, Germany, Spain, and the UK, as well as further afield. This shows that GIC is no longer just Italy’s concrete exhibition, rather a continental hub for contractors, equipment suppliers, and materials specialist assessing their European strategy.”

**A focused format with growing European reach**

The success of GIC lies in its clarity of purpose. Unlike broader construction exhibitions, its scope is tightly defined around equipment, materials, and technologies for the entire concrete lifecycle. From aggregates extraction and processing to batching and transport, from precast production to in-situ construction, maintenance, demolition, and recycling, the event offers a comprehensive yet concentrated overview of the sector.

That specialisation has proven attractive, showing a steady upward trend that drew more than 6,000 visitors in 2024. Feedback from participants has consistently highlighted the value of meeting a targeted audience, rather than competing for attention within a vast, general construction show environment.

For 2026, the organisers Mediapoint & Exhibitions are building on that momentum. The exhibition floor will once again be complemented by a large outdoor demonstration area, allowing OEMs to showcase their heavy equipment in action. This practical element, combined with an intensive three-day conference programme, positions GIC as both a commercial marketplace and a technical forum.



*Heavy equipment in the outdoor area of GIC 2024.*

### **Infrastructure in the spotlight**

While GIC's appeal is pan-European, its Italian context provides a timely backdrop. Italy continues to channel significant investment into transport infrastructure, much of it supported through the country's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP). As projects move from planning to execution, the emphasis is shifting towards delivery, inspection, and long-term maintenance.

Accordingly, the 2026 conference programme will devote significant attention to the monitoring and inspection of bridges, tunnels, and viaducts, with a strong focus on best practice in safeguarding critical infrastructure. For other European engineers and asset owners facing similar challenges around concrete ageing, these sessions promise valuable cross-border insights.

The presence of the Italian Air Force – which will host a conference on airport paving in both military and civil contexts – adds further technical depth. Airside concrete design, durability, and maintenance are niche but strategically important topics as airports across Europe modernise and expand.

### **Sustainability and competitiveness**

As across the rest of Europe, decarbonisation and the energy transition remain central themes for the Italian concrete industry. The implementation of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) revisions and the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) from 2026 have direct implications for cement and other energy-intensive construction materials.

GIC 2026 will provide a platform for discussing how manufacturers, contractors, and policymakers can balance environmental ambition with industrial competitiveness. For international exhibitors and visitors, these debates are far from theoretical as regulatory alignment and cost structures increasingly influence cross-border supply chains and investment decisions.

At the same time, practical solutions – from low-carbon admixtures and alternative binders to advanced recycling technologies – are expected to feature strongly on the exhibition floor. The integration of demolition and aggregates recovery within the show's scope reflects the industry's accelerating shift towards circularity.



*The packed MAPEI stand at GIC 2024.*

### **Strong institutional and association backing**

Another factor underpinning GIC's growth is the breadth of industry support. More than 60 trade associations have already accredited the 2026 edition including key Italian bodies such as FEDERBETON (the Italian cement and concrete association), ASSOBTETON (the Italian concrete manufacturers' association), and ATECAP (the Italian association for ready-mixed concrete).

Internationally, the event has secured patronage for the first time from BIBM, the global federation representing the precast concrete industry. This endorsement signals growing recognition of GIC beyond Italy's borders and aligns with the increasing prominence of precast and modular construction across Europe.



*CIFA celebrated 50 years of the Magnum mixer pump at GIC 2024.*

### **Celebrating innovation across the lifecycle**

GIC's influence extends beyond the exhibition and conference halls. The opening evening will once again host the ICTA – Italian Concrete Technology Awards – recognising companies and professionals who have distinguished themselves through innovation and performance over the past 18 months.

The opening night's festivities culminate in the high-energy GIC by Night. This late-night opening sees the Piacenza Expo pavilions come alive with DJs, live entertainment, and a showcase of local food and wine from the Emilia-Romagna region. It's a fun tradition where customers and suppliers can strengthen relationships in a relaxed environment after the day's technical discussions.

Then on 17<sup>th</sup> April, the Italian Demolition & Recycling Awards – returning for a second edition – will spotlight excellence in decommissioning and materials recovery, reinforcing the event's commitment to covering the full lifecycle of concrete structures. These ceremonies, as well as GIC by Night, create an environment where technical exchange and business development go hand in hand.

“As supply chains internationalise and regulatory frameworks converge, the ability to engage with peers, clients, and suppliers from across Europe in a highly focused setting becomes more valuable,” said Fabio Potestà. “GIC's scale is substantial enough to offer breadth, yet compact enough to allow meaningful conversations. We are looking forward to welcoming all participants to Piacenza this April!”



From 16-18<sup>th</sup> April, GIC at Piacenza Expo will once again provide a snapshot of where the concrete industry stands – and where it is heading next. For those looking to understand and influence that direction, it is a date in the concrete sector calendar worth considering.

**Find out more or register for your free visitor pass at [www.gic-expo.it/en](http://www.gic-expo.it/en).**

Ends.

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## **ABOUT GIC**

Established in 2016, GIC has grown from an Italian event to become the biggest European exhibition and conference specifically dedicated to the concrete industry, technologies, plants, equipment, and materials for concrete masonry, the refurbishment and the demolition of concrete structures, the precast industries, concrete paving and screeds, and the recycling and transport of aggregates. GIC is organised by Mediapoint & Exhibitions, an Italian media house providing trade publications, websites, exhibitions, and conferences across 30 sectors since 1993.

[gic-expo.it](http://gic-expo.it)