

## Joint Press Release

Athens, November 2022

### **HERACLES Group enters dynamically in the management of excavation, construction and demolition waste (ECDW)**

*We are driving the transition to sustainable construction with a major investment in the management of excavation, construction and demolition wastes.*

**HERACLES Group** is announcing that it is joining the Collective ECDW Management System, PEDMEDE ECO.

PEDMEDE ECO has been established by the Panhellenic Association of Engineers Contractors of Public Works (PEDMEDE).

The geographical scope of PEDMEDE ECO extends to the regions of Attica, Thessaloniki, Achaia, Evia, Magnesia, Aitolokarnania, Arcadia, Boeotia, Evros, Evritania, Iliia, Heraklion, Thira, Ioannina, Corfu, Kozani, Larissa, Pella, Rodopi, Sporades, Syros, Tinos, Trikala, Chania and Chios.

This investment is consistent with HERACLES Group's strategy on the implementation of the circular economy model in the construction sector. It is a strategic venture that gives new impetus to the management of ECDW with multiple environmental and social benefits, as rational management of construction waste saves natural resources and energy.

Excavation, construction and demolition wastes (ECDW) is one of the most “productive” waste sectors in the European Union (EU), producing approximately 850 million tonnes annually and accounting for 25-30% of the total wastes in the EU. They are produced during new constructions and total or partial demolition of buildings as well as infrastructure projects and road works in general. Therefore, ECDW consist of different construction materials (concrete, metals, glass, wood, bricks, plastics, asphalt, soil, plaster), many of which can be recycled. The recycling of ECDW has been set as a priority by the EU and is reflected in Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament. According to the same Directive, which was transposed into Greek law in 2010, all Member States must achieve a recycling rate of at least 70% by 2020.

**Mr. Dimitris Chanis, HERACLES Group CEO, stated:** “This cooperation is fully in line with the Group's “green” strategy, since ECDW management and reuse is one of the biggest challenges for sustainable construction. Through the use of ECDW, HERACLES Group contributes to its transformation from potential sources of pollution and degradation of the urban and natural

environment, into valuable raw materials, with multiple benefits for the economy and the environment, as it is already the case in several European countries.”

Mr. **Michalis Daktylidis, President of PEDMEDE**, in turn stated that: “The strategic cooperation between the leading HERACLES Group, member of Holcim Group, and PEDMEDE, the largest association of engineers, contractors of public works and the only one with European representation, marks a new beginning for the management of ECDW and the operation of PEDMEDE ECO. Guided by the credibility and reliability of PEDMEDE ECO, it is certain that both companies will achieve and promote their common targets regarding circular economy as well as restructuring and upgrading of the sector.”

### HERACLES Group of Companies

***Heracles Group of Companies**, member of Holcim, is Greece's largest cement producer and has been serving the market for more than 100 years. With a network of 36 production and commercial sites across Greece, the Group is leading the transformation of the building materials industry into a less carbon-intensive one that applies the principles of circular economy in terms of resource use. Heracles Group offers innovative products and sustainable solutions to the Greek and international markets that meet the diverse needs of customers and the requirements of modern sustainable construction.*

For further information, please visit: [www.lafarge.gr](http://www.lafarge.gr)

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### **About Holcim**

*Holcim builds progress for people and the planet. As a global leader in innovative and sustainable building solutions, Holcim is enabling greener cities, smarter infrastructure and improving living standards around the world. With sustainability at the core of its strategy Holcim is becoming a net zero company, with its people and communities at the heart of its success. The company is driving the circular economy as a world leader in recycling to build more with less. Holcim is 70,000 people around the world who are passionate about building progress for people and the planet through four business segments: Cement, Ready-Mix Concrete, Aggregates and Solutions & Products.*

*For more information please visit [www.holcim.com](http://www.holcim.com); you can find out more about the Group's new vision at [www.holcim.com/about-holcim](http://www.holcim.com/about-holcim)*

### **About PEDMEDE**

***Panhellenic Association of Engineers Contractors of Public Works (PEDMEDE)** representing the construction sector in Greece upon its establishment in 1935, covers all the range of companies dealing with the construction of public works. Its members are individuals, contractors of public works as well as technical*

companies from grade A1 up to grade 7 (the upper grade), classification made by the Greek Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport.

PEDMEDE is the sole Greek Construction Association representing the country in a European level by being member of :

- **FIEC**- European Construction Industry Federation, European Social partner
- **EIC**- European International Contractors
- **EDA**- European Demolition Association
- **EDI** – European Decontamination Institute
- **ACRP**- European Association for Construction, Repair, reinforcement & Protection

