



CEIR

The European Association for the Taps and Valves Industry



Dear CEIR members, dear friends,

Citizens of the European Union as well as many places around the world have faced tragic events over the past few months. Brussels, the heart of Europe, suffered attacks a few weeks ago. Thankfully, colleagues from CEIR and other associations we are working with are all safe, and we must continue to move forward every day.

Moving forward means continuing to work and implement our action plan. CEIR Technical Committees, the Marketing Committee and different dedicated working groups are dealing with various issues affecting the taps and valves industry. These activities directly impact taps and valves manufacturers since they are related to either regulatory or technical developments, or often both.

Here are some examples of recent CEIR activities:

- A successful workshop with BVAA and VDMA in February 2016 regarding the interpretation of the application of the Machinery Directive to valves that resulted in positive steps towards a uniform interpretation;
- A dynamic working group on the application of Building Information Modelling (BIM), notably for the construction sector, that resulted in a joint CEIR - FECS statement;
- Support for chromium trioxide (hard chromium) authorisation under REACH for a significant duration;

- Progress of the Thermostatic Radiator Valves working group with a view to reaching a European consensus, which has always been the CEIR objective.

In this Gazette, you will find more detailed information about ongoing CEIR activities.

I would like to remind you that CEIR is dedicated to supporting the taps and valves industry: it is your association. CEIR provides information on various issues through different channels, notably the Gazette. However, the expertise and testimony of taps and valves manufacturers is an absolute necessity to identify relevant subjects and concerns for our industry. CEIR needs both bottom-up and top-down communication in order to be accurate and efficient. To this end, I count on all national association member companies as well as direct members to actively contribute to CEIR actions, notably in delegating experts to working group meetings. This is time-consuming but joining forces will allow us to achieve results that cannot be obtained if we act individually.

Our programme is taking shape: more contacts with European authorities and bodies and more communication with national authorities. Working on technical aspects is no longer sufficient; lobbying actions are necessary.

The CEIR Congress, which takes place from 18th to 20th May in Lyon, is a great opportunity to share views and meet partners and colleagues from many different countries.

I wish you all a successful Congress.

Pascal Vinzio
CEIR President

THE EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF THE TAPS AND VALVES INDUSTRY: 18-20 MAY 2016

The European Congress of the taps and valves industry takes place from 18th to 20th May 2016. PROFLUID, the CEIR French member, has kindly prepared an exciting programme in the beautiful city of Lyon.

The Congress will start with interesting visits to industrial facilities, namely the high-performance production site of Renault Trucks and a site of Velan, a leading global manufacturer of industrial valves. A visit to IFPEN (IFP Energies nouvelles) is also foreseen; this is a public-sector research and training centre in the fields of energy, transport and the environment.

High-level speakers will share their views during the Congress. Michel Carton (CETIM) will open the proceedings with testimonies on the ongoing revolution and new technologies our industry is currently facing. Luca Ferrari (BRG Building Solutions) will present the economic situation of the taps and valves industry. In addition, Eric Eckert (Solvay) and Bruno Floris (BSF Energy Consulting) will give an overview of major trends in our customer markets, notably the chemical industry as well as the oil and gas sectors. A representative from the European Commission - Martijn Hendriksen - will present initiatives and challenges related to market surveillance and enforcement in the single market. Finally, Philippe Vansyngel (French Ministry of Health) and Christian J. Engelsen (SINTEF Building and Infrastructure) will share their views on the future of the "contact with drinking water" issue.

Throughout the Congress, you will be updated on CEIR activities on various topics, including the Water Label, legislation impacting material in contact with drinking water, Building Information Modelling and the application of the Machinery Directive to valves.

CEIR CONGRESS - Lyon (France) 18-20 May 2016

Venue: Marriott Lyon Cité Internationale

Programme: Wednesday 18 May

Arrival of participants

10.30 - 13.30 Board meeting

14.00 - 17.00 Visits (Renault Trucks, Velan or IFPEN)

18.30 - 23.30 Guided tour of Lyon & dinner at Daniel & Denise

Thursday 19 May

09.00 - 17.00 Conference with speakers / panels

18.00 - 23.00 Gala dinner at the Château de Bagnols

Friday 20 May

09.00 - 10.00 CEIR Committee reports

10.00 - 11.30 Guest speakers

11.30 - 12.30 General Assembly



Last, but not least, we will welcome guest speakers from CEIR's sister associations from the USA, namely PMI and VMA, who will update us on their activities as well as water efficiency and water quality in the USA. In addition, the role of the EU institutions and the decision-making process will be presented at the General Assembly session.

