



# IN BRIEF



March 2018

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## Welcome!

Welcome to the March edition of In Brief – the newsletter that keeps you up to date on the latest Brussels developments affecting engineering, technology and manufacturing.

Spring has arrived, and with it a blossoming of interest in all things industry here in Brussels. The buzz surrounding this year's [EU Industry Day](#) was undeniable, with the event attracting an impressive array of high-level guests including Commission Vice Presidents Katainen and Šefčovič, and Commissioners Bieńkowska and Moedas. Orgalime's workshop provoked a lively debate by tying together some of the biggest topics of the moment – more on that below.

EU Industry Day also coincided with the first meeting of the ['Industry 2030' High-Level Roundtable](#). Announced in the Industrial Strategy Communication last year, this group is tasked with advising the Commission on future priorities to strengthen Europe's industrial base – and is made up of leading figures from across the manufacturing sector, including Orgalime President Tomas Hedenborg.

Plus, the digital transformation continues to be in the spotlight: the 2018 [Digitising European Industry \(DEI\) Stakeholder Forum](#) at the end of March brought industry and policy experts from across the EU to Paris to take stock of the state of play of the Commission's DEI initiative. Orgalime was there, with our President Tomas Hedenborg contributing to a panel discussion on the

Scroll down to find out what else has been keeping us busy...



Digitisation must be embedded in a forward-looking industrial strategy that addresses the big picture of how policy shapes companies' environments – and that helps maximise industry's contribution to Europe's economy and society.

**Tomas Hedenborg, President of Orgalime**



European Commission | #DEIforum #DigitiseEU



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Forward

## **Digital meets Energy meets Circular Economy: connecting the dots at EU Industry Day**

The second annual EU Industry Day brought together leading figures from the worlds of industry and policy for a programme designed to spark debate on the future of European manufacturing. Orgalime was selected to host a stakeholder workshop on Day 1 of the event, tackling three of the biggest topics in engineering and tech today: digitisation, the energy transition and the move towards a circular economy.

Following a keynote address from Andreea Strachinescu of the European Commission's DG Energy, representatives from the engineering sectors showcased how investment in digital, low-carbon, energy-efficiency and resource-efficiency technologies can create new opportunities for citizens, employees and industry. The lively panel discussion that followed saw these industry speakers exchange views with representatives of European trade union IndustriALL and consumer association BEUC – providing food for thought

Weren't able to join us at EU Industry Day? Catch up with the workshop [webstream](#), or find out more about the topics discussed [on our website](#).



## Industry's priorities for a cybersafe Internet of Things

With negotiations on the Commission's proposal for a Cybersecurity Act underway in the European Parliament, Orgalime has been actively promoting our industry's priorities to ensure a flexible and effective framework that can deliver maximum protection for data and systems in the IoT era.

A high-level roundtable co-hosted by Orgalime and the European Forum for Manufacturing (EFM) gave company speakers the opportunity to share insights from the frontline with MEPs and Commission representatives. Their message was clear: cybersecurity is a top priority for the engineering and technology sector. It will be crucial to the successful digital transformation of industry and is a prerequisite to building trust in connected products and services.

Clearly then, there is an urgent need to strengthen cybersecurity at EU level. As it stands, however, the Commission's proposal is unlikely to best serve this aim. Company speakers explained why more flexibility in the proposals on certification and greater involvement of industry stakeholders is needed to

Read an overview of industry, Commission and MEP views presented at the roundtable [here](#) and check out [our gallery](#) for photos from the evening.



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## Joining forces for an FP9 that strengthens collaborative industrial research

As we pointed out in a recent [position paper](#) and in discussions with decision-makers at the highest level of the EU institutions, applied industrial research must remain a cornerstone of the EU's research, development and innovation (RDI) policy if Europe is to be consistent about pursuing an ambitious industrial strategy. And as negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) enter a crucial phase this year, it is more important than ever to underline the role of industrial RDI funding in securing the competitiveness of EU industry on the global stage.

This is why Orgalime has joined forces with 25 other key industrial and research stakeholders to sign a [joint declaration](#) calling on the European Commission, Parliament and Council to ensure that the next EU RDI Framework Programme FP9 is equipped with the structure and budget necessary to deliver on the ambitions of the renewed EU Industrial Policy Strategy.

Our main messages? Build on the success of Horizon 2020 to maximise the impact of EU-funded RDI for European society; strengthen industry's capacity to scale-up innovative technologies; help Europe remain at the forefront of global innovation; and support European cross-border industry-driven collaborative RDI, including through Public-Private Partnerships and Joint Technology Initiatives.



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## Towards smarter, simpler market surveillance

The EU Internal Market is crucial to the success of Europe's engineering and technology industry. But the smooth functioning of this market does not happen by itself: efficient and effective market surveillance is essential to ensure the rules that make it work are enforced on the ground in Member States.

This is why we have long called for enhanced market surveillance of products across the EU – and why we welcomed the Commission's recent proposal for a Regulation on compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation. As the European Parliament and Council begin their deliberations on the file, we are encouraging them to seize this opportunity to create a level playing field in the Internal Market while protecting the health and safety of consumers.

At a recent event co-hosted with EFM at the European Parliament, we shared our [key messages](#) on the proposal with MEPs, Commission and Council representatives. Company speakers from across the engineering and tech industries drew on their real-world experience to explain how more robust enforcement and simpler compliance procedures can make a difference to their competitiveness and daily operations.

A full report on the event can be accessed [here](#), and a photo gallery from the evening can be found on our [Flickr page](#).





**32**

national member federations



**10**

associate members  
(European sector associations)



**23**

countries represented



**11 million**

direct workers



**2000 billion**

turnover (in 2016)

**Orgalime is the European federation representing the interests at the level of the EU institutions of the European mechanical, electrical, electronic and metal articles industries as a whole.**



ORGALIME



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