CECIMO General Assembly gathered in San Sebastian

European Factories of the Future Research Association

Interview with President Eguren: economic crisis and the machine tool industry

Amended Council regulation on export control of dual use items

New EU legislative framework for market surveillance

Count down for EMO Milano 2009
The European machine tool industry gave its response to the economic crisis from San Sebastian, at the CECIMO General Assembly held on 7-8 June.

CECIMO has become founding member of the European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA) set up by Manufuture.

We have interviewed Mr. Javier Eguren, the President of CECIMO and talked with him about the effects of the economic crisis on the machine tool industry and a possible exit strategy.

An article by the Economic and Market Intelligence Department of CECIMO elaborating the controversial Council regulation and its impact on the Machine Tool industry.

The New Legislative Framework adopted by the European Commission in 2008 consists of a package of measure which introduces better rules for market surveillance and to protect both customers and producers from unsafe products.

The largest Machine Tools fair in Europe will take place in Milan this year.

Welcome to the world of Machine Tools

Dear all,

Welcome to the first edition of the CECIMO magazine. The machine tool industry is the keystone to ensure manufacturing in Europe. The machine tool sector contributes to the Lisbon Agenda aim to make the European Union the most competitive economy in the world. About this we want to communicate with you. This is what you need to know! We want to inform and dialogue with you about the achievements and innovations of our sector, their challenges and the socio-economical and political issue they are confronted with.

We need manufacturing in Europe. A competitive European machine tool industry is a key element to achieve this objective. In order to remain competitive we need a business environment to market the most competitive manufacturing solutions worldwide. We need adequate legislation, skilled workforces, innovation, proper financing, good supply chain and infrastructure to name a few. Let us reflect with you in this Magazine how to reach this!

We want an exchange of views with you on how to boost our European machine tool industries’ competitiveness to face the challenges of globalisation, the fight against climate change / environmental protection, the importance of market surveillance/enforcement, the specific needs of SME’s and the lack of skilled labour force. We want to discuss and foster research and innovation.

May I also strongly encourage you to visit our website, a source of information on our technology and sector as well as on our opinions and position papers. The website also explains our structure, mission, objectives and activities.

We are a very promising sector. Therefore I would like to invite you to contribute to our work with ideas and knowledge. We will do all that we can to involve you in our work, and look forward to meeting with you to discuss ideas and proposals for topical and relevant policy work. So do not hesitate to post an article on our blog or to drop us an email: information@cecimo.eu. We will communicate about it in this Magazine twice a year in our summer and winter issues.

Let’s get in touch!

Mr. Filip Geerts, Director General of CECIMO
The European machine tools industry responds to the economic crisis from San Sebastian

European MT Industry gathered in Spain’s industrial heartland...

The CECIMO Spring General Assembly took place in San Sebastian on 7-8 June 2009. The theme of the GA was the response of the machine tool industries to the economic crisis and the GA hosted a series of workshops and conferences concentrating on this subject matter.

During the first day, delegates had the possibility to discuss the actions undertaken at European level against the downturn in breakout sessions. The main question raised in the workshops was “how to make use of the EU initiatives to overcome the economic crisis?”. The first workshop elaborated EU initiatives aiming at improving the general business environment whilst the second addressed public-private partnership with a focus on the Factories of the Future. The last workshop was dedicated to new business models during which results obtained from the EU-funded NEXT project were presented to the delegates and the representatives of the European machine tool industry. These latter took advantage of this forum to exchange opinions and best practices.

Another question that was tackled during presentations was “how to improve the image and communication of the MT industry towards the financial world?”. Experts from UNICREDIT and Bank Vontobel AG took the floor in these sessions.

Finally Peter Meier from ETH USP consulting presented his forecast study with regard to the impact of the economic recession on the MT sector.

European Machine Tool Industry hit by the economic recession

In the press release issued following the General Assembly it was confirmed that the machine tool industries have been hit seriously by the economic crisis. In particular, the drop in orders due to falling demand in consumer sectors such as the automotive industry stunted production. In the first quarter of 2009, 53% drop was observed in the MT production over Europe compared to the first quarter of the previous year.

In view of the continuing economic slowdown, machine tool industries voiced their concerns regarding a delayed recovery, which is not foreseen to happen before 2010 in the manufacturing sector. They stated that given its strategic position in nourishing the competitiveness of several end user sectors vital to economic growth and employment in Europe, the protection of the machine tool sector from the negative effects of the crisis should be a matter of priority for the European decision makers and legislators.

