

First cycle path made from recycled plastic

An experimental bicycle track made from recycled plastic has opened in the Netherlands as part of a project that could lead to more sustainable roads being rolled out across the country



Zwolle: Cycle path will test **PlasticRoad** material developed by Dutch firms **KWS** and **Wavin**, in partnership with France's **Total**

Plastic Road



Rotterdam

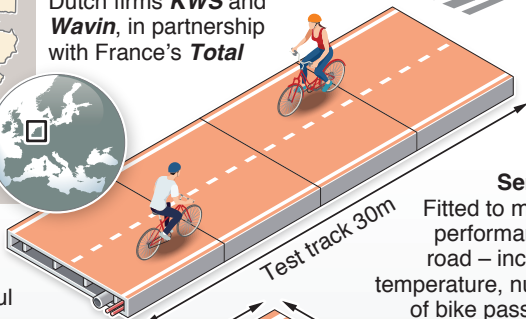
Could be first to adopt technology if tests are successful

Prefabrication

Road sections made in factory and transported to site. Lightweight modules can be lifted into place, or removed and recycled

Surface: Fine gravel makes road more stiff and protects against UV radiation

Plastic: 70 percent recycled, remainder from polypropylene – track contains recycled plastic equivalent to more than 218,000 plastic cups



Test track 30m

2.4m

3m

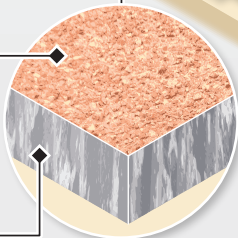
Sensors

Fitted to monitor performance of road – including temperature, number of bike passages, and durability

Temperature range
-40°C to 80°C

Bed of sand

Hollow interior allows for drainage channels, and gas and electricity conduits



Inventors claim plastic roads will last two-to-three times longer than conventional roads and be quicker to install, with fewer CO₂ emissions