



IN BRIEF



Summer 2018

Welcome!

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

The sun is shining, temperatures are rising – and things are hotting up in the Brussels bubble too, following an action-packed opening to the summer months. From worrying developments in international trade to the announcement of the Commission’s eagerly awaited Horizon Europe proposal, there has been no sign of a summer lull in the EU policy landscape.

Crucially for the European technology industries, the last few weeks have seen movement on shaping an EU industrial strategy. In addition to the launch of the [High-Level Expert Group on AI](#) (more on that below), the Industry 2030 High-Level Roundtable has now hit its stride with a second meeting held in late June. We are delighted to be at the table to contribute the perspective of the European technology industries, represented by our President Tomas Hedenborg.

It is the right moment to think ahead to the role industry will play in the future of Europe’s economy and society. With European Parliament elections fast approaching, we may be heading for a change in the political landscape. And with the technology industries themselves in a time of transformation, we need to work together with policymakers to maximise the contribution our firms can make to creating a greener, healthier and prosperous future for Europe and its citizens.

Scroll down to read more about what has been keeping us busy so far this summer...

Know someone who would be interested in reading the latest on Orgalime's work? Feel free to share this newsletter with your network:



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Forward

Orgalime Annual Report: out now

Interested in reading highlights from Orgalime's work in 2017 – and want to find out more about our current priorities? Then be sure to check out our Annual Report, [now available to read online](#) or as a [PDF download](#) from our website.

This year's report is all about transformation: the European technology industries we represent are undergoing a profound transformation – and the innovative products and systems emerging as a result can provide answers to the changing needs of European society.

But to maximise the contribution of tech firms to Europe's economy and society, we need a new approach to industrial strategy at EU level. Explore in the Orgalime Annual Report how we have been promoting this objective across all areas of our work – from [industrial policy and digitisation](#), to [energy and environment policy](#) and the [Internal Market](#), and from [trade and legal](#) issues to [R&D&I](#).

Industry in **transformation...** **...transformation** in society

A new approach to EU industrial strategy

ORGALIME
ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Talking tech in vibrant Vilnius: the Orgalime General Assembly meets in Lithuania

Each summer Orgalime takes its General Assembly on the road, hosted by a different national association somewhere in Europe. This June presented the first opportunity to visit the small but mighty Baltic state of Lithuania, where we were welcomed by our local member LINPRA.

Over two days delegates tackled the burning EU policy issues impacting the European technology industries, mapping the course for Orgalime's work in the coming months. The highlight was the public session on the afternoon of 12 June: a series of keynotes and panel debates brought together speakers from government, industry and academia to dissect the transformation unfolding in the technology industries in Lithuania and across Europe – and what benefits this can bring to European society.

Check out our [event report](#) for an in-depth recap of the Vilnius General Assembly, including some key stats on Lithuanian industry, a profile of LINPRA and an insight into some of the innovations emerging from tech companies in the Baltic state. And be sure to visit our [Flickr gallery](#) to view photos from the panel debates and gala dinner.



Three new members join the Orgalime family

Orgalime is delighted to welcome three new members as formally approved by the General Assembly in June: AQUA, the European water and heat meter manufacturers association; CECE, the Committee for European Construction Equipment; and Europacable, the voice of the European wire and cable industry.

Representing three highly innovative branches of the EU technology industries, these European-level sector associations are perfectly placed to enrich our advocacy work with their unique viewpoint and expertise. Read more about their work [here](#).



High-Level Group on AI: Orgalime representing European firms at forefront of tech development

The Brussels buzz around Artificial Intelligence (AI) grows louder each week: following the release of a Communication on AI in late April, the Commission has now launched a new [High-Level Expert Group](#) to advise on implementation of a European strategy for this crucial future technology – and Orgalime has

been selected as a member.

Representing European firms that are world leaders in integrating cutting-edge AI applications with state-of-the-art industrial products and systems, Orgalime brings a valuable viewpoint to the table. We are convinced that AI will be a central pillar of Europe's future competitiveness and its ability to address critical societal challenges. But the right approach will be key, as we summarise in our [five key recommendations](#) for the next steps at European level.

We had the opportunity to explore in more detail how AI can strengthen industry's competitive edge at a roundtable debate co-organised with the European Forum for Manufacturing (EFM) at the European Parliament on 20 June. Chaired by MEP Henna Virkkunen, the event saw company speakers discuss key issues with MEPs from across the political spectrum and the European Commission as represented by Deputy Director-General of DG CONNECT Khalil Rouhana. A round-up of the debate can be [downloaded from the EFM website](#), and a photo gallery is available [here](#).



