

PRESS RELEASE

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CECIMO GIVES TIME TO EMO STAKEHOLDERS TO ADAPT TO NEW SCOPE OF ARTICLE 1.7 OF THE EMO RULES

CECIMO, the European Committee for Co-operation of the Machine Tool Industries, owner of EMO[®] the world's largest machine tool exhibition announces a new scope of its article 1.7 of the EMO rules. At the same time it was announced that exceptionally article 1.7 will not apply for EMO 2005 to give all stakeholders sufficient time to adapt to the new situation.

CECIMO has created in this way the precondition for the successful continuation of the EMO[®] as the leading and world's largest manufacturing technology exhibition.

Years ago the European Commission with some foresight found that the period of exclusivity around the bi-annual EMO would ensure the focus of the whole machine tool community on a single important exhibition. The European authority already at this time saw the benefits that such a focus would bring in terms of technological advances, efficient dissemination of new product ideas and the distribution of these products as such. Subsequent decision by the European Commission recognised that these benefits did indeed materialise and were shared with all stakeholders in this business.

This year the EU Commission reconfirmed that the benefits generated by this approach were still present and that, therefore the positive assessment of the EMO rules was still justified. CECIMO accepted that a general shift in administrative policy meant that for EMO too, the scope of the provision would need to be adapted. The exclusive period is now 6 months (May to October) instead of the full EMO year and article 1.7 would not apply for all exhibitions, but for exhibitions of metalworking machine tools only.

For all stakeholders: exhibitors, visitors, exhibition organisers and others to get used to this new scope the CECIMO General Assembly decided unanimously that the exclusivity provisions of article 1.7 will not be applicable for a transitional time period until 31 December 2005. Therefore it is not applicable for EMO 2005! In preparation of EMO 2007 in Hanover this transition period will be used to work on a smooth implementation of the new definition of article 1.7 of the EMO rules.

For further information, please contact the Secretary General of CECIMO: René Groothedde, tel: +32 (2) 502 70 90, e-mail: <u>info@cecimo.be</u>. CECIMO, the European Committee for Co-operation of the Machine Tool Industries owns EMO[®] in name of its members and has asked VDW, its German member association to organise on its behalf EMO 2005 in Hanover.

CECIMO represents 15 national associations in Europe and is the acknowledged voice for the European Machine Tool Industries, particularly in relation to authorities and other relevant national and international associations. CECIMO promotes the European Machine Tool Industry and its development in the fields of economy, technology and science. For further information on CECIMO please visit the CECIMO website: www.cecimo.be.

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