A message of determination

Despite the tough business environment and dark scenarios indicating a delayed recovery for the manufacturing sector, the European machine tool industries under the leadership of CECIMO are working to ward off the negative effects of the economic stalemate on their business.

CECIMO is going to make use of new forecast tools to help predict activities in the machine tool sector on the European and global scale. In addition, it will have recourse to macroeconomic indicators to guide the MT industry in adapting itself to the post-crisis economic environment and in adjusting the production levels.

Furthermore, the role of new business models in ensuring a faster recovery and their potential to help boost businesses at the time of economic upturn (when it starts) has been confirmed by the machine tool builders.

The conclusions of the GA affirmed, however, that despite all these efforts, the industry cannot alone cope with the subversive effects of an economic crisis which has its origins not inside the industry but elsewhere. It has been stated, therefore, that a real and quick recovery may not be ensured without the assistance of public decision makers at both national and European levels.
CECIMO becomes founding member of EFFRA

On 26 November 2008 the European Commission adopted a comprehensive action plan designed to provide a coordinated response to the economic crisis. This economic recovery package set out a strategy to stimulate ‘smart’ investments in key sectors in research, development and demonstration and to boost demand in order to help the European economy move away from the negative influence of the global economic stalemate. The European Commission decided that a fiscal stimulus package of 200 billion Euros (which equals 1.5% of EU GDP) would be used to achieve immediate recovery in identified key sectors, namely those which are the main drivers of the European economy and which provide the bulk of jobs.

The European Commission has decided to earmark a sum of 1.2 billion Euros to be jointly financed with industry for a research programme to support the automotive, construction and manufacturing industries in the development of new and sustainable technologies. The Factories of the Future, which is one of the three Public-Private partnerships (the other two being ‘Green Cars’ and ‘Energy Efficient Buildings’) identified by the Commission in the recovery plan aims at helping the European manufacturing industry and especially SMEs to adapt themselves swiftly to global competitive pressures and improve their research and technological base by investing in innovation and sustainable production solutions which will be the yardstick of competitiveness in manufacturing industries in the future.

The first step as a response to the Commission’s plans came from ‘ManuFuture’, the European Technology Platform on Manufacturing Industries, on 11 March 2009 which announced its willingness to engage into a partnership with the European Commission to implement the Factories of the Future Public-Private partnership.

Following this decision, ManuFuture set up a new industry-led R&D association, European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA).

In close cooperation with the European Commission, EFFRA will define the R&D priorities for the future of European industry and ensure to allocate funds to projects which have the greatest potential to contribute to the improvement of the technological base of the European manufacturing industry through the development of enabling manufacturing technologies with cross-sectoral benefits.

EFFRA represents a new vision for European R&D by placing the industry on equal footing with European public authorities in the identification and implementation of R&D unites the forces of supplier and customer companies, R&D institutes universities and trade associations by keeping membership open to representatives of these groups and it offers a membership configuration which spans the complete value chain.

CECIMO, which has previously played a leading role in foundation of ManuFuture, has become founding member of EFFRA with the decision of the CECIMO Spring General Assembly on 8 June 2009, in San Sebastian. As the representative of the European machine tool industries within EFFRA, CECIMO will pro-actively engage in the definition of the work programmes and the technological content of the research programmes. On the other hand, it will participate in the management of this brand new R&D association with the objective of encouraging the development of innovative manufacturing technologies, materials and processes which will enable industry to produce more, by consuming less energy and generating less waste.

The European Commission and industry announced the official launch date of the first round of research calls for proposals as 30 July 2009. The partnership between the Commission and industry is expected to prepare the manufacturing in Europe for a more competitive and greener future.

Interview with Mr Javier Eguren, the President of CECIMO

On the occasion of the CECIMO GA, we talked with Mr Eguren on the impact of the economic crisis on the machine tool industry

How has the economic crisis affected the machine tool industry?

Despite the fact that the crisis started in the financial markets, the effects on the manufacturing industry have been severe. The slowing demand has had repercussions for the manufacturing industry as a sharp fall in orders which has resulted in a plummeting level of production. According to the Oxford Economic Survey 2009, the global MT consumption is forecast to fall by 31% in 2009. Global GDP is estimated to drop by 2% over this year and industrial output by 8%. In particular, motor vehicles, steel and engineering industries which are the main customers of machine tool manufacturers are expected to be worst affected.

