



CEIR

The European Association for the Taps and Valve Industry

November 2014

THE NEW EUROPEAN POLITICAL LANDSCAPE AND INSTITUTIONS 2014-2019

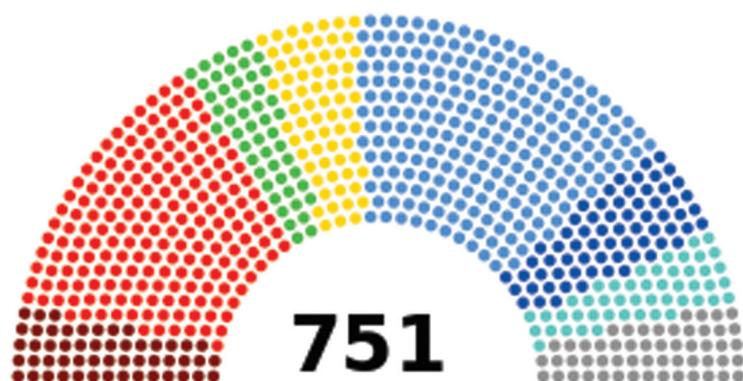
RESULTS OF THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS: HOW NEW FRAGMENTISM WILL CHANGE PARLIAMENT'S WORK

The elections for the 751 (previously 766) seats of the European Parliament were held in May 2014 (see full results in graphs 1 and 2). Most parties suffered losses, except for the radical left, conservatives and eurosceptics who gained votes. The centre right (EPP) remains the strongest party since 1999. Conservatives (ECR, originally founded by British Tories) has become the third biggest political group, bigger than the liberals (ALDE). The radical left (GUE-NGL) surpassed the greens.

Due to the new political fragmentation it will become increasingly difficult to reach a predictable majority (376 Members of Parliament (MEPs)). A "great coalition" of centre right (EPP) and socialists (S&D) would reach around 410. However, considering the "classical" coalitions amongst political families, neither the centre right (EPP), conservatives (ECR) and liberals (ALDE) combined, nor socialists (S&D), radical left (GUE-NGL) and greens combined can reach a "right of centre" or "left of centre" majority. Consequently, the EPP and S&D have announced that they will cooperate more closely than before, but there will be no formal great coalition.

The impact of this new political fragmentation, greater number of eurosceptics and greater strength of the conservatives is not possible to assess yet. It may result in either longer and more difficult discussions, or more pragmatic positions and coalitions. Martin Schulz was re-elected as EP President for the next 2½ years; two outgoing Vice Presidents of the Barroso Commission, Antonio Tajani (EPP), Italy – former Commissioner for Enterprise and Industry and Olli Rehn (ALDE), Finland – former Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs, were elected as two of the fourteen EP Vice Presidents.

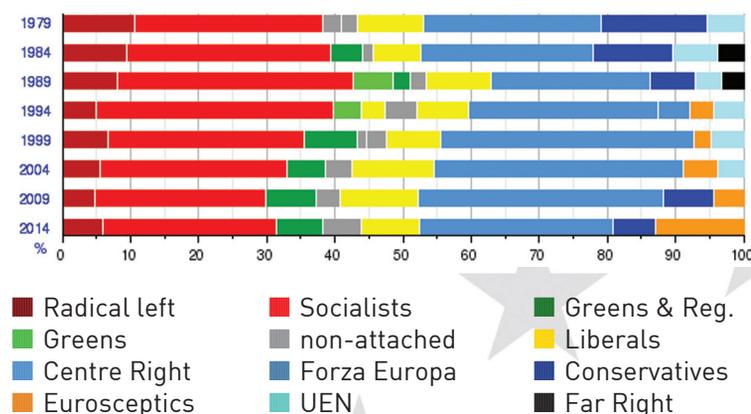
The results by political group:



- Radical Left (GUE-NGL/52) ■ Socialists (S&D/191)
- Greens (50) ■ Liberals (ALDE/67) ■ Centre Right (EPP/221)
- Conservatives (ECR/70) ■ Eurosceptics and Right (EFDD/48)
- non-attached (NI/52)

Graph 1 / Source: Wikipedia.org

European election results in a historical context:



Graph 2 / Source: Wikipedia.org

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT AND POLITICAL GROUPS

Martin Schulz (S&D, DE) was re-elected as President of the Parliament for 2½ years, and similarly to previous parliaments, it is expected that a member of the centre right (EPP) will take over as President after his term. There are 14 Vice Presidents. There will be 7 political groups:

