



# RIMA

Robotics for Inspection  
and Maintenance

**ROAD, RAIL AND CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE**



**Bertrand Pouteau, Eurovia Research Center**



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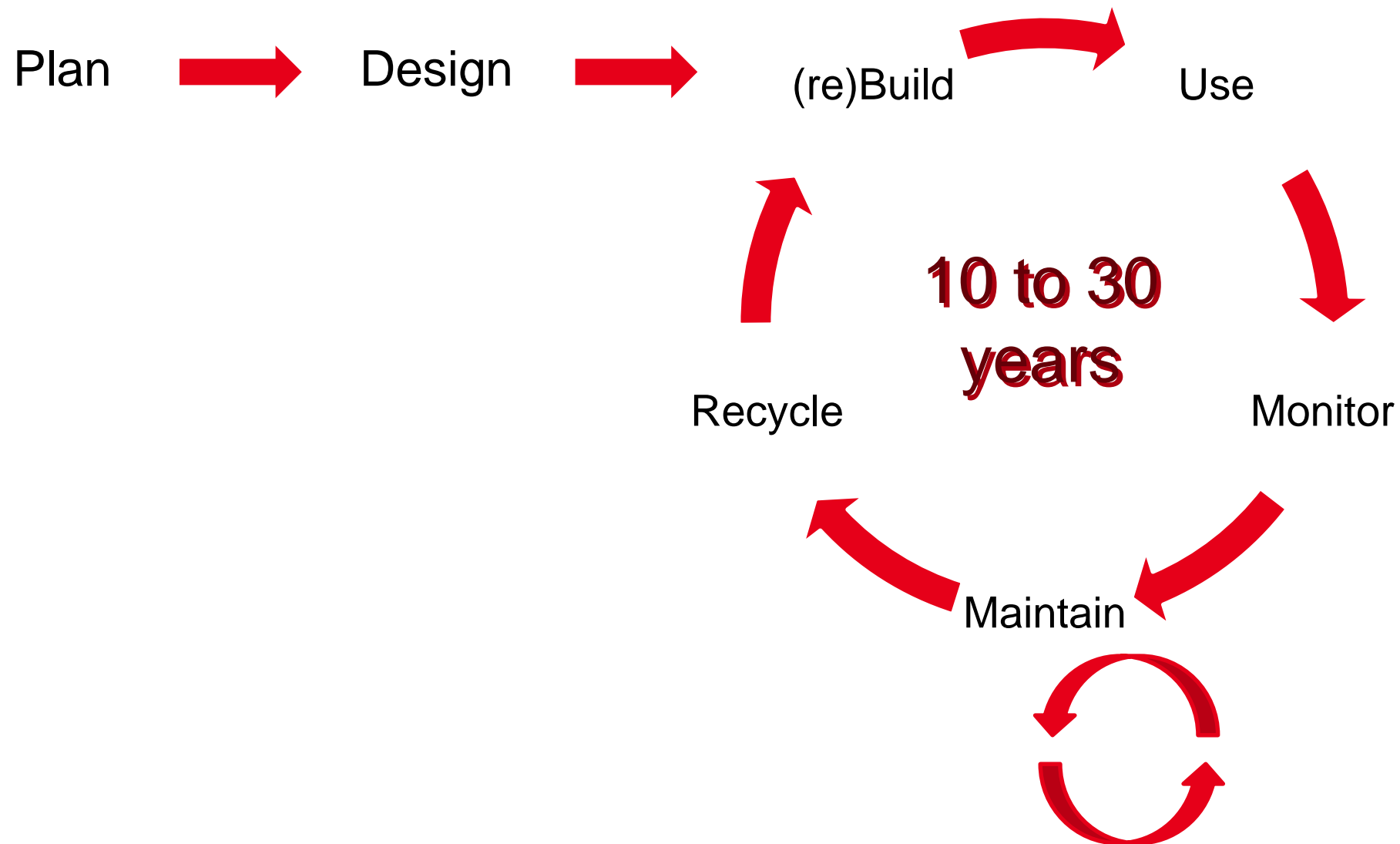
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ASPHALT  
CONCRETE  
ROADS

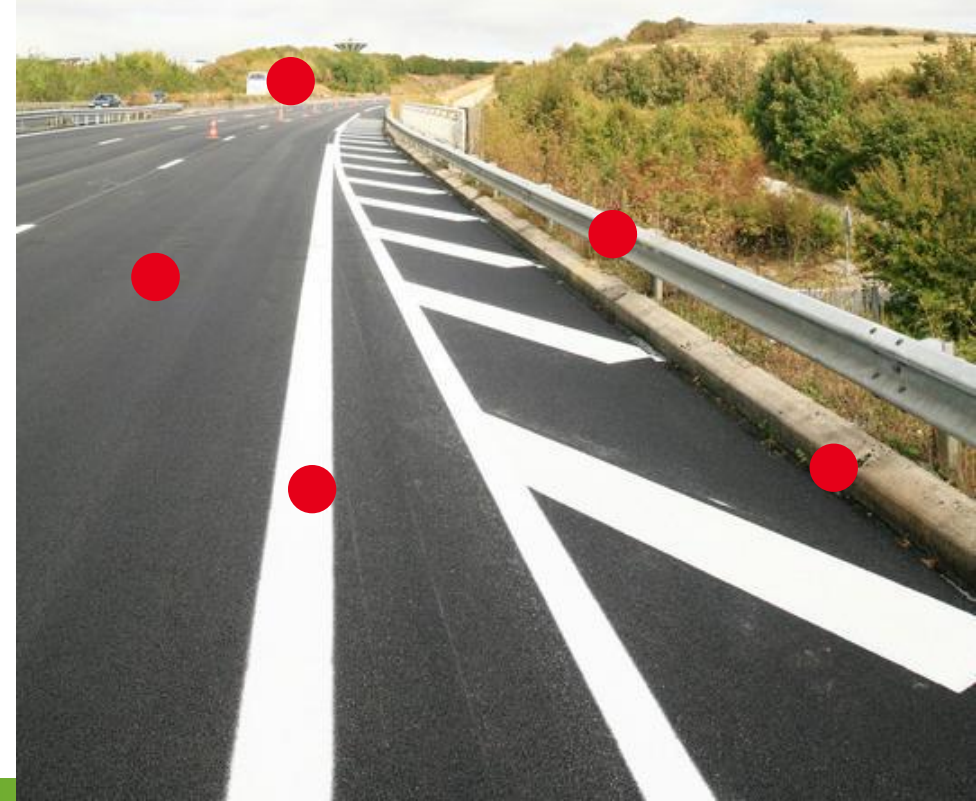
18 MILLIONS KM  
WORLDWIDE.