Informal exchanges will be held at the Wednesday dinner at Daniel & Denise, a well-known Lyonnais restaurant, and the gala dinner at the Château de Bagnols on Thursday evening.

SEE AND BE SEEN – WATER LABEL INCREASES ITS VISIBILITY IN EUROPE

It has been another remarkable period of rapid growth for the multi award-winning European Water Label. Yvonne Orgill, its Managing Director, reviews the development of the scheme throughout the Winter and Spring months and considers what lies ahead in 2016.



Feverish, non-stop activity has resulted in more major advances in the development of the European Water Label.

The Label is gaining higher visibility throughout Europe. It has been seen at the major industry fairs of MCE in Milan, KBB in Birmingham England, and at the Poznan Installer Fair in Poland. Thousands of visitors, key decision makers in their own fields of activity, have witnessed, first hand at busy display booths, how important the Label is becoming in assisting Europe's drive for economies in water and energy use.

The Label is also gaining higher visibility in product marketing, sales and distribution. It can now be seen, in greater volume, on products sold in the large DIY stores and builders' merchants. It is gaining ground in manufacturers' websites and point-of-sale material and packaging. There is no doubt that consumers are taking heed of the messages which the Label is delivering.

The scheme's information and product details are now available in no less than four European languages – English, German, Spanish and Turkish, with a further two, Italian and French, to be undertaken during 2016. This achievement was regarded by scheme supporters as a key goal, aiding awareness and visibility and driving product registrations.

Likewise, the introduction of a network of National Agents working closely within their own markets is also regarded as a key goal. To that end the AGRIVAL and AVR are already on board and negotiations with our colleagues in Turkey are underway. Green Building Codes, Eire, have linked to the Scheme as they see the positive benefits offered in pushing the message to use less water and reduce waste in all buildings.

A major milestone was reached in April when the first Central European brassware manufacturer, FERRO SA of Skawina, Poland, joined the scheme (www.ferro.pl).

Ferro announced "Fittings brand Ferro joined the European classification system Water Label - an initiative uniting manufacturers involved in promoting the efficient use of water by improving the efficiency of products used in the bathroom. Thus, the company FERRO is the first manufacturer of fittings from Central Europe, whose products have been introduced to the online database EWL."

More here → www.ferro.pl/ferro-water-label.html

The database of 9,500 products in 13 fully-developed product categories is now supported by 105 registered bathroom and kitchen brands. It can be viewed in 34 countries.

For the future, more discussions will take place with like-minded organisations across Germany, Portugal, Spain, UK and Italy to openly discuss how they can all work together in support of one industry-led Labelling Scheme.



The European Water Label is gaining visibility. It is growing and becoming increasingly recognised as the preferred Label amongst key industry leaders and decision makers. It is getting seen across Europe and further development and growth will be the result during 2016.

Together, we must continue the positive drive forward and continue building the momentum.

The voluntary European Water Label Scheme is an undeniable success. It is low cost, maintains consumer choice, and does exactly what it is designed to do - inform and educate. www.europeanwaterlabel.eu

The simple classification scheme applicable throughout Europe

- Sets standardised water / energy / volumes and flow identities conforming to any legal national requirements
- Promotes the use of water using products in private and public buildings
- Self-declared and monitored by independent audits to keep the scheme cost-effective
- Informs European consumers on water consumption
- Invites consumers to check the database to find water saving products
- Maximises the effectiveness of the labelling scheme and monitors its implementation
- Contributes to the various efforts to reduce water and energy waste

What the Label says

It clearly shows the maximum volume of flow of water that the product will deliver if installed correctly and according to the manufacturer's instructions.

- Coloured performance bands
- Actual capacity/performance

About The European Water Label

The voluntary European Water Label Scheme is an undeniable success. It is low cost, not-for-profit, international industry labelling scheme for bathroom and kitchen products.

