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cecimo

Where manufacturing begins

magazine

New era, greater role:

Machine tools play their role in tackling societal challenges



The machine tool industry is to leverage on additive manufacturing - CECIMO becomes the voice of the industry



Advanced Manufacturing must be a top priority for the new European Commission



Chinese machine tools market outlook: China buys more machines and leapfrogs into automated solutions



The machine tool industry: an invaluable asset for Europe



Dear Members of the new European Parliament and European Commission, dear readers,

Europe has the world's most advanced and largest machine tool production base. The share of Europe (as represented by CECIMO countries which cover 98% of total European output) in global machine tool production was 39% in 2013. European exports, including intra-European trade, amounted to nearly 50% of world machine tool exports. This means every second machine tool traded in the world originated from Europe.

In the most industrialized regions of Europe which include, inter alia, Baden Württemberg, Piemonte, Basque Country, Paris-Ile-de-France, Bohemia and Moravia, Land Oberösterreich and the West Midlands, hundreds of small and medium-sized suppliers of machine tools are located side-by-side with Europe's industry giants in automotive, aerospace, energy generation and mechanical engineering sectors. They supply production technology and equipment to above-mentioned downstream users and many other sectors from med-tech to electronics sectors. Machine tools provide the entire industrial base with significant productivity and efficiency gains, thus underpinning the competitiveness of European manufacturing. The machine tool industry is a strategic enabling sector.

The strength of Europe in the machine tools sector lies in sophisticated engineering know-how, a highly skilled workforce, a world class research infrastructure and the existence of an industrial ecosystem linking them to excellent upstream suppliers (i.e. metal industries, electrical engineering, electronics) and to a strong user base. The competitiveness of European manufacturers builds on their ability to provide fit-for-purpose solutions to complex needs of customers. Metalworking technology allows industrial users to process materials into high value-added parts and components which are then assembled into high quality final goods destined for global markets.

Despite the fact that many industries shifted a significant share of their production outside Europe over the last decades, the machine tool industry has proved to be very resilient to relocation pressures. Due to requirements for high quality and protection of valuable know-how, important manufacturing operations are kept in-house. It is actually one of the few manufacturing sectors in Europe which records a trade surplus (more than EUR10 billion) with the rest of the world. These export champion companies generate quality jobs in their regions and contribute to socio-economic development. Moreover, machine tool suppliers continue providing solutions to imminent challenges to our society such as climate change, mobility, ageing society and dependence on fossil fuels.

We would like to encourage the new European Parliament and the European Commission to take a close look at the successful development of the machine tool industry in Europe and promote an industrial strategy which is based on regional specialization attached to global ambitions. At the same time it is of utmost importance that European policy-makers make an effort to understand challenges facing this sector to help it thrive in the new era of smart interconnected production.

We will be communicating through CECIMO magazine the successes and needs of the sector to your attention. Stay tuned!

Filip Geerts
Director General

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DESIGN-MTS:

A multi-stakeholder CSR platform in the machine tool sector

by Benedetta Giovanola, University of Macerata (Italy), DESIGN-MTS project coordinator

Corporate Social Responsibility

At the level of public policy, the European Commission (EC) is a leader in the promotion of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and this role is increasing in importance. The socially responsible behaviour of companies is considered as an important value of the European Union. CSR is seen by the EC as the process of integrating ethical, social, environmental concerns as well as consumer and human rights into business strategies and operations, in close cooperation with stakeholders. The EC approach to CSR is not prescriptive: it rather encourages the application of good practices and supports companies to adhere to major CSR guidelines and to create shared value both for themselves and the society at large.

Following this approach, the EC has elaborated a strategy and an agenda for action on CSR for the 2011-2014 period, with the following objectives: enhancing the visibility of CSR and disseminating good practices; improving and tracking levels of trust in business; improving self- and co-regulation processes; enhancing market rewards for CSR; improving company disclosure of social and environmental informations; further integrating CSR into education, training and research; emphasizing the importance of national and sub-national CSR policies; better aligning European and global approaches to CSR.

