



## CECIMO PRESS RELEASE

### AMEC 2020: Industrial supply chains resilience and innovative additive manufacturing solutions

**Brussels, 2 December 2020 – The additive manufacturing sector will be of great support in the implementation of the EU industry strategy helping supply chains to become more resilient and efficient. During the Additive Manufacturing European Conference (AMEC), that took place on 2 December 2020 online, both policy and industry representatives discussed the state of the art and emerging trends in AM in Europe.**

In occasion of the sixth edition of AMEC, CECIMO, the voice of the European additive manufacturing sector, invited Members of the European Parliament as well as industry representatives to discuss the strategic importance of additive technologies for the European industrial competitiveness.

The event was a great opportunity to discuss how the recent COVID-19 supply chain disruption in the healthcare sector could represent a wake-up call for other industries such as energy, medical and automotive industries. It was generally agreed during the discussions that Europe should channel investment in application of AM that could support the digital and green transition. The event was moderated by **Fabian Zuleeg, European Policy Centre (EPC)** and was divided into two sessions: policy and industry.

The policy session was kicked off by **MEP Susana Solís Pérez (RE)** who stressed that the EU needs to strengthen its industry sector to guarantee a stable production during difficult times. MEP Solís stated that additive manufacturing significantly contributes to the new EU industrial strategy thanks to its potential to ensure industrial competitiveness and supply chain resilience. **MEP Michael Bloss (Greens/EFA)** highlighted that the EU has the opportunity to maintain global leadership in manufacturing sector by fostering innovation and being a frontrunner on the green transition. **MEP Christophe Grudler (RE)** stated that the EU needs to secure the leading position of AM and advanced manufacturing by investing in initiatives that would promote the development of the right set of skills force and helping the current workforce adapt to the new technological changes in manufacturing.

**Stewart Lane, Chairman of the CECIMO Additive Manufacturing Committee and General Manager at Renishaw** opened the industry session, calling on policymakers to embrace a forward-looking vision for the industry in Europe. He emphasised that ‘‘It’s important to use legislation to enable the best use of the technologies such as AM, for example bringing manufacturing back to Europe, and keep an innovation-friendly regulatory framework’’. The speakers from the industry panel showcased different innovative and beneficial ways of using additive solutions and the different challenges encountered for further adoption in traditional supply chains. **Cristian Fracassi (Isinnova)** claimed that ‘‘3D printing enables a global sharing economy cutting production costs and supply chain restrictions’’, while **Mariel Diaz (Triditive)** explained that ‘‘Companies interested in using AM need to start from the development of the digital inventories of those parts that they wish to produce. Without this step, the integration of AM will be much more difficult.’’

During the Q&A session the entire panel also discussed about how decentralised manufacturing can become a viable solution for different supply chains. **Paul Heiden (Ultimaker)** argued that ‘‘An important aspect of using decentralised manufacturing is to allow the possibility to repair the part directly



# cecimo

European Association of the Machine Tool Industries  
and related Manufacturing Technologies

on-site when needed. This opportunity will be a game changer for the end-user and the 3d printing industry”. **Roberta Sampieri (FCA group)** mentioned the challenge to decentralise the production of the automotive sector, claiming that “One factor that could speed-up this transition is the qualification of the printing process and quality assurance of the part”. **Angeline Goh (Shell)** mentioned that “The adoption of AM in the energy sector will go hand in hand with the standardisation of the quality of spare parts production”. **Filip Geerts, CECIMO Director General**, closed the event, calling for financial support to those industries (particularly the SMEs) that wish to increase the resilience of their supply chain.

## About CECIMO

CECIMO is the European Association of the Machine Tool Industries and related Manufacturing Technologies. We bring together 15 national associations of machine tool builders, which represent approximately 1500 industrial enterprises in Europe (EU + EFTA + Turkey), over 80% of which are SMEs. CECIMO covers 98% of the total machine tool production in Europe and about 35% worldwide. It accounts for more than 150,000 employees and a turnover of nearly €26.8 billion in 2019. More than three quarters of CECIMO production is shipped abroad, whereas half of it is exported outside Europe.

### For media enquiries, contact:

Filip Geerts, Director General of CECIMO

[filip.geerts@cecimo.eu](mailto:filip.geerts@cecimo.eu)

If you would like to unsubscribe from these emails, please write to [privacy@cecimo.eu](mailto:privacy@cecimo.eu).