The scheme provides easy access to a database of products which, when installed and used correctly, will use less water, save energy and save money. The scheme is administered by the Bathroom Manufacturers Association. Applications to join the scheme as registered companies or scheme partners are invited.

www.europeanwaterlabel.eu

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PMI MEMBERS DONATE HUNDREDS OF FAUCETS AND SUPPLIES INSTALLED BY UA PLUMBERS IN RESPONSE TO FLINT LEAD-IN-WATER CRISIS

By Barbara C Higgins
CEO and Executive Director
Plumbing Manufacturers
International



March 30, 2016 – In response to a lead-in-water crisis in Flint, Mich., members of Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) donated hundreds of faucets and other plumbing supplies that were installed January 30 in more than 1,500 homes.

A team of nearly 470 plumbers from local unions of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry (UA) installed the faucets and supplies, along with water filters provided by the state of Michigan. The humanitarian effort was coordinated by PMI and the UA Local 370 in Flint. Both organizations saw a generous response to a joint call-to-action issued to their members, with some volunteers traveling hundreds of miles to help. The PMI/UA response was covered by several major U.S. media outlets.

“Seeing hundreds of volunteers gathered in one place with all of the donated products under the banners of the PMI members was truly inspiring,” said Barbara C. Higgins, PMI CEO/Executive Director. “The can-do attitude demonstrated by all the participants was heartwarming, but it is what we’ve come to expect from these outstanding professionals and companies”.

The crisis in Flint began after city officials decided to switch the city’s water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River. Officials in charge of making this transition failed to consider all the consequences of that change, leading to disastrous decisions pertaining to corrosion control and lead testing. This failure led to lead leaching into the water and a terrible public health crisis caused by residents drinking unsafe water for months while officials insisted it was safe.

PMI and its members’ products clearly were not part of the problem;



More than 470 plumbers from across Michigan rally together to help residents in Flint, MI.



Plumbers installed state-provided filters in more than 1,500 homes around Flint, and new faucets in homes where existing products were not compatible.

yet, many member companies were very proud to be part of the relief team assembled to mitigate the effects of the crisis. Contributing to this effort were American Standard Brands, BrassCraft Manufacturing Co., Delta Faucet Co., Fluidmaster Inc., Kohler Co., Moen Inc., Pfister, Speakman Co. and Viega.

About PMI

Plumbing Manufacturers International is the voluntary, not-for-profit international industry association of manufacturers of plumbing products, serving as the Voice of the Plumbing Industry. Member companies produce 90 percent of the nation’s plumbing products. As part of its mission, PMI advocates for plumbing product performance and innovation contributing to water savings, sustainability, public health and safety, and consumer satisfaction. For more information on PMI or its conferences, contact the organization at 1921 Rohlwing Road, Unit G, Rolling Meadows, IL, 60008; tel.: 847-481-5500; fax: 847-481-5501. Visit our website at www.safeplumbing.org.



Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell, joins UA leaders on local news providing helpline information to residents.



Tom Bigley, Director of Plumbing, UA, addresses the group before the teams roll-out.



Community volunteers helped sort products donated by PMI members prior to installations.

COUNTERFEITING AND NON-COMPLIANCE

Counterfeit and non-compliant products hurt both global economic growth and customers. Join the fightback.

The statistics paint a frighteningly clear picture of the scale of economic impact of the global trade in counterfeit goods. A recent OECD report estimated that 2.5% of spending goes on counterfeit goods¹, and there are very few industries that are unaffected. Research continues to show strong links between the counterfeit goods trade and organised crime and terrorism². But there are also stats to prove that action can be taken successfully. BEAMA, a British association representing manufacturers of electrical, heating and plumbing products, runs an anti-counterfeiting project that over more than 15 years has resulted in the seizure and destruction of over 17 million products. Whereas 'counterfeit' means products that are (often substandard) copies of existing designs and contravene trademarks, 'non-compliant' products may not infringe intellectual property laws, but can be equally problematic. Because they do not conform to standards, are promoted with misleading claims, or have not been tested to demonstrate their safety and efficacy, they can be just as risky for anyone who comes into contact with them.