DESIGN-MTS project and the multi-stakeholder platform on CSR in machine tool sector

In order to reach the objective of enhancing the visibility of CSR and disseminating good practices, the EC has co-funded three projects which were expected to set forth multi-stakeholder sector-based platforms. DESIGN-MTS is one of the projects which have been endorsed by the EC. The project is led by Università degli Studi di Macerata (Italy) in partnership with CECIMO, CSR Europe, Central European Initiative (CEI), Istituto di Ricerche Economiche e Sociali (IRES, Italy) and the University of Nottingham. It was launched on 1 July 2013 and will end in December 2014.

The main objectives of the project are to spread awareness of CSR, to encourage the exchange of best practices, to disseminate responsible business conduct, to enhance the visibility of CSR, to encourage and enable more and more European enterprises in the machine tool sector across the EU to take a strategic approach to CSR (with a view to increasing its competitiveness), and to promote stakeholder dialogue along the value chain. To this end, the project has identified the major areas of relevance in CSR for the machine

tool industry and has assessed the existing situation and the best practices in the sector. Main findings were disseminated through a series of events including sectoral trade shows, such as the 29th. BI-MU exhibition, which took place in Milan at the beginning of October.

Furthermore, DESIGN-MTS has launched and built up a multi-stakeholder platform on CSR in the machine tool sector in order to facilitate stakeholder dialogue and consensus building, to foster the adoption of joint commitments and to provide multi-lateral support to CSR. The platform offers important tools, such as guidelines for the implementation of a strategic approach to CSR in machine tools companies and their supply chain; an on call and on-line help desk; free on-line training modules on CSR, which are available on the project platform (www.designmts.eu),

The project and the multi-stakeholder platform have reached important results until now. The next challenge is to capitalise on these results to further encourage the adoption of CSR along industrial value chains and to promote stakeholder dialogue by bringing together representatives of different sectors, from the academia, enterprises, business associations, work representatives, civil society organizations, public authorities and policy makers. Only such a multi-dimensional and multi-stakeholder approach indeed, can help us to meet today's challenges. ■

For more information on the project, visit www.designmts.eu





CECIMO Member Associations



Austria: FMMI
Fachverband Maschinen &
Metallwaren Industrie
www.fmmi.at

Belgium: AGORIA
Fédération van de Technologische
Industrie
www.agoria.be

Czech Republic: SST
Svazu Strojírenské Technologie
www.sst.cz

**Denmark: The Manufacturing
Industry**
a part of the Confederation of Danish
Industry
ffi.di.dk

**Finland: Federation of Finnish
Technology Industries**
www.teknologiateollisuus.fi

France: SYMOP
Syndicat des Entreprises de
Technologies de Production
www.symop.com/fr

Germany: VDW
Verein Deutscher
Werkzeugmaschinenfabriken e.V.
www.vdw.de

Italy: UCIMU
Associazione dei costruttori Italiani
di macchine utensili robot e
automazione

www.ucimu.it

Netherlands: VIMAG
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www.vimag.nl

Portugal: AIMMAP
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**Spain: AFM - Advanced
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de máquinas-herramienta, accesorios,
componentes y herramientas
www.afm.es

Sweden: MTAS
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Sweden
www.mtas.se

Switzerland: SWISSMEM
Die Schweizer Maschinen-, Elektro-
und Metall-Industrie
www.swissmem.ch

Turkey: MIB
Makina Imalatçileri Birliği
www.mib.org.tr

United Kingdom: MTA
The Manufacturing Technologies
Association
www.mta.org.uk

cecimo is the European Association representing the common interests of the Machine Tool Industries globally and at EU level. We bring together 15 National Associations of machine tool builders, which represent approximately 1500 industrial enterprises in Europe*, over 80% of which are SMEs. CECIMO covers more than 97% of total machine tool production in Europe and more than one third worldwide. CECIMO assumes a key role in determining the strategic direction of the European machine tool industry and promotes the development of the sector in the fields of economy, technology and science.

*Europe = EU + EFTA + Turkey

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