



# IN BRIEF



October 2017

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## Welcome!

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

The benefits of digitisation and data-driven business are well and truly taking off across the industries represented by Orgalime. And the impact is already being felt on the ground, with engineering companies reporting a significant increase in output and employment over the past year.

To keep this momentum going, it will be essential to ensure the right framework at EU level. So from the Tallinn Digital Summit to the Industrial Innovation Information Days here in Brussels, it was encouraging to see European policymakers this month turn their attention to central aspects of the digital transformation, such as the data economy, cybersecurity and industrial R&I – all key focus areas of Orgalime's work.

The upcoming Orgalime General Assembly on 22 and 23 November will tackle some of these crucial topics: keynote speaker Commission Vice-President Andrus Ansip will address the evolving role of data and digitisation in manufacturing, and company representatives will share examples of how the data economy is providing a boost to their businesses.

Scroll down for more on what has been keeping us busy this month...

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## Orgalime at the Financial Times Future of Manufacturing Summit

Automation, digitisation, servitisation... what exactly does the future hold for industry? At the Financial Times Future of Manufacturing Summit on 3 October, senior business leaders, policy makers and journalists assembled in London to find out.

Orgalime joined the debate as the representative of the European engineering sector – the largest industrial branch in the EU. Participating in a panel discussion, Director General Adrian Harris addressed the role policy should play in an industry landscape being transformed by digitisation. His advice to policymakers? The Fourth Industrial Revolution is underway, but it's still early days: regulating too much too soon could hinder innovation and prevent companies from unlocking the potential of data-driven business models.

Read our full report on the summit [here](#). For more on our recommendations for industrial policy in the digital age, check out our [Vision Paper](#).



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## Spotlighting digitisation in Tallinn

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European leaders to the Baltic state's capital for the Tallinn Digital Summit. On the agenda? The digital transformation of Europe's economy and society.

The [summit conclusions](#) covered many issues central to the digitisation of industry – from the free flow of data to digital skills, infrastructure and cybersecurity. Orgalime has weighed in on the debate in these areas, with position papers on the [data economy](#) and the importance of a [secure cyberspace](#) in the IoT arena.

Digitisation was again spotlighted in the Estonian capital on 19 September: 28 Member States plus Norway, the European Commission, and a number of industry associations including Orgalime signed the [Tallinn e-Energy Declaration](#) in support of accelerating the deployment of digital technology in the energy sector. Orgalime has long advocated digitisation as the basis of a modern, smart and flexible energy distribution system – as summarised in our [position paper](#) on the Commission's Clean Energy Package earlier this year.



*Source: Estonian Presidency of the Council of the EU, 2017*

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## **Industrial Innovation Information Days: R&I funding as a trigger for industrial investment**

Organised by the European Commission, Industrial Innovation Information Days on 3 and 4 October drew some 1,000 stakeholders to Brussels to discuss the future of industrial research in Europe.

Orgalime was represented at the event by association President Tomas Hedenborg: on a panel addressing the role of EU research funding as a trigger for industrial investment, he highlighted the value of Horizon 2020 in helping companies of all sizes push forward with innovative new technologies and business models.

industrial pillar of Horizon 2020 delivers real value-added to the competitiveness of European firms and helps attract manufacturing investment back to Europe.

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## Save the date: European Industry Day 2018

Last year's [inaugural European Industry Day](#) brought together around 600 industry and policy stakeholders with the aim of sparking debate on the future of manufacturing in the EU. As announced in the European Commission's recent [Industrial Policy Strategy](#), the event is set to become a regular fixture on the Brussels calendar. Now, the date has been set for the second European Industry Day: [22 and 23 February 2018](#).

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*Source: European Commission, 2017*

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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.

- national member federations
-  **9** associate members (European sector associations)
  -  **23** countries represented
  -  **11 million** direct workers
  -  **2000 billion** turnover (in 2016)

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