Counterfeits and non-compliant products have much in common and raise serious issues for the whole supply chain. For manufacturers, there is the undercutting from and loss of business to companies that engineer, test and certify their products less thoroughly. There is also the reputational risk to the industry of high quantities of substandard products. Certification and approvals bodies can also suffer if



¹ OECD (2016), 'Trade in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods - Mapping the Economic Impact', OECD Publishing, accessed at http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oced/governance/trade-in-counterfeit-and-pirated-goods_9789264252653-en#page1 on 3/5/16

² UNIFAB (2016), 'Counterfeiting & Terrorism Report 2016', accessed at http://www.unifab.com/images/Rapport-A-Terrorisme-2015_GB.pdf on 3/5/16

their marks and certification are copied. Distributors are now seen as responsible for the goods they import or supply to a more stringent level, so should be sure that what they are selling is legal and will perform adequately. This also goes for installers who stand to use business if they are known for using substandard products.

And of course consumers are defrauded by products that don't work, even if they have bought them for an unrealistically low price, and also face risks to their personal safety. In the taps and valves industry, important requirements are in place to ensure that materials do not harm the quality of drinking water. If safeguards have not been put in place to ensure this, everyone is at risk.

There are some important principles if anti-counterfeiting and compliance work is to be successful. First among these is the need to work together. The initial step towards this is for the reputable companies to acknowledge that the industry has issues, and to acknowledge that by pooling resources, or even just uniting behind a consistent message, will bring greater rewards than companies only working in isolation. For example, companies should understand that when liaising with authorities, a joint industry approach will carry more weight than an individual company's representation.

Secondly, there is a need to broaden activities beyond a company's own part of the supply chain. While, for example, manufacturers will have most issues in common with each other, if they do not communicate with distributors then the opportunity to take action is greatly reduced. There will also be a lot to learn from other stakeholders.

Thirdly, don't be afraid to pursue practical action. This could be urging governments and enforcement bodies to make anti-counterfeiting and product compliance a priority. It could be website monitoring. It could be reporting suspicions. It could be setting up a market surveillance scheme where suspect products are tested. It could be investigating and halting the production and supply of goods as BEAMA has done.

This should also include prevention measures. Manufacturers should be vigilant with keeping product registrations up to date, and proactive in protecting their brands – for example registering distinctive identification marks (logos, colours, numbers) that, when copied, mean a product can be identified as infringing intellectual property.

For specifiers, again vigilance is key and the use of reputable manufacturers and distributors may help. Fake products can look very similar to genuine product, but a useful rule of thumb is 'if the price seems too good to be true, it probably is'.

So while infringing products may never be completely eradicated, taking action does have results – disrupting the trade in counterfeit and non-compliant goods makes it harder for substandard and potentially dangerous products to enter the wider supply chain, thereby ensuring legitimate companies are treated fairly and protecting the interests – and health – of consumers.

AGRIVAL WARNS OF THE HEALTH RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH FAUCETS

For a number of years now, Agrival, the Spanish Faucet Manufacturers Association, has been noting a significant drop in minimum quality standards for faucets available on the Spanish market, due mainly to the arrival of imported products subject to very little control.

This problem is frequently made worse by end consumers' lack of knowledge and understanding when it comes to buying a faucet. In response, Agrival is informing the public on a number of points that should be considered to help choose the right faucet for your needs, not to mention one that is safe, both functionally and health-wise.

All faucets sold in Spain must be made from an alloy that meets the minimum guaranteed standards of UNE-EN 1982:2009 Copper and Copper Alloy Ingots and Castings, which establishes the Europe-wide quality requirements for the chemical composition used in the manufacture of faucet products. In order to ensure that there is no risk of

contamination to humans. It should not be forgotten that faucets are in constant contact with water, so their parts and finishes are exposed to damp and their materials must be guaranteed against oxidation. Low-quality chrome-plating is toxic, and arsenic is present in the majority of low-cost faucets, which means that using this kind of faucet impacts upon end users' health, "poisoning" them in amounts that are small but admissible in the European Union.

It is important to know that faucets do not carry CE conformity marking, which means that any such products with the mark found on the market are misleading and have no guarantee of quality. They simply betray the great ignorance of their manufacturer, not to mention raising doubts as to their reliability.