- **EPP - European People's Party/Centre Right**, 221 members, chaired by Manfred Weber (DE)
- **S&D - Socialists and Democrats**, 191 members, chaired by Gianni Pittella (IT)
- **ECR - European Conservatives and Reformists**, 70 members, chaired by Syed Kamall (UK) now third biggest group in place of the liberals
- **ALDE - Alliance of Liberals and Democrats**, 67 members, chaired by Guy Verhofstadt (BE)
- **GUE/NGL - United Left**, 52 members, chaired by Gabriele Zimmer (DE) and now stronger than the Greens
- **GREENS/EFA**, 50 members co-chaired by Philippe Lamberts (BE) and Rebecca Harms (DE)
- **EFDD - Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy – Eurosceptic and right wing**, 48 members, co-chaired by Nigel Farage (UKIP) (UK) and David Borrelli (5 star movement) (IT)
- Some movements labelled "non-attached" (NI) in 2014 will join parties.

THE PARLIAMENT COMMITTEES (WORKING BODIES)

The new Parliament still has 20 standing committees, consisting of 28 to 86 members each. Each of the committees and the two subcommittees have one Chair and 4 Vice Chairs. The committees are the bodies discussing the details of future legislation. The most interesting ones for the taps and valves industry are:

- **Industry, Research and Energy - ITRE:** chaired by Jerzy Buzek (EPP, Poland)
- **Internal Market and Consumer Protection - IMCO:** chaired by Vicky Ford (ECR, UK)

- **Environment, Public Health and Food Safety - ENVI:** chaired by Giovanni La Via (EPP, IT) (previously chair of the Agriculture Committee)
- **International Trade - INTA:** chaired by Bernd Lange (S&D, DE)
- **Legal Affairs - JURI:** chaired by Pavel Svoboda (EPP, newly elected, CZ)
- **Economic and Monetary Affairs - ECON:** chaired by Roberto Gualtieri (S&D, IT)
- **Transport and Tourism - TRAN:** chaired by Michael Cramer (Greens, DE)

A NEW EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE: PRAGMATISM TO ADAPT TO EUROPE'S PRIORITIES

On 15 July, during the second plenary session of the newly elected European Parliament, the European Council nominee for the Commission Presidency, former Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean Claude Juncker, was elected. Informal consultations with the Member States on the allocation of the Commission portfolios ended on 31 July, and the list of Commissioners and their portfolios was published on 10 September. The candidates-designate went through heated parliamentary hearings until beginning mid-October, and the Parliament finally approved the College as a whole on October 22. The Commission took office on 1 November.

Commission President Juncker announced the broader political guidelines of the new Commission, which is to focus on tackling the big political challenges in Europe today: generate more employment, motivate more investments, reinstate an economy-based banking system, create a connected digital market, and eliminate Europe's dependence on energy.

The proposed Commission includes 5 former Prime Ministers, 4 Deputy Prime Ministers, 7 returning Commissioners and 8

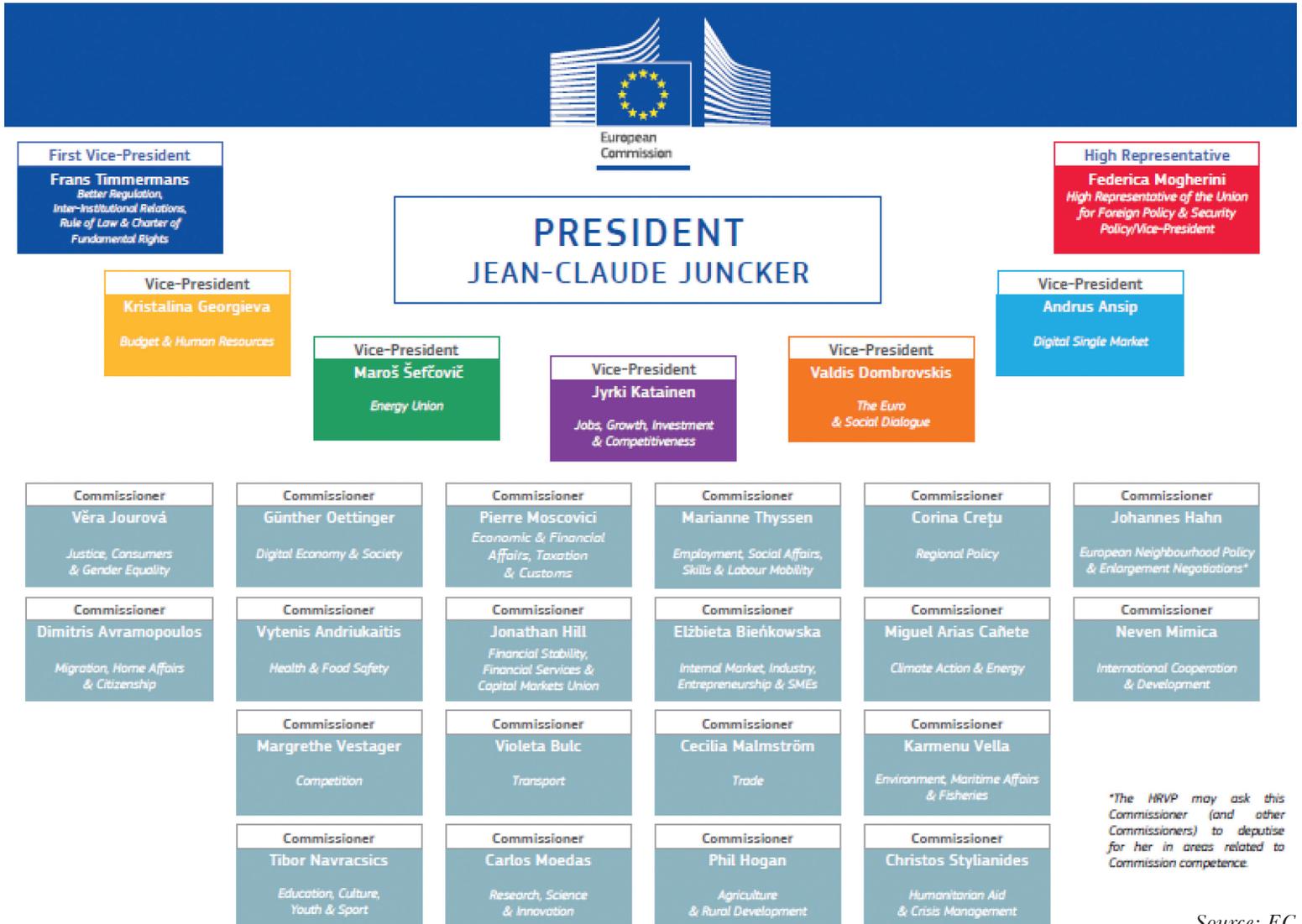
former Members of the European Parliament. 11 of these have an economic and finance background, while 8 have foreign relations experience.