What about Europe?

The results of the same survey inform us that European consumption of MT is to fall by almost 40% in 2009. Orders have shown already significant drops in many European countries during the first quarter of this year but the full impact of the economic crisis is expected to be felt from the second half of the year due to a seven
month backlog. Nevertheless, European manufacturers are currently facing serious problems. The drying up of liquidity on the financial markets together with the tumbling demand have generated an overcapacity problem in industrial production. Therefore, machine tool manufacturers are trying to adjust their production capacity and business plans to the current situation whilst they struggle to find the liquidity required to maintain their production activity and to enable such an adjustment.

Is the European machine tool market affected more seriously compared to other markets in the world?

A 27% drop is forecast by the Oxford Economic Survey (2009) in the Asian market and 30% in US. However, the important question is how quickly the markets will recover. The US is expected to rebound more quickly due to the greater amount of stimulus in the pipeline in economic and monetary policy of the American government and to the weak US dollar which helps boost exports. As regards the Asian market, the Chinese consumption has demonstrated an upwards trend in the last years and despite the slowdown, consumption has fallen in China much less than in any other market. The demand for Machine tools in the Chinese market will determine the demand at global level. However, in Europe, lack of liquidity is forcing the MT end users to postpone their investments and to undergo capacity reduction, which risks delaying the pick up in the European economy.

What is needed to be done for the European machine tool sector to revert this downwards trend?

The global economic interdependence and the intertwined character of the economic crisis spanning economic and financial aspects deprive any national or regional government as well as any leading international company from the capacity to ward off the negative impacts on their own. The most effective response could be generated in a collective and coordinated action at both European and national levels which mainstreams economic, financial and RTD policy-related measures in an integrated action plan. This rescue package should include priority items among which the manufacturing industry takes its place in the first ranks given its vital position for the European economy and for the lives of European societies. Nonetheless, whilst undertaking such an action, the European Institutions should be very determined to exclude and discourage any measure which would hinder the effective functioning of the internal market and fair competition.

The European decision-makers should take into account that the impact of the slowdown in industrial production risks producing dangerous repercussions on sustainability. Layoffs and the closing down of companies due to the crisis would have the worst effect on the European economy in the long term and would put the post-crisis recovery at stake. The MT sector nourishes innovation and productivity in many sectors crucial for the European economy, such as automotive, aerospace and energy generation. A breakdown in the MT sector would have a serious effect on the whole manufacturing value chain.

Briefly, MT production should keep going without losing the highly skilled workforce it requires - a workforce which is hard and costly to train - and without halting investment in innovation. The access of companies to finance should be facilitated by effective fiscal and economic policies. Moreover, governments should not be reluctant to inject fiscal stimulus into the industry in the form of RTD and trade support schemes to ensure a prompt recovery. Presently, companies are still facing very serious problems in obtaining credit from banks.

What should the machine tool builders do on their end?

They have to recognize that the economy is in a decline cycle, and they should not be late to adapt their production capacity to the demand in the short and medium term and adopt new business methods and business models which would help obtain quick results in improving their position on the markets. The shape that this crisis has taken shows that traditional methods will fall short of the capacity to cope with the current challenges.

“...”

Furthermore, they should not slow down their investments in R&D, keeping in mind that research and innovation are the keys to achieving a high level of competitiveness in the long term and to retaining their leadership on the global markets. Lastly, can we have from you a few words on the CECIMO General Assembly?

We have had a very busy programme this year which focused mainly on the impact of the economic crisis on our industry. Over four days our delegates, who came from 15 leading European countries in the MT industry attended the seminars and workshops prepared by CECIMO and which were given by experts in research, technology and development (RTD), from the financial world, industry and academia. Vivid discussions were held with the aim of defining a strategy the European MT industry will follow to respond to the current challenges under the supervision of CECIMO.

I think that CECIMO General Assemblies offer a unique platform for our delegates, who are the representatives of the European machine tool industry, to meet twice a year to share their opinions with each other on various strategic issues and to exchange best practices. I believe it was a very successful GA during which important concrete decisions were taken for the future of our industry in view of the current economic downturn.