Often low-cost faucets do not meet minimum requirements, and any savings come from parts that provide no guarantee of either quality or durability. We are always concerned about the quality of the water supplied to our homes, workplaces, hospitals, schools, etc., but we forget that it is equally or more important that the faucet, through which it flows has the same commitment to quality.

CEIR JOINS FORCES WITH FECS WHEN STATING ITS POSITION ON BUILDING INFORMATION MODELLING (BIM)

As explained in the last CEIR Gazette, BIM is a methodology based on the use of coordinated, coherent and computable information about the physical and functional characteristics of a building or infrastructure.

The goal is to establish a reliable knowledge base for decision-making throughout the entire building's life cycle.

Also, BIM moves the construction industry from an opaque and hostile environment to a more collaborative one, where Manufacturers of BIM components compound other stakeholder's BIM models and where the different stakeholders' specialized tools take profit of BIM components information.

Therefore, ensuring the quality of BIM components is important because:

- *BIM users trust the information contained on BIM Components provided by the manufacturers.*
- *Wrong BIM Components in the cloud or on the internet may create misleading information which could bring legal consequences (if the metadata included in the BIM Components leads to mistakes).*

So yes, BIM seems to be here to stay but the fact is that in spite of spreading fast it is still 'under construction' in several fields (metadata definition, legal issues, liability issues...) and CEIR associates need to state their position before the BIM framework on *product information* but also in terms of *liability* issues are both being defined.

That is why the CEIR Board approved a Position Paper on BIM -which was also supported by FECS (the European Sanitaryware Producers Federation) stating that:

- *There is a growing need for sustainable buildings in both new build and refurbishment projects;*
- *Industry needs cohesive tools to aid manufacturers;*
- *Manufacturers must play a pivotal role in the development of a harmonised BIM system;*
- *Product information is a key aspect: there is a need for a common template across Europe stating which information a BIM object needs to provide;*
- *The liability issue is of key importance: manufacturers must ensure that BIM information is accurate and that all stakeholders understand that this information is linked to the product life cycle and not to the building life cycle.*

This paper, available at <http://ceir.eu/publications/position-papers>, will guide CEIR members when stating its position to the new CEN/TC 442 for BIM standardization -among others- before the CEN/TC 442 develops the structured set of standards, specifications and reports intended to rule the BIM from now on.

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THE 2016 INDUSTRY OUTLOOK: UP FOR A FEW, DOWN FOR MANY

Based on our recently issued *Market Forecast of Industrial Valve Shipments in the United States for 2016* as well as presentations at our recently completed VMA Leadership Forum in Denver coupled with discussions with our industry leaders, 2016 will not be a banner year for the industrial valve industry in the U.S. and Canada.

Our Market Forecast is showing a very flat 2016. The only end-user industries indicating growth are water and wastewater, chemicals and commercial construction.

Others are either flat or down. This reflects what was said by our industry leaders at our Valve Industry Leadership Forum in March. Some of the phrases used to describe this year as well as 2015 were "challenging", "tough" and "no projects". It was also cited that these market conditions were not limited to the U.S. and Canada.

The table below shows the share of market for each of the 15 industries followed in the U.S.:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Power Generation | 12.0% |
| Co-Generation | 1.7% |
| Gas Distribution | 1.8% |
| Oil & Gas Transmission | 6.2% |
| Petroleum Production | 10.5% |
| Petroleum Refining | 11.1% |
| Chemical | 18.7% |
| Iron & Steel | 1.7% |
| Pulp & Paper | 6.4% |
| Marine | 1.4% |
| Commercial Construction | 5.0% |
| Food & Beverage | 2.4% |
| Water & Sewage | 17.8% |
| Mining | 0.6% |
| Textile | 0.4% |
| Other | 2.3% |

Our economic consulting firm ITR Economics made a presentation at the Forum which pretty much echoed what our industry leaders shared with me, namely declining growth in 2016 in the leading indicators related to our industry. ITR went on to say that "U.S. Industrial Production, our benchmark for the U.S. economy (along with GDP) is in decline. The average production over the last three months has declined 2.4% over the last four months." We will continue to monitor 2016 and in August in San Diego at our Market Outlook Workshop we will learn from 11 end-user industry experts the outlook for 2017.