Ambition in the right place with Horizon Europe proposal

On 7 June the wait was over: the Commission announced its proposal for the eagerly anticipated follow-up to the Horizon 2020 Research & Innovation (R&I) Framework Programme, now going by the name Horizon Europe. With a proposed budget of €100 billion, the ambition is high – and rightly so, as EU

funding for R&I has an important part to play in bolstering the competitive edge of European industry on the global stage.

Orgalime has been very active in [promoting the value of EU R&I](#) Framework Programmes for collaborative industrial research. So it was great to see the Commission's proposal retain a strong focus on industrial competitiveness. After all, the innovations that emerge from industry are those that most quickly make it to market where they can have the biggest impact on citizens' lives.

At a recent event co-organised with our Swedish member Teknikföretagen in late June, we discussed how to ensure Horizon Europe best supports these objectives. Now, the debate will move to the European Parliament and Council – where we are advocating rapid action from EU legislators to deliver on the ambition of the Commission's proposal.



Clean Energy 4.0 on the agenda at EU Sustainable Energy Week

[EU Sustainable Energy Week \(EUSEW\)](#), the foremost European conference dedicated to sustainable energy policy issues, took place in Brussels from 4 to 8 June. Orgalime was proud to be once again selected as a Strategic Partner to the event this year, and we also had the opportunity to host a session on 7 June together with the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER), CERRE and APPLiA.

Entitled 'Clean Energy 4.0: Designing a New Era for All Europeans Together', the session took a deep dive into the irreversible digital and clean energy transition – exploring the challenges but most importantly the opportunities of the latest developments. Couldn't join us on the day? Watch the session webstream back [here](#) and view photos from the event [here](#).



Joint letter: US steel tariffs call for measured response

Following the US government's decision to introduce tariffs on EU steel, the European Commission has responded with measures of its own including duties on quintessentially American products like Harley Davidsons and Kentucky Bourbon. The international escalation is already prompting talk of a trade dispute – and in a confrontation like that, there would be no winners.

Linked to these developments is the Commission's launch of a 'safeguard investigation' to assess the need to control flows of steel into the EU following the US decision. Orgalime is convinced that Europe needs to keep a cool head. We [remain committed to a robust international free trade policy](#); indeed, as steel users the industries we represent would be hard hit by ever greater layers of protection for this vital raw material.

To drive this message home, we have joined forces with other downstream users of steel from the automotive, construction equipment, agriculture machinery and home appliances sectors in a letter to Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström – get the [full story here](#).



Making sense of the recast WEEE Directive: Orgalime Guide available to download now

The countdown is on: from 15 August 2018 the scope changes introduced by the recast Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) will kick into gear, turning the existing “closed” scope of ten product categories into an “open scope”. The result? Certain equipment previously excluded will now be subject to the Directive’s provisions.



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ORGALIME GUIDE

A practical guide to understanding
the scope and obligations of

Directive 2012/19/EU on
Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
(WEEE)

But never fear, Orgalime is here with a new [Guide to Understanding the Scope and Obligations on the WEEE Directive](#), providing descriptions of the legal text of the recast WEEE Directive and related Commission FAQ document – together with interpretations, criteria and decision trees to help producers determine whether or not their products fall within the updated scope.

An overview of the Guide’s contents can be found [on our website](#), and the Guide in full can be downloaded free of charge by registering on our [publications website](#).

Orgalime at the Financial Times Future of Manufacturing Summit – join us there!

On 3 and 4 October 2018, the Financial Times Future of Manufacturing Summit will be held in London and Orgalime will once again be Partner Association to the event.

Focusing on the theme of 'Transformative Action to Enhance Industry 4.0 Value', the summit will bring together key stakeholders from global manufacturing industries. Panellists will include Orgalime Director General Malte Lohan, who will discuss global smart initiatives to support innovative, sustainable and competitive manufacturing.

To find out more about the event and how to register, [click here](#). Delegates from companies within Orgalime's member network qualify for a discounted rate – [contact the communications department](#) for further information!



The banner features a teal background with a white technical drawing of a mechanical part. In the top left corner is the FT logo. The main text reads 'FT FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING SUMMIT' in large, bold, black letters, followed by '03 -04 October 2018 | London'. In the bottom right corner, there is a white button with the text 'Register Now' and a right-pointing arrow.

About Orgalime

Orgalime, the European Technology Industries, speaks for 45 trade federations representing the mechanical, electrical, electronic, metalworking & metal technologies industries of 23 European countries. The industry employs nearly 11 million people in the EU and in 2017 accounted for some €2000 billion of output. The industry represents over a quarter of the output of manufactured products and over a third of the manufactured exports of the European Union.



32
national member federations



13
associate members
(European sector associations)



23
countries represented



11 million
direct workers



2000 billion
turnover (in 2017)

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