The organigram of the European Commission (see graph 3) has been significantly reformed, in an attempt to focus on the EU's political priorities, create more synergies and flexibility on future EU policies, and move away from the former perceived "technocratic" structure.

The new College will have 7 Vice-Presidents (6 in addition to the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Policy and Security Policy - Federica Mogherini), each leading a so-called project team. These project teams are meant to reflect the President's announced priorities. Commissioners will need to have the support of the Vice-Presidents to bring legislative initiatives to life. There is a clear attempt to favour focused, coherent and across-the-board policy-making, which has been supported by many industry and other sectors in recent years.

The first Vice President, Frans Timmermans (S&D, NL) is considered as the right-hand of Commission President Juncker, and is responsible for the 'Better Regulation' agenda, thereby having a broader coordination and steering role over the whole College of Commissioners. As stated in the Commission's press release announcing the new College, "the aim is also to ensure that every Commission proposal is truly required and that the aims cannot best be achieved by Member States". It remains to be seen if this promises a true assessment of the need for new legislation, or a mere shift towards Member States, translating in less harmonisation under the cover of subsidiarity.

A number of Commission Directorates General (DGs) have been merged, including some of significant relevance for taps and valves industry, in order to facilitate a more integrated approach to areas with cross-cutting objectives:



*The HRVP may ask this Commissioner (and other Commissioners) to deputise for her in areas related to Commission competence.

Source: EC

- New Vice President for **Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness** is asked to prepare a Jobs, Growth and Investment Package within the first three months of the new Commission
- New **Internal Market** (ex-DG MARKT), **Industry** (ex-DG ENTR), **Entrepreneurship and SME** portfolio (Elzbieta Bienkowska - PL) aims to be “the engine house of the real economy”
- One Commissioner (Miguel Arias Cañete - ESP) for both **Climate Action** (ex-DG CLIMA) and **Energy Policy** (ex-DG Energy) has a clear policy line: strengthening the share of renewable energies is both climate change and industrial policy.
- The **Environment** portfolio has been merged with **Maritime Affairs and Fisheries** (Karmenu Vella - MLT): “protecting the environment and maintaining our competitiveness have to go hand-in-hand; both are about a sustainable future”
- Consumer Policy is combined with Gender and **Justice for Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality** (Vera Jourová CZ)
- The **Digital Economy and Society** portfolio under former Commissioner for Energy Gunther Oettinger (D) sees a reinforcement of ex-DG Connect through the addition of responsibilities in the area of IPR and communication.

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE EU PRESIDENCY

The extraordinary European Council Summit on 30 August formally elected Donald Tusk as the President of the European Council (from 1 December 2014 to 31 May 2017) and Federica Mogherini as the High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy (from 1 October until 31 October 2019).