MACHINERY DIRECTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL VALVES: CEIR COMMITTED TO SUPPORT THE INDUSTRY COMPROMISE IN FRONT OF THE EC

The application of the Machinery and Pressure Equipment Directives (PED) to industrial valves has already been discussed within CEIR for several years.

As a reminder, VDMA recently considered changing its

position on this topic: actuated valves would be considered as "machines" and would have to fulfil all requirements of the Machinery Directive and this would also be detailed in the declaration of conformity for the product. This would contradict with the CEIR and BVAA positions and could lead to a very high confusion on the market. We therefore initiated discussions some 2 years ago within the industry but also with the European commission in order to look for a solution that would prevent this situation. The workshop held in February was a success and gathered CEIR, VDMA, BVAA and a number of experts from member companies. Here again, the argument of all parties were extensively discussed.

It appears the road for a position that brings legal security for manufacturers, high levels of safety and simplicity appears quite narrow taking into account the interaction between the Pressure Equipment Directive and the Machinery Directive. Actuated valves that meet the criteria of the machine definition and of the category 1 of pressure equipment directive is automatically excluded from the pressure equipment directive. This is considered as a major loophole for valves and a risk that could see valves' safety and quality decrease in Europe. We all agreed that the industry must find an agreement and the following compromise emerged: for valves covered by PED, only the PED formally applies, and, in addition, the industry commitment to apply the risk analysis and reduction

methodology of the Machinery Directive. Even if VDMA considered that they cannot endorse this principle as a "new position" so far, they agreed that CEIR will still propose this position to the EC Machinery working group (WG): an approval of this WG will hopefully close the endless semantic discussion of the "specific application" of valves and prevent any "category 1" valves being downgraded regarding pressure safety. Therefore, a new text is now being drafted within CEIR that will be presented to the EC WG and national authorities in 2016. However, the involvement of all CEIR members remain necessary until our position can be definitively confirmed and until the confusion on the market is fully cleared.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY: FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT OF PRODUCTS

Environmental footprint has been included in the circular economy package published by the EC in December 2015. What are the challenges for our industry?

Initiatives and standards on this topic have emerged all over the world since the first version of ISO 14020 standard in 1998, which is the basis for most environmental communication schemes. The demand is increasing, pushed by the market and by legislation.

In France, the building and construction sector has developed French standards on "type III environmental declaration". This "type III" is the most stringent way to proceed; a full life cycle analysis of the product must be done, and the environmental impacts, at all life cycle stages, must be communicated in a document which is quite complex. These environmental impacts include the well-known CO₂ carbon footprint, but also others, such as resource depletion or water toxicity. Even though, European standards start to be applied, some principles from the original schemes have been transformed into French laws; it is now forbidden to make any environmental advertising if you do not have a "type III" declaration that support your claim. The objective here is to protect customers from greenwashing. But, it also opens the door to new possibilities; an architect, who may have in hand similar environmental declarations for each component, could calculate the footprint of the whole building. This will be useful for comparing Zero-Emission Buildings; the Environmental performance of the building

will have to give the way for an Environmental performance. Other examples in other countries and other markets could easily be mentioned; the convergence towards a unique methodology is required by several industrial sectors. The European Commission is probably the only actor capable of imposing a single scheme that would allow a company to communicate along its value chain, with its customers in different sectors, all over Europe and other places in the world. Therefore the EC decided to address the issue with its own scheme PEF, Product Environmental Footprint. But this is only one project and a lot of problems still need to be resolved. Potential costs for the industry are still far too high. Some environmental impact indexes are not reliable enough and do not make for consensus. "Resource efficiency" and "end of life" are important focuses for the circular economy, and they are not yet dealt with properly by the methodology. Environmental Footprinting is certainly a fundamental trend that already affects some of our members. CEIR agreed to tackle this issue, which will be an agenda item at the next Sanitary Technical Committee.



