

Mr. Günter Verheugen
Vice President of the
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 3 April 2008

Industrial policy: EnginEurope report mechanical engineering follow-up

Dear Commissioner, dear Mr. Verheugen,

Following your recent meeting with our President Mr. Robert Mahler for which we would like to thank you, we have the pleasure of enclosing a position paper of our mechanical engineering branch on the follow up to the EnginEurope which we discussed at this meeting. This report, issued in May 2007, was drafted jointly by representatives of the Commission, six member states, the trade unions and industry and includes some sixty five recommendations addressed to the different stakeholders.

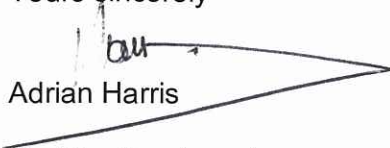
Orgalime considers the follow up of these recommendations as essential towards ensuring that Europe's mechanical engineering industry maintains its position as one of EU's major manufacturing sectors which contributes the highest value added of any industrial sector.

We would like thank the Commission for its support in launching the implementation this report: a number of its recommendations have indeed already been taken up. Others, however, still need to be so. The enclosed position paper therefore highlights those key issues to which our mechanical engineering industry branch attaches particular importance. These include among other:

- The need for a further harmonisation of workers' protection legislation where it impacts the design and manufacturing of products
- The greening of industrial policy where mechanical engineering plays a significant role as provider of a large range of technologies and equipment
- The area of market surveillance, where after the adoption of the marketing of goods package, we highlight the need for effective implementation
- The importance of the promotion of EU-standards around the globe, which, with an effective IPR system and market access play a key role in our exports
- The issue of skills and human resources, where we encourage the Commission to further develop benchmarking so as to highlight areas of shortages
- EU funded R&D, which still remains an issue for our companies.

Thanking you in advance for your continued support in this area on which we look forward to continuing our fruitful cooperation with your services,

Yours sincerely



Adrian Harris

Cc: Ms. Szychowska
Mssrs Zourek, Ortùn, Koopman, Montoya, Herbert, Bergmann, Calvo Basaran and Vopel
The European Engineering Industries Association