On 1 July 2014, Greece handed over the EU's Presidency to Italy for 6 months. Italy has already held the Presidency of the Council of the EU 11 times since the signing of the Treaty of Rome in 1957.

The three main priorities of the Italian Presidency are: 1) Employment and economic growth, 2) Full exercise of citizenship rights – a space for democracy, rights and freedom 3) External dimension – strengthening the European Union's foreign policy.

The next EU presidencies are Latvia (January-June 2015) and Luxembourg (July-December 2015).

Stéphanie Uny
CEIR Secretary General

THE EUROPEAN WATER LABEL CONTINUES ITS GROWTH

Support for the voluntary European Water Label is continuing to grow and the summer months have seen no letup in the number of brands and products being registered.

“We are delighted how the scheme is performing” say Yvonne Orgill, Chief Executive of the European Water Label. “We now have 66 Brands and 6600 products listed and



we receive enquiries from across Europe and beyond on a daily basis. It's great to see that this entirely voluntary label is regarded a powerful tool which is simple and honest and low cost.”

A recent report from WRAP, part of DEFRA, the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, showed the results of their consumer testing of the label. The report showed the consumer attitudes to, and purchase behaviour around, water efficient bathroom fittings and the European Water Label.

The report concluded that water efficiency has the potential to exert a 'point of sale' influence on purchase choices. There are two distinct parts to this conclusion.

Firstly, and on its own, water efficiency appears to be a mid-ranking influence that could have a substantial sway on purchase decisions but only in a relatively constrained set of circumstances, where the main considerations such as style, design, and price are similar and where water efficiency can act as a differentiator.

Secondly, the potential influence of water efficiency can be increased by association with other motivations, particularly the 'first order' considerations (i.e. style/design, price, performance). For example, when allied with lower running costs the water efficiency message becomes stronger. Likewise, the message becomes stronger when it is linked to product innovation (e.g. eco-click taps), or links to performance.

Regarding communications, the research suggests that awareness of water efficiency is low in relation to purchases of bathroom fittings and, as such, the Water Label has the potential to play an important role. The key strengths of the Label's current design are its similarity with energy efficiency labelling and the intuitive scale and colour scheme. In terms of design, the main graphic supported by a simple A to F system appears strongest. The 'l/min' units appear to offer little; whereas the addition of running costs would both appeal to consumers. Furthermore, reactions to a black and white version of the label are negative and significantly weaken consumers' intuitive response.

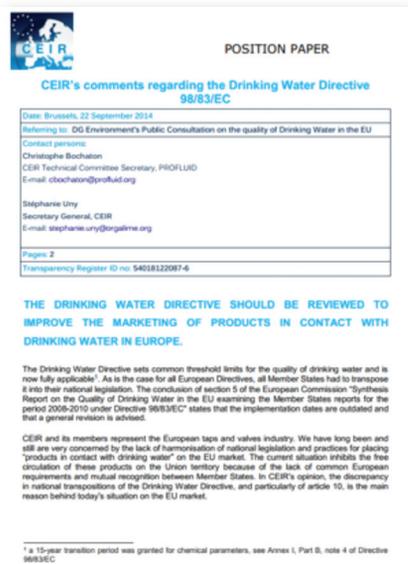
The report says the Label will be most impactful when it is delivered as part of a broader suite of marketing efforts, including the development of messages that align water efficiency with other motivations like design and cost savings.

THE DRINKING WATER DIRECTIVE SHOULD BE REVIEWED TO IMPROVE THE MARKETING OF PRODUCTS IN CONTACT WITH DRINKING WATER IN EUROPE

During the summer of 2014, the European Commission (DG Environment) released a questionnaire, mainly targeting European citizens, in order to determine a possible need to review the Drinking Water Directive. Indeed, the main objective of this Directive is to ensure that citizens have access to good quality drinking water. Analyses of data from the Member States have proven that the objectives of the Directive are generally achieved. However, as CEIR members are only too aware, one specific issue with regard to drinking water is definitely unsatisfactory: the free circulation of products intended for contact with drinking water. Different schemes, different certifications, sometimes different designs... all with the same goal: satisfy the requirements of the Drinking Water Directive.

Based on this fact, CEIR decided to react to the European Commission's questionnaire in the form of a Position Paper speci-

cally requesting that this issue be solved. CEIR proposed that the unclear article 10 of the Drinking Water Directive be removed and transformed into a new European Regulation, applying to those products intended for contact with drinking water. There is no miracle solution and many questions will be raised, but maybe it is time to recognise that the industry is now stuck in a dead end and should find another way out. The complete Position Paper can be found on the CEIR website.