## ROAD, RAIL AND CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Road, Rail and Civil infrastructure involve all the **road-related** and rail-related components that exist inside and outside the cities, as well as any other civil infrastructure within a city
- The transportation hubs such as stations, transportation warehouses, ports, airports etc. are not included
- The **peripheral infrastructure** is also included, such as traffic-lights, tolls, tunnels, bridges, lane separation structures, road lights, traffic lights, tunnel fans, power cables, signals and signs.





## CHALLENGE 1:

## INCREASE EFFICIENCY IN THE I&M ACTIVITIES OF CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE

- On a motorway, the infrastructure is not 100% available to citizens – it is essential to reduce the time inspectors need to do the respective I&M operations.
- I&M activities must be stealthy, especially in urban areas – without negative environmental impact, noises, odours, dust, etc.
- **Manual I&M activities, after an 8-hour shift, lead to low quality results**
- Minimize the time that facilities are not available due to I&M activities
- Increase cost-efficiency in the accomplishment of I&M activities.
- Use multi-sensing inspection robots in order to detect defects in different infrastructures (rails, tunnels, etc.).





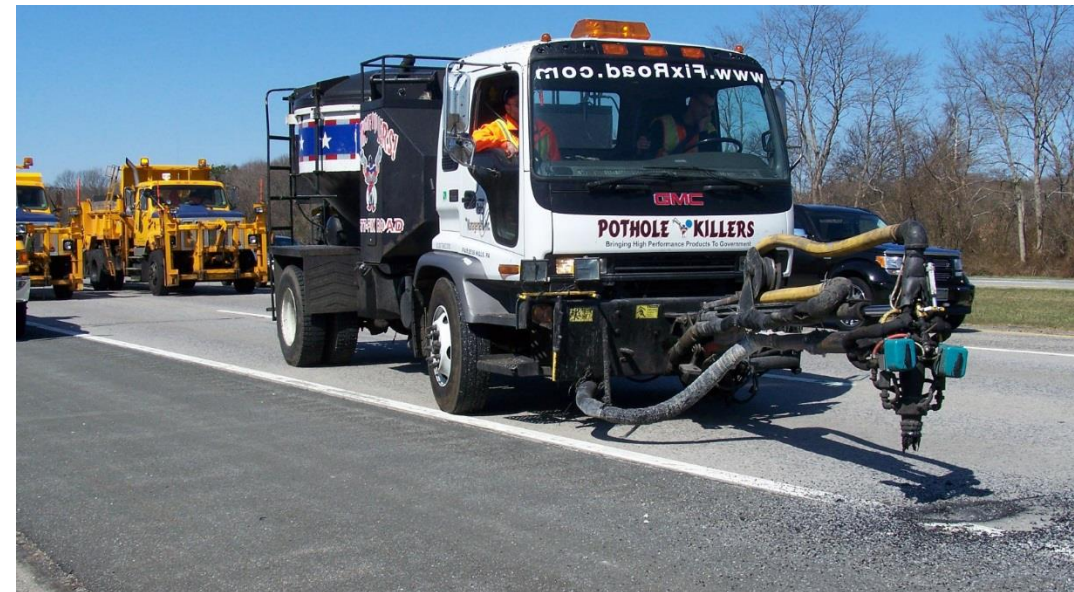
## CHALLENGE 2: REDUCE RISK FOR WORKERS DURING I&M ACTIVITIES ON CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURES

- During I&M operations, operators need to access and work in **high-risk areas such as motorways where vehicles pass-by at high-speed.**
- In some cases, coring or **sampling unknown material(s)** onsite implies a specific method of sampling to preserve the health and safety (H&S) for the operators.
- This challenge is expected to be addressed by introducing innovative robotic [...] **while the operators control them remotely and in safety**, such as aerial robots. More specifically
- **Increase supporting tools** that will assist the operators during the execution of I&M activities.
- Introduce safety resources that will supervise the operators' activity.
- Safety approved devices and methods that will increase the operators' safety during the execution of I&M activities.



## CHALLENGE 4: WORKER – MACHINE ON JOBSITE COOPERATION

- As technology evolves, people are **using more and more heavy machinery and automation systems to perform I&M activities on job sites**. For this reason, a high level of autonomy should be reached by each resource in order to cooperate efficiently. This challenge aims to be addressed by the following technologies:
- Efficient autonomous navigation and motion planning on jobsites with obstacle avoidance capabilities.
- Automation tools, such as **product pouring machines** that follow a predefined path or jobsite cleaning machines that **automate repetitive tasks**.
- Task planning, scheduling, and job organization algorithms that can help operators and their supervisors to track any open issues in time





## ROADS: INFINITE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION



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