CHROMIUM TRIOXIDE: UPDATE ON CTACSub CONSORTIUM APPLICATIONS FOR REACH AUTHORISATION

In 2013, Chromium Trioxide was added to REACH Annex XIV that lists substances subject to authorisation in Europe, with a sunset date of 21 September 2017. Use in Europe of the chemical as a substance or in a mixture after that date requires an authorisation for that use, held either by the downstream user or the user's upstream supplier.

This means companies that manufacture, import or use Chromium Trioxide must put together applications and register these applications with ECHA to obtain an authorisation from the European Commission for the continued necessary use. Each authorisation issued will contain a review period. Authorisation holders that wish to maintain their authorisation beyond the review period will have to file a full set of updated data for re-approval. Several applications have been submitted to ECHA before the deadline (21st of March), relating to the use of Chromium Trioxide in taps and valves industry. Among them, CEIR is especially focusing on the application for authorisation submitted by the Chromium Trioxide Authorisation Submission Consortium (CTACSub), which would cover the remaining uses of Chromium Trioxide in the industry applications where alternatives are not yet available.

CTACSub is a group of seven companies that are upstream suppliers of Chromium Trioxide to the European industry. The applications for authorisation developed by the CTAC is currently in the opinion development stage with ECHA's RAC and SEAC Committees and are expected to be passed on to the European Commission for preparation of a decision in or about June 2016. During the first stages of an authorisation process, RAC and SEAC Committees expressed concerns in relation to exposure conditions at individual company and site level and/or availability of alternatives for certain sub-applications. Because of the large scope of the application, it is possible that RAC and SEAC may recommend short review periods and/or impose the setting of impractical workplace conditions in the authorisation recommendation. This point is very important, because if the review period is too short, the short term benefit of continued use would be far outweighed by the effects of market uncertainty. In any case an authorisation with an overly short review period would not change the availability of alternatives in any significant way, which should be the main basis for determining the length of the review period.

CEIR will continue to monitor the developments on all authorisation applications made by industry for Chromium Trioxide. Nevertheless we stress the concept that if authorisation is not granted (or granted with too short review period), the economic consequences for the EEA will be significant - production of products relying on Chromium Trioxide would be undermined in Europe, with no real benefit to health and environment gained.

NEW REGULATION (EU) 2016/426 ON APPLIANCES BURNING GASEOUS FUELS

As of 21 April 2018, Directive 2009/142/EC will be repealed by a new Regulation (EU) 2016/426 of the European Parliament and of the Council dated 9 March 2016 for appliances burning gaseous fuels and repealing Directive 2009/142/EC. By that date, the 28 pieces of national legislation transposing the current Directive will be replaced by one single piece of legislation.

This Regulation is aligned to the New Legislative Framework and has been published in the Official Journal on 31st March 2016.

Regulation (EU) 2016/426 clarifies the requirements each gas appliance and fitting has to fulfil. The need for interpretation of the provisions of the Regulation is reduced through introduction of definitions for the sector specific terminology, used in order to facilitate the application of the legislation. The Regulation also introduces harmonised content for the communication of gas supply conditions in EU countries, enabling the design and construction of safe and correctly performing products.

BUSINESS PROGRAMME OF THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL VALVE INDUSTRY FORUM & EXPO' 2016 HAS BEEN CONFIRMED



Organizers confirmed the Business Programme of the 3rd International Valve Industry Forum & Expo' 2016 Pipeline valves for oil and gas industry, power engineering, communal and public utilities which will be held in Moscow, pavilion 75 of VDNH on June 21-23 2016.

Business programme is a key event of the Valve Industry Forum & Expo, its aim is a constructive dialogue between consumers and manufacturers of pipeline valves for oil and gas industry, power engineering, chemistry, housing and public utilities.

This year organizers have replaced the format of the conferences and lectures. All the events have been organized to provide participants with the opportunity to discuss industry issues and identify inter-industry cooperation.

The Business Programme of the 3rd International Valve Industry Forum & Expo' 2016 includes:

- Scientific and technical conference "InnoValve (Engineering innovations in the sphere of valve industry. Technical expertise of innovations)";

- Discussion club "Ways to implement innovations in oil and gas industry facilities" <http://valve-forum.ru/for-members/events/event1/>;
- Seminar "Structural assessment of pipeline valves during life-cycle phases. Technologies and equipment for production, diagnostics and repair";
- Round-table discussion "Technical requirements for pipeline valves on power facilities";
- Discussion club "Standardization in the Russian valve industry: global integration or independent development?";
- Round-table discussion "Aggressive mediums: domestic manufacturing capacities";
- Seminar "Special aspects of process medium flow control".