UPDATE ON MACHINERY DIRECTIVE

On 25 March Mr Vinzio and Mr Bochaton, respectively CEIR Vice-President and Technical Secretary of the Industrial & Building Valves Technical Committee, participated in a meeting of the European Commission Machinery Working Group. The reason for their participation was to present and explain the CEIR position that industrial valves (actuated or not) are not concerned by the Machinery Directive. Since then, Member States have been invited to consult local stakeholders and provide their opinion, hopefully in time for the next meeting of the Machinery Working Group, scheduled on 5 & 6 November 2014. There is no guarantee that the issue will be finalised during this meeting, but the CEIR initiative has been warmly welcomed by Member States and the further contacts and discussions between the authorities and industry have been very encouraging. In the next issue of the Gazette, we will update you on progress.

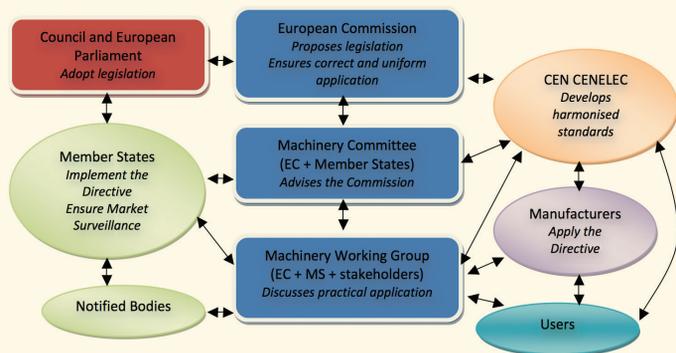
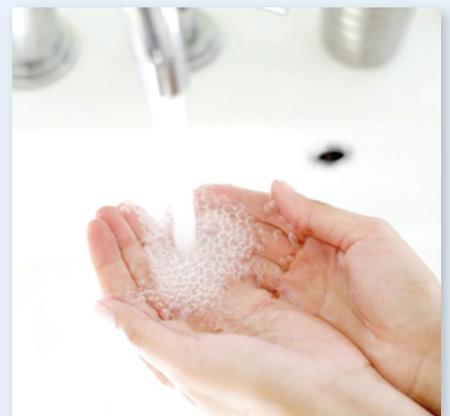


Figure: Mapping of the different bodies related to the Machinery Directive

We were saddened to learn of the death of our colleague and friend, Peter Churm. Peter was a very professional colleague; his technical expertise and involvement in standardisation issues were always much appreciated. He was a gentle man and a gentleman, and will be sorely missed.

MATERIALS IN CONTACT WITH DRINKING WATER

CEIR is making great efforts to follow the development of national requirements on products in contact with drinking water and inform its members accordingly. Unfortunately, the situation is increasingly complex. We know that the only solution the European Union can offer today is through harmonised standards for the Construction Products Regulation. However, such standards have proved to be extremely difficult to complete and would not guarantee an equal level of protection to all consumers in all Member States. Consequently, manufacturers are still obliged to follow specific national requirements.



In particular Germany, within the framework of 4MS (with France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom) has published a positive list of alloys that can be used in contact with drinking water, but this list is still not binding and its future status (mandatory, recommended, recognised...) is unclear. In parallel, the Netherlands have already enforced this list and are now pushing for the development of the "ATA by KIWA" certification that proves the conformity of products with Dutch law. The two other "MS", France and the UK, have not yet announced a change in their regulation with regard to metallic materials. Another important work in progress refers to organic material. The process for its acceptance starts with a toxicological study. For many years France, Germany and the Netherlands have been conducting such studies on many substances and have created national positive lists of substances. They are now working together to create a harmonised list that would be a first major step towards "global" material acceptance. CEIR regrets that such initiatives are not being led by the European Commission. Indeed, the initial hope that the 4MS initiative would be embraced by other countries is long gone, since other countries have developed their own schemes, based on other principles.

CEIR WG THERMOSTATIC VALVES

Due to the importance of the European thermostatic radiator valves industry, CEIR has recently established a specific Working Group dedicated to this product, which held its first meeting on 25th September. The main aim of this Working Group is to coordinate technical discussions among the entire European industry relating to the energy efficiency of thermostatic radiator valves. Subjects now on the "agenda" for this sector are on-going policy developments and the diffusion at European level of several voluntary schemes for energy efficiency of TRVs. Moreover, CEIR is keen to contribute to CEN activity for the development and revision of European standards for thermostatic valves, with special focus on EN 215 "Thermostatic Radiator valves – requirements and test methods". The discussion during the first Working Group meeting high-

lighted the need for European legislation and technical standards to consider TRVs' contribution in terms of "energy efficiency".