Lastly, I would like to stress that the CECIMO General Assembly is the voice of the European machine tool industry and accordingly the messages delivered by this platform should be taken into consideration very seriously by European decision makers and legislators and should be viewed as a valuable input from the industry in policy formulation. Effective communication between industry and policy makers brings about effective solutions.
The amended Council regulation on export control of dual use items

The amendment aims to ensure the balance between the ambitions for trade facilitation and WMD-related security concerns

The European Council adopted the Regulation 428/2009 on the export control of dual-use items on 5 May 2009 (see the Official Journal dated 29 May), after several months of standby. This adoption validates the amendments proposed by the European Commission to the Regulation 1334/2000.

CECIMO is much concerned with this Regulation since Machine Tools are on the list of items for which an export authorization is required by the competent authorities of the Member States. CECIMO has been following up the discussions on the amendment of the Council Regulation 1334/2000 for a few years now, and was part of the consultation process in 2005-2006 in order to explain the specificity of our sector and the difficulties and limits our companies face regarding some items in the existing Regulation such as the Catch All Clause and their impact on the well functioning of the Single Market.

Our members associations, national representations of machine tools builders in 15 European countries, know that most machine tools have dual use applications and therefore require export licences if they have a level of precision beyond certain limits and/or are shipped to certain destination countries. This practice aims to help maintain the international security and support the fight against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

CECIMO supports the amended Regulation which has been planned to adapt the previous legislation to a 27-member European Union and to improve trade facilitation for exporters while maintaining a certain level of security among Member States. This amendment had also been required by the constantly changing nature of modern technology and therefore a constantly updated list of products, technology and related services to be controlled.

CECIMO supports for instance the clarification as regards brokering, transits as well as the creation of additional Community General Export Authorisations, but regrets that the EU internal market does not function better. Exports controls are indeed not uniform among countries. In certain member states, it takes several months to get a licence and the catch-all clause is not applied with the same severity in all countries, which may distort the level playing field for companies of different countries of operations.

CECIMO agrees with some other industry representatives that ask for more simplification and more coordination and convergence among countries. Information and awareness on the sensitivity of products and of end-users should be increased towards our companies and redundant controls should be avoided.

With European orders of machine tools that reached their lowest levels in more than 10 years in the first quarter 2009, it is necessary to not to mix up too much international politics with trade and economics, otherwise there might be a direct and quick impact on the competitiveness of some European companies in the machine tool sector.

Even though the room for manoeuvre is small given the high political sensitivity of the dossier, CECIMO asks for better clarification and uniformity as regards the use of the “Catch all clause” and for more harmonisation among Member States on the timeline in getting the licences, as well as the reduction in the number of redundant controls.

CECIMO to the Commission: “The machine tool industry can help Europe recover!”

CECIMO sent a letter to President Barroso and pleaded to take advantage of the strategic role that the machine tool industry plays in the European economy to overcome the economic crisis

The European machine tool industry addressed President Barroso by a letter dated 13 March 2009 and signed by all CECIMO board members. CECIMO asked the European Commission to engage into a closer cooperation with the machine tool industry against the economic downturn. In the letter, it was mentioned that the machine tool industry in Europe has been affected dramatically by the sharp drop in machine orders due to the economic stalemate in the international markets, especially in the customer sectors such as automotive, electronic consumer goods, aerospace etc.

Furthermore, the Commission was informed by this letter that the current measures undertaken by industry (reduction in interim staff, flexible working hours etc) will not be sufficient to stop many European companies from loosing skilled workers or closing down their facilities, should the decision makers fail to take action promptly. The difficulties in accessing finance were indicated as the most serious obstacle which currently prevents the customer industries from investing in machine tools and which should be dealt before all else.

Finally, stressing the strategic position of the machine tool industry to keep up the European manufacturing activity innovative and technologically competitive, CECIMO warned the Commission of the damage that the machine tools production’s shift out of Europe would create in the EU economy.
The new legislative framework and market surveillance

Compliant Machine Tools provide users with safety and manufacturers with a fair level playing field in the EU Internal Market

The New Legislative Framework adopted in 2008 regulates the market surveillance of products. It will be applicable in the European Member States as of January 2010.

CECIMO thinks that market surveillance of machine tools that enter the EU Market is essential to the good functioning of the EU Internal Market. Effective market surveillance implies taking measures in order to check that products meet requirements of the applicable directive, bringing non-compliant products into compliance, and imposing sanctions when necessary. Market surveillance respects the principle of proportionality, i.e. that action must be taken in accordance with the degree of risk or non-compliance and with the possible impact on the internal market of the free circulation of non-compliant products.