Companies such as: "Gazprom neft" PJSC, "KINEF" Ltd., "TeploEnergoProekt Ltd.", "InterRAO" PJSC, "Atomenergoproekt" JSC, Association "RusChlor", SRO "Neftegazhimproekt", "Metso" Ltd., "NPO GAKS-ARMSERVIS", MosCKBA etc., and representatives of ASTM International will be amongst the co-organizers of the events.

The Motto of the Valve Industry Forum & Expo' 2016 – Forum for Professionals!

We invite specialists from the oil and gas industries, petrochemical industry, power engineering including nuclear power industry, chemistry, pharmaceutical, water supply systems and other consumers of valves to participate in the events which will be held in the pavilion 75 of VDNH on June 21-23, 2016.

We look forward to seeing you and your colleagues amongst the participants of the conference, seminar and discussion groups.

CEIR 2016-2017 upcoming events & meetings

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| CEIR Board | 18 May 2016 | Lyon (F) |
| CEIR ErP WG meeting | June 2016 (tbc) | Frankfurt (D) |
| CEIR BIM Working Group | 4 July 2016 | Paris (F) |
| VMA & VRC Annual Meeting | 21-23 September 2016 | Rancho Mirage CA (USA) |
| PMI Spring Conference | 25-27 September 2016 | San Diego CA (USA) |
| BIM Workshop | 3 October 2016 | Birmingham (UK) |
| CEIR Marketing & Communication Committee | Autumn 2016 (tbc) | |
| CEIR Sanitary Valves Technical Committee | Autumn 2016 (tbc) | |
| CEIR Industry & Building Valves Technical Committee | Autumn 2016 (tbc) | |
| VALVE WORLD EXPO 2016 | 29 November-1 December 2016 | Düsseldorf (D) |
| ISH 2017 | 14-18 March 2017 | Frankfurt (D) |
| CEIR Congress | May / June 2017 (tbc) | Brussels (BE) |



THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TAPS AND VALVES INDUSTRY

DEFENDING AND PROMOTING THE VALVES INDUSTRY SINCE 1959

CEIR represents the common economic, technical and scientific interests of the European valves industry, in particular towards European and international authorities, and in economic and commercial circles. CEIR gathers 13 national associations with a total of 340 companies in Europe. CEIR is the European reference body, cooperating with international institutions and bodies on technical matters, harmonised regulations and rules for efficient and environmentally-friendly taps and valves.

- CEIR develops appropriate programmes and tools to support the European valves and taps industry in understanding and maintaining a good knowledge of valves and taps technologies and the related market requirements.
- CEIR promotes safety, energy savings and environmental integrity.
- CEIR maintains an open and constructive dialogue with all EU stakeholders and institutions determining or influencing the progress of our industry.
- CEIR participates in European and international standards organisations.
- CEIR is a non-profit organisation, registered in the European Union Transparency Register under the number 54018122087-60.

There are 3 CEIR Committees in charge of marketing and technical aspects where members can network and work together to influence incoming legislation.

- The Sanitary Technical Committee comprises experts from the main taps and showerheads manufacturers and associations in Europe. It informs and advises its members on all product-specific technical matters. It mainly works on EU regulatory developments, standardisation and pre-normative issues.
- The Building and Industrial Valves Technical Committee comprises manufacturers of gas, heating, water and fire-fighting valves in all CEIR member countries. It also includes manufacturers of valves, actuators and associated products for all industrial applications. The Committee represents the common economic, technical and scientific interests of its manufacturer members. Here again, it informs and advises its members on all product-specific technical matters, EU regulatory developments, standardisation and pre-normative issues.
- The Marketing and Communication Committee is in charge of coordinating "The Gazette", the CEIR newsletter. It launched the CEIR Quarterly Business Trends Survey in 2012 and has produced a "Valve Terminology" CD. The Committee is also in charge of the website and the promotion of CEIR.

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