Energy performance of TRVs makes an important contribution to the overall energy assessment of heating systems inside buildings. Nevertheless the current European legislative framework (ErP Directive 2009/125/EC and EPBD Directive 2010/317EC) does not really take into consideration the contribution of thermostatic valves in terms of energy saving.

As a first important action, CEIR members decided to become immediately active at CEN level. A proposal for the revision of the product standard EN 215 has been agreed and already submitted for consideration to the competent European standardisation body.

This proposal is specifically intended to introduce a new chapter containing the technical details for the classification of the energy performance of thermostatic radiator valves. The CEIR proposal is based on the parameter "Variation of temperature due to control" defined by EN 15316-2-1 "Heating systems in buildings - Method for calculation of system energy requirements and system efficiencies - Space heating emission systems". The document should be considered as a starting point for discussion which must involve all relevant industry stakeholders.

Hopefully, the EN 215 revision process will begin by the end of the year and over the next few months CEIR will be active on different fronts:

- A CEIR delegation will participate in the next CEN TC 130 plenary meeting which will take the formal decision on the start of the EN 215 revision process
- CEIR will monitor possible consequences for TRVs of European Commission proposals for Directive 2009/125/EC ErP, considering that the Ecodesign Working Plan 2015-2017 study is now in preparation
- Closer cooperation will be established with all key players in the sector who will also discuss their activity in the field of TRV labelling schemes.

CE MARKING

It's almost 18 months since CE Marking under the Construction Products Regulation became legally binding for bathroom products. In summer 2013 a new requirement was introduced

for all bathroom products covered by Harmonised European Standards to have the CE Mark fixed to the product or its packaging.

CE marking is a key indicator of a product's compliance with European legislation and enables its free movement within the European market. It is not a quality mark but it does indicate 'fitness for purpose.' It impacts on taps and showers.

The bathroom industry regarded the introduction of the mark as a pretty hefty requirement but reliable manufacturers of branded products, embraced the changes and have complied with the new laws from its inception.

By fixing the CE mark to a product, a manufacturer is openly declaring its conformity with the legal requirements as detailed in the European Construction Products Regulation and ensures its validity to be sold throughout the EEA - the 28 member states of the EU and the Europe-



an Free Trade Association countries of Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Turkey.

As with any new law it has yet to be tested but research by the BMA would suggest that less than 25% of manufacturers are actually CE compliant. And this is not going un-noticed.

Failure to comply with any aspect of the CPR can lead to manufacturers being forced into taking corrective actions or to withdraw or recall the product. Policing of the compliance with the new regulations is the responsibility of each EU Member State.

The Construction Products Regulation also requires manufacturers and importers to ensure their products bear a type, batch or serial number, and to retain technical documentation for a period of 10 years after the product has been sold.

"CE marking is a necessary burden," says Chris Taylor-Hamlin, Technical Director at the Bathroom Manufacturers Association. "It outlaws non-compliant products, and highlights those suppliers who have no infrastructure for recording keeping and batch marking. These new regulations marked a major step change in our industry."

A MARKET OVERVIEW

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

According to The Guardian newspaper there is a scandal brewing in Europe with 11 million homes standing empty. The newspaper reports that housing campaigners denounce this as a 'shocking waste' since these empty homes are enough to house all of the continent's homeless not once but twice.

What, you may ask, has this got to do with CEIR? Well, think about it. What an opportunity! If these half-finished and empty properties were refurbished not only would they rehouse the homeless but they would also open up a market from which all members would benefit. It would also be a wonderful opportunity to install the very latest products bearing the European Water Label.

THE EUROPEAN MARKET OVERVIEW

Generally, the market in Europe continues its roller coaster ride as confidence levels swing when good news or bad news hit the headlines. At the time of writing, unease has escalated in Europe as the International Monetary Fund lowered its world economic forecast for the third time this year. The IMF reported that growth in Japan and China had slowed, while the Eurozone showed signs of slipping back into recession, the third such contraction since the crisis of 2008-9.

Other market concerns include the spread of Ebola and a collapsing oil price. This volatility has ended quite a long period of calm in Europe. Economists are now saying that indicators such as industrial production and consumer sentiment were pointing to an economic slowdown.

The Eurozone is struggling to boost economic growth in order to reduce high unemployment and to service huge public debts incurred during the sovereign debt crisis. Unemployment thus remained steady over the summer at 11.5% however Germany's jobless rate came in at around 6.5% and in the UK unemployment dipped below 6% in October.

In the high street Eurostat (the European Union's statistics office) said retail sales rose 1.2 percent month-on-month in August – giving a 1.9 percent year-on-year gain. The data showed sales of non-food products contributed most to the monthly rise of the index in August, with the Eurozone's biggest economy, Germany, reporting the biggest gain of 2.5 percent.