As opposed to conformity assessment, market surveillance takes place after the product has been placed on the EU market, and is a national responsibility. Therefore, the EU Member States have to organise and carry out the market surveillance in a way that is effective and sufficiently extensive to discover non-compliant products.

Each Member State can decide upon their market surveillance infrastructure. Therefore, the legal and administrative market surveillance infrastructures differ from one Member State to another.

CECIMO is concerned by the future enforcement of the New Legislative Framework and therefore asks the European Commission to give enough resources (both human and financial) to Members States in order to avoid any major discrepancy in the enforcement of the directive that might distort the fair level playing field among the machine tools builders in Europe.

This is why CECIMO strongly encourages Member States to collaborate on a regular basis with their market surveillance authorities, together with customs authorities and any other relevant authorities at the national level.

Additionally, the results of the market surveillance activities should be readily available to every Member States (maybe through a pan European IT service) and the follow-up of market surveillance actions should be carried out not only in Europe, but also in the countries where the manufacturing of the products was initially based. DG Enterprise has already been involved into a partnership with the Chinese authorities on market surveillance, and such initiatives must be extended.

At national level, it is very important that Member States get the enforcement authorities (a neutral and independent body) to participate systematically in the international standardization activities. Moreover, these latter should delegate the responsibility of the testing of products to another organisation should they not be in the position to do it themselves in the best conditions.

Furthermore, industry could be more involved in the market surveillance activities and procedures. Why not set up a national advisory board of the market surveillance authority in order to reinforce the partnership?

Finally, in case of non-compliance of products on the market, it might be necessary to strengthen and ideally harmonise the national criminal laws among member states if the outcome of the market surveillance procedure turns out not to be effective enough in the near future.

European engineering industries show full support for an EU-South Korea FTA

An alliance of European Associations in the field of engineering addressed the European Commission by a letter

Whilst the European Commission negotiation speeds up the negotiations with South Korea for a bilateral Free Trade Agreement, CECIMO, joining an alliance* of 12 major European sector associations in the field of engineering, addressed President Barroso by a jointly signed letter (dated 29th June 2009) to support the FTA.

In the letter, it was indicated that the import duty level applied by South Korea to European engineering products is the third highest in Asia (after India and China) and that the European engineering industries support the FTA which will eliminate the tariffs.

Hence, the letter stressed that such an agreement would translate into an augmentation in European exports towards the Korean market and it would help strengthen Europe as a manufacturing base and the engineering industry in particular.

Furthermore, the European engineering sector urged the Commission to opt for uniform rules of origin in the FTAs and to ensure that this agreement will create a level playing field which would help increase the competitiveness of European manufacturers in the Korean market against Japanese, Chinese and American competitors.

*CECIMO, CEIP, CECOF, CEMA, CEMAFON, CETOP, EFAC, EMVA, EUNITED, EURO-MAP, EUROTANS and OE-A.

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The world of machine tools counts down for EMO Milano 2009

EMO, the largest Machine Tool show in Europe, which is organised every two years in Hanover and Milan, will take place this year in the contemporary exhibition centre of Milan, fieramilano, on 5-10 October.

Created in 1975, EMO has borne witness to the evolution of the world of “metal machining” and has become a stop not to be missed for Machine tool constructors from all over the world who come to EMO in the search of the latest information about the state-of-the-art products and technologies in the sector. Besides being a trendsetter for the MT industry, EMO represents a unique meeting point for MT builders and end users to exchange views and inform themselves about the most recent advances in the MT business.

EMO Milano which is organized every four years is renowned for the highly international profile of the exhibitors and visitors. On the other hand, given its strategic location in the midst of Western, Eastern European and Mediterranean markets, it promises perfect business opportunities for MT constructors.

Milan is a world capital of business and finance as much as it is a capital of design and fashion. The city hosts some of the most modern exhibition centres in the world among which the fieramilano, opened in 2005, ranks as one of the largest trade fair complexes in the world. Having been selected as the host city for Expo 2015, Milan has undergone an extensive modernization of its facilities and keeps adding new cutting edge structures to prepare for this world-renowned event. This ultramodern structure which will host EMO offers advanced technological facilities for the exhibitors and provides a record size of usable space with its eight pavilions (two of which being two-storey) without columns designed to ease access to the booths and to provide them with increased visibility.

Furthermore, the modern and experimental architecture of the building matches perfectly the innovative and high-tech character of the Machine Tool industry and makes it an ideal venue for this globally popular exhibition.

The organisation of EMO Milano 2009 is entrusted to UCIMU - SISTEMI PER PRODURRE (Association of Italian Manufacturers of Machine Tools) and the event is promoted by CECIMO (European Association of the Machine Tool Industries). The organisers reported in April 2009 that despite the crisis, 1250 companies from 35 countries have already booked their places at EMO and the net exhibition area has reached around 100,000 sqm.

The interest of companies in the exhibition in the time of economic stalemate is noted as a positive sign and as an indicator of determination of the industry to reverse the downturn trend in their business. Moreover, during the Spring General Assembly (7-8 June 2009) the European Machine Tool industries have reiterated their belief and commitment to mark EMO Milano 2009 as a milestone - one year after the outbreak of the financial crisis - which will be the starting point of the upwards trend in the manufacturing business.

The final ‘NEXT’ conference will take place at EMO Milano

The EU-funded project ‘NEXT’ will seize the opportunity of EMO 2009 to present the ‘final results’ of 4 years of intense research activity in the area of production systems through a conference in which a valuable community of scientists, industrialists and European Commission officials will take the floor. As an integrated project with the involvement of 25 partners, a multidisciplinary team of 60 experts, and a budget of 24 million EUR, NEXT Generation Production System has taken shape as the biggest initiative ever undertaken in Europe in the area of production systems. Designed to develop the machines of the future and new business models needed to transform the European manufacturing industry, NEXT, with a focus on machine tools, defines the path to the future of the European production machinery sector. Having adopted an integrated approach, the project aims to improve the sustainability of manufacturing activities in terms of competitiveness, employment and the environment, paving the way to a technical, industrial and societal breakthrough in Europe.

Visit the NEXT booth at EMO: ‘p.14P/1 - Stand N01’
Integ-micro was presented at the 9th International euspen Conference

The EU-funded project Integ-μ, “New production technologies of complex 3D Micro-devices through multi-process integration of ultra precision engineering techniques”, was presented at the euspen Conference which was held on 2-5 June 2009 in San Sebastian. In addition to information provided at the booth in the exhibition hall, the project was presented to conference participants during an oral session.

Integ-μ was launched at the end of 2008 and is a four-year project, its main objective being the development of new hybrid and reconfigurable multitasking machines and combined processes through the integration of different ultra high precision techniques in one setup to produce complex 3D shaped components at micro/meso scale (10-10,000µm range). Flexible, reconfigurable and hybrid multitasking machines will allow the mass production of complex 3D shape micro components and micromachining of materials such as diamond and ceramics. The results foreseen are expected to surpass the state-of-the-art in micromachining techniques and to generate greater accuracy, reduced handling and plant area, faster throughput and increased productivity.

The achievement of these targets is expected to have an important impact by boosting competitiveness on various end user sectors such as consumer electronics, medical and biotechnological industries, aerospace and aeronautical sectors, manufacturers of IT products and watch components. Current micromachining technologies do not allow the cost- and time-effective production of complex 3D shape micro components; however, technological and societal needs push the manufacturing industry to achieve further improvement in this field and to produce smaller, smarter, faster and cleaner products.

Integ-μ aims at achieving a technological breakthrough in this respect and at playing a leading role in European R&D activities in the field of micromachining.

CECIMO is one of the 20 partners of the project and assumes a role in identification of user requirements and dissemination.

New environmental tools for our industry

The European Research Project PROLIMA (Environmental Product Lifecycle Management) in which CECIMO participated has recently published the BEPM (Best Environmental Practice Manual), consisting of more than 100 eco-standards. Its purpose is to provide a series of ideas or practical guidelines targeting machine tool designer to help them devise more ecological machines right from the design stage. The standards address issues such as energy consumption, safety, vibrations, etc.