THE UK MARKET OVERVIEW

In the UK, modest consumer price inflation and the strengthening of the labour market have both contributed to improved consumer confidence in the UK. The climate for major purchases of items such as bathroom and kitchens continues to improve and manufacturers in this sector are increasingly optimistic. However there remains a suspicion that the UK could be hit by the fall in confidence which is affecting the European member states and uncertainty remains.

Employment in the UK continues to rise, a movement which has been seen since late 2011, and the unemployment rate is now less than 6%, the lowest since late 2008. Growth in real household disposable income improved in the first quarter of 2014, rising by 2.1% compared with the same period last year. Household consumption has therefore improved and retail footfall has been strong over the Spring and early Summer.

There has been a recovery in the housing market in the last 12 months and the construction industry has seen a growth in sales in both the domestic and commercial markets. Confidence in this sector remains high and no sales volume fall is anticipated in the very short term.

The UK's private housing starts increased by a massive 20% in 2013 to over 113,000 units. This figure is still lower than the peak of 190,000 in 2007. The rise in market approvals has been accompanied by accelerating house price inflation but in the late summer this suddenly slowed. Private housing RMI (repair maintenance and improvement) generally followed new housing starts. It is also enhanced by improved consumer confidence, real wages, and property transactions. Public housing starts and RMI have been restricted by the government's austerity measures and financially-constrained local authorities. Output in the commercial sector remains steady.

RUSSIA SANCTIONS

The global economy is facing complex circumstances today. Disagreements among high-level politicians are complicating our mutually productive relationships, which have been successfully formed over a long period of time. Unfortunately, some political ambitions have a negative impact on the economic development of society. Sanctions applied against the Russian Federation may destabilise the situation in the world market in general.

In recent years Russia became open to external investors like never before. Establishment and promotion of various joint projects was welcomed in every possible way.

I believe the majority of Russian companies still have the same attitude now. I hope for the understanding of all companies interested in the continued development and strengthening of mutually beneficial partner cooperation for the good of universal economic progress.

RUSSIAN VALVE INDUSTRY FORUM & EXPO 2015



Dear Colleagues

The Russian Valve Manufacturers Association (NPAA) is delighted to invite you to take part in the most important and highly specialised event for the valve industry in Russia and CIS countries.

Dates: 14 – 16 April 2015

Venue: Russia, Moscow, All-Russian Exhibition Centre

Organizer: Industrial Forum, JSC

Official support: Scientific & Industrial Valve Manufacturers Association (NPAA), Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Russia, ASTM International (American Society for Testing and Materials), the European Association for the Valve Industry (CEIR), the Polish Industrial Valves Association (SPAP), the Polish Society of Mechanical Engineers and Technicians (SIMP), the Ukrainian Association for the Valves Industry (APAU)

VALVE INDUSTRY FORUM & EXPO 2015

- all pipeline valves at one time and at one place!

Valve Industry Forum is the meeting place for all leading participants of valve industry market, manufacturers, design institutes, engineers and consumers, for effective communications and cooperation development.

EXHIBITION OF LEADING PIPELINE VALVE MANUFACTURERS:

Valve Industry Expo is holding within Forum and is the main event for the valve industry in Russia! The leading valve companies will introduce their developments and the **Innovations Gallery** will help new companies to introduce their proposed innovations.

A BUSY FORUM CONFERENCE PROGRAMME:

- 3 days, **3000 delegates** and **60 reports** from industry experts
- **More than 20 events:** conferences, seminars, round-table discussions, presentations and workshops devoted to the most relevant topics for the valve industry
- Discussions on relevant trends, innovation in construction and technology, market developments

We will be delighted to see you in MOSCOW!

For more information please visit our web-site:

<http://en.valve-forum.ru/>

Contact person for foreign participants:

Mrs. Katya Pakhomova

e-mail: inter@valve-forum.ru

mobile phone: +7 916 076 88 07

CEIR ANNUAL CONGRESS 2015

Plans for the CEIR Annual Congress 2015, being held in the UK, are well advanced and details are beginning to emerge for this important business event in the CEIR calendar.

The award winning Rudding Park Hotel, located in the Spa town of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, is the 4 Star venue for the meeting being held from **Thursday 11th June to Saturday 13th June 2015**. Save the dates!



Rudding Park is a beautiful, family owned, specialist hotel complete with spa, gym, private cinema, Clock Tower Restaurant and 18-hole parkland golf course. It has been described as 'one of the most beautiful hotels in Harrogate.' It is set amongst beautiful landscaped gardens and woodland and will be a perfect venue for the 2015 event.