To have free access to the manual is as easy as fulfilling the registration form on the PROLIMA website:
http://www.prolima.eu/contact-info

New appointments within CECIMO

General Managers of CECIMO member associations

Peter Perremans, AGORIA (Belgium)
Carina Bruun, FDW (Denmark)

Delegates

Mag. Norbert JUNGREITHMAYR - Managing Director, WFL Millturn Technologies GmbH & Co. KG (AT)
Wolfgang RATHNER - CEO, FILL Gesellschaft m.b.H. (AT)
Miroslav ŠABART - General Manager, ZDAS Inc (CZ)

Mr. René PANCZUK - Président, DUFIEUX Industrie (FR)
Peter RÜDEN - Co-Owner & Head of Marketing Department, WATER JET Sweden AB (SE)

Gökalp Gümüşdere - Projects Coordinator

Dag Jacobson - Chairman, Technical Committee
A Global Tour of the NEXT Generation Systems

Programme

10:00
Welcome and Introduction

09:30
Next Generation Production Systems Conference

11:15
Autonomous Machining Tools in Modern Production Steps

11:45
The Manufacturing Ecosystem

12:15
New Business Models for Sustaining Global Competitiveness

12:45
What are NEXT

Lunch

13:00

Registration, Welcome and Coffee
New CECIMO website is now online!

The new CECIMO website has been online since April 2009 and invites you to discover the world of Machine Tools.

The website has been designed to ease access of a diverse audience to information about the European machine tool industry:

- industrialists,
- policy makers,
- students in engineering and economics,
- people with a special interest in machine tools...

will find technical, economic and practical data our website.

New CECIMO Blog is launched

As a part of its communication strategy adopted in 2008, CECIMO has undergone an extensive revision of its communication tools in order to better explain the strategic importance of the European machine tool industry to a broader public.

The Machine Tools Blog was created within the framework of this strategy and it aims to provide a discussion platform on the European machine tool industries.

On the new CECIMO website you will find:

- data and statistics on the European MT industry
- European policies and regulations
- R&D projects
- EMO
- CECIMO position papers and press releases
- CECIMO's activities
- the new CECIMO magazine
- the latest events in the machine tool world

Go on www.cecimo.eu and connect to the world of machine tools!

CECIMO Magazine - Upcoming Issue

- Energy-using Products directive: the machine tool industry goes for self regulation
- CECIMO represents the European machine tool industry at international fairs
- Interview with the Chairman of CECIMO Technical Committee, Mr Dag Jacobson

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CECIMO upcoming events

- CECIMO Technical Managers’ meeting: 4 September 2009, Prague
- CECIMO Statistical Project Team: 10 September 2009, Brussels
- CECIMO General Managers’ meeting: 4 October 2009, Milan
- EMO Milano: 5 -10 October 2009, Milan
- CECIMO General Assembly: 6-7 November 2009, London
CECIMO is the European Association for the Machine Tool Industries. We represent 15 National Associations of Machine Tools Builders that represents over 1400 industrial enterprises in Europe, 85% of which are SMEs.

CECIMO covers:
- more than 90% total Machine Tools production in Europe and 44% worldwide
- 71% of the production exported
- 24.6 Billion EUR of production - 150,000 employees

The European machine tool industry is a key element to sustain the manufacturing activity in Europe.

Thanks to the manufacturing solutions produced by an R&D driven machine tool industry, industrial sectors such as automotive, aerospace, power generation, medical products and general engineering can produce more efficiently, more accurately, faster, cheaper and more environmentally friendly. Our industry contributes to the Lisbon Agenda which aims to make the European Union the most competitive economy in the World.

CECIMO Member Associations

Austria: FMMI
(Fachverband Maschinen & Metallwaren Industrie)

Belgium: AGORIA
(Federatie van de Technologische Industrie)

Czech Republic: SST
(Svazu Strojírenské Technologie)

Denmark: FDVV
(Foreningen af Vaerktoejs- og Vaerktoejsmaskinfabrikanter)

Finland
Federation of Finnish Technology Industries

France: SYMOP
(Syndicat des Entreprises de Technologies de Production)

Germany: VDW
(Verein Deutscher Werkzeugmaschinenfabriken e.V.)

Italy: UCIMU-SISTEMI PER PRODURRE
(Associazione dei costruttori Italiani di machine utensili robot e automazione)

Netherlands: VIMAG
(Federatie Productie Technologie / Sectie VIMAG)

Portugal: AIMMAP
(Associação dos Industriais Metalúrgicos, Metalomecânicos e Afins de Portugal)

Spain: AFM
(Associación Española de Fabricantes de Máquinas-Herramienta)

Sweden: FVM
(Föreningen Svenska Verktygs- och Verktygsmaskintillverkare)

Switzerland: SWISSMEM
(Die Schweizer Maschinen-, Elektro- und Metall-Industrie)

Turkey: MIB
(Makina İmalatcileri Birliği)

United Kingdom: MTA
(The Manufacturing Technologies Association)

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