The annual congress is being organised by the Bathroom Manufacturers Association, members of CEIR. Yvonne Orgill, CEO of the BMA, said "We are delighted to have been able to secure the stunning Rudding Park for our meeting. At this time of year, in North Yorkshire, we will have a lovely backdrop for our meeting. We will be away from the hustle and bustle of daily life and will be able to concentrate totally on the business of the congress."



The Welcome Dinner will be held in York on Thursday evening, 11 June at the UK's National Railway Museum, the largest railway museum in the world. Definitely an unusual venue for the dinner and definitely a venue to for everyone to remember. The Great Hall is home to some of the biggest locomotives in the National Collection including the only Japanese Bullet Train outside of Japan and the Royal Trains and Carriages dating from Queen Victoria's 'Palace on Wheels'. It's here that you will be able to rub shoulders with railway legends, from history-makers to record-breakers.

The programme for Congress will include an exciting mix of inspiring and influential presentations from world class speakers. More details will be issued later but meanwhile make a note in your diaries and keep the days free. This is surely, not to be missed.

Rudding Park www.ruddingpark.co.uk/
National Railway Museum www.nrm.org.uk/

VALVE WORLD EXPO 2014

The third Düsseldorf edition of VALVE WORLD EXPO will be held in Düsseldorf from 2 to 4 December 2014. It will bring together over 660 companies from 40 countries with an exhibition space of more than 17,800 square metres. The three-day trade fair will present industrial valves and fittings along with relevant components and parts, actuators and positioners, pumps, compressors, etc.

The event will be held in Exhibition halls 3, 4 and 5, and both the North and South entrances will be open. Traditionally, Eu-

ropean companies have been represented in great numbers. Many exhibitors travel to Düsseldorf from countries such as the United States, India, China, South Korea and Taiwan to attend the trade fair and the congress.

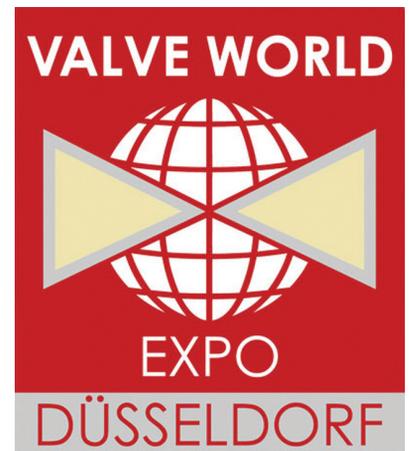
VALVE WORLD CONFERENCE IN HALL 4

Once again, the Valve World Conference will take place concurrently

with the trade fair! New this year: for the first time, the conference venue has been integrated into Hall 4. Workshops and lectures covering 70 different topics will be offered. Experts from around the globe will be on hand to engage 400 conference participants in an exchange on the innovations from the dynamically growing valve technology segment and related upstream and downstream technologies.

The first Valve World Expo Forum in Hall 5 will introduce and discuss topics surrounding innovative technologies. This open discussion forum will bring together exhibitors' customers to present their experiences and talk about current issues facing the industry.

On 2 and 3 December 2014, the first Pump Seminar & Summit will take place in the Stadthalle venue at the Düsseldorf Exhibition Centre. This event will include a dedicated specialist forum for manufacturers, suppliers, retailers and end users of pumps, compressors and seals. Held concurrently with the pump trade fair will be a seminar with speakers addressing topics such as energy efficiency, the future recruitment of engineers, fugitive emissions, sealing technology, purchasing and maintenance.



CEIR @ ISH 2015

CEIR will have a stand at ISH 2015 in Frankfurt from 10 to 14 March for second time after a successful 2013 edition. ISH is the World's Lead-



ing Trade Fair for The Bathroom Experience, Building Services, Energy, Air Conditioning Technology and Renewable Energies. It is the world's biggest exhibition for the combination of water and energy and covers all aspects of future-oriented building solutions.

Come and Visit us in hall 4.1, stand FOY01A

2014 UPCOMING EVENTS		
CEIR Sanitary Valves Technical Committee	19 November	Paris (F)
Valve Conference CCI - Confederation of Indian Industry	25 November	Mumbai (India)
CEIR Industry and Building Valves Technical Committee meeting	2 December	Dusseldorf (D)
Valve World Exhibition & Conference	2-4 December	Dusseldorf (D)
2015 UPCOMING EVENTS		
ISH	10-14 March	Frankfurt/M (D)
CEIR Board Meeting	30 March	Bruxelles (B)
CEIR Marketing & Communication Committee	March	(tbc)
PMI 2014 Spring Conference	March	(tbc)
IVS Industrial Valve Summit	27-28 May	Bergamo (I)
CEIR Annual Congress	11-13 June	Harrogate (UK)
VMA & VRC Annual Meeting	30 September-2 October	Naples, Florida (USA)



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 & 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 & 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 & 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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