



Dear Colleagues,

I am very proud to write in the second issue of the CEIR Gazette. Published every 6 months, this Gazette will update you about recent developments in the valve industry and CEIR activities.



I really want to stress that I am extremely honoured to chair CEIR. CEIR is the only official association representing and protecting the interests of the European valve industry. CEIR represents 14 National Associations with a total of 340 member companies (95 in the sanitary valves sector, 60 in building valves and 185 in industrial valves). The valve industry annually contributes 19 billion euros to the European economy. We are key to a number of industry processes that could not work without us. We are a cornerstone in many products consumers use every day. Our contribution comes in the form of our safety or relief valves, taps, cocks and valves for sinks or water cisterns, central heating radiator thermostatic valves and pressure-reducing valves.

We aim to have an association that reflects the importance of our industry. In 2011 we have taken major steps in that direction and worked on CEIR organisation and communication. We have woven links with other associations to strengthen the effectiveness of our network and lobbying actions. I attended the Annual Meeting of the VMA (Valve Manufacturers Association of America) and in 2010, our past President Maurizio Brancaloneoni, participated in the Annual Meeting of the CII (Confederation of Indian Industries). The Presidents of both associations attended our 2011 Annual Congress in Istanbul. In the coming years, we will continue to strengthen our cooperation and communication with other valve markets.

2011 is also a decisive year for our lobbying actions towards the EU. We are positioning ourselves as the reference point for the European Commission. The "Ecolabel" and "JWG ErP on Water Efficiency" are the clay in our hands to shape the future of our sector. These are crucial issues for the future of our industry and we need your support here.

Finally, I would like to announce that the 2012 CEIR Congress will be held in Paris, France on 3 – 5 May 2012. This is one of the most important events for the valve industry where all technical committees gather together. I invite all our members to participate in this exciting event.

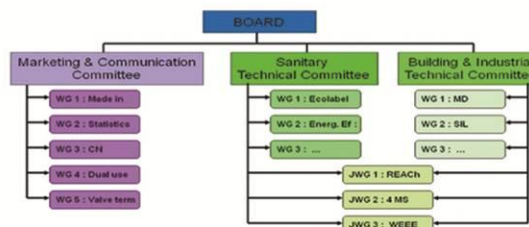
Wishing you every success,
Bulent Haciraifoglu
CEIR President

NEW CEIR MARKETING & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Ugo Pettinaroli has been elected President of the new CEIR Marketing & Communication Committee, and Loredana Nicola from AVR is its Secretary. The Committee held its first meeting on 29 September in Milan, and currently has two working groups: Marketing & International Trade WG and Communications WG. The Committee is aiming to increase communication with government bodies, regulatory authorities, national associations, valve manufacturers and valve users.



CEIR MISSION AND ORGANIZATION FOR THE YEARS TO COME



On 27 April 2011 the CEIR General Assembly approved a new organisation for CEIR to make it more efficient.

The General Assembly sees the CEIR mission for the future as the following:

- actively promote energy savings and environmental integrity for taps and valves
- maintain an open and constructive dialogue with all EU stakeholders and institutions determining or influencing the progress of its industry
- continue to develop its international relationships with taps and valves organisations around the world
- continue to be the centre of expertise and information on European technologies and markets for taps and valves

In the light of this new mission, CEIR has undertaken several measures. It has set up a modern, simple and functional organisation structure with one Marketing & PR Committee and two Technical Committees (Sanitary Valves and Building & Industrial Valves). As a European organisation founded more than 50 years ago, CEIR has acquired a broad information and knowledge base of European taps and valves technologies and markets. It will maintain and develop these assets.

CEIR wishes to improve its external communication. It seeks to provide well-structured information to ensure that its messages create an impact. Our new communication media (gazette and web site) will explain the societal responsibility we have adopted. For example, energy and water efficiency of taps and showerheads are under the spotlight of the European Union institutions, and CEIR has accepted the challenge of demonstrating its expertise and finding a consensus for industry- and consumer-friendly labelling throughout the EU.

The EU Ecolabel is the leading Europe-wide award for any product or service which meets strict environmental standards.

Manufacturers, importers, and service providers may apply for the Ecolabel but in order to gain the award products and services have to be tested and verified by a robust and independent certification process. The process proves that those products really do meet the highest performance and environmental quality standards.

The label itself incorporates a distinctive flower logo which makes it easy for buyers to find it in the marketplace. The Ecolabel is an EU Commission voluntary scheme, and managed by the member state where the products are sold. The details for the scheme for taps and showers is still very much under development and the National Trade Associations such as The Bathroom Manufacturers Association, Profluid and Agrival as well as CEIR provided significant input into the recently held Commission led working group meetings.

With these measures and ambitions, CEIR will surely continue to be the organisation to contact if you wish to raise issues on taps and valves at a European level.

CEIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR BUILDING AND INDUSTRIAL VALVES



During the last congress in Istanbul, we decided to adapt our organisation by creating a Technical Committee for Building and Industrial Valves. Many subjects are common for these two valve families and our resources and actions will be reinforced thanks to the creation of this new group. We have many issues to follow and work on :

- The REACH Regulation comes into force month after month and there are more and more substances in the candidate list. Some of them are on track to be included in annex XIV for authorisation. A special concern for us is that chromium trioxide is to be submitted to authorisation, which could have adverse consequences for valve parts with hard chroming or decorative chroming. We cannot let our suppliers work alone on this issue and run the risk that we can no longer use hard chroming in Europe
- SIL (Safety Integrity Level) is also increasingly requested in customer specifications and not only for valves. CETIM in France, our CEIR-associated technical centre, could propose training sessions in English;
- The WEEE Directive revision appears to exclude valves from the scope for the next few years, but this will need to be followed up;
- The RoHS Directive revision involves some changes in terms of company responsibility, which have to be evaluated;
- The Machinery Directive will also need to be monitored to avoid over-requirements of some customers;
- Casting quality for valves in steel remains a sensitive issue for big customers from the chemical and petrochemical industries; technical specifications are becoming more stringent and new control procedures are coming on the market;
- A technical guide for industrial valves is being written by PROFLUID in France and could become a CEIR guide;
- The TELL label for thermostatic heating valves seems to create a lot of confusion;
- CE marking of valves is requested for gas applications, coverage of these products by the Construction Products Regulation and/or the Gas Appliance Directive,
- Materials and products in contact with drinking water : evolutions of national regulations and 4MS works (with the TC Sanitary Valves),
- "Made in" proposal for valves,
- Cavitation European project with European Institutes or Universities,

There is no lack of subjects to follow BUT we do lack participation from European companies!

We decided to adapt our organisation to be more efficient but we need YOUR participation to help YOU with all these actions.

We have just a few meetings per year and these are facilitated by video or Internet conference calls.

Join us by sending your contact data to: cbochaton@profluid.org or pascal.vinzio@ksb.com

CEIR – CETIM COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DETECTION OF CAVITATION ON CONTROL VALVES



In the framework of the partnership between CEIR and CETIM, an opportunity has arisen for our member companies. CEIR has been asked to join a European consortium that will conduct R&D work in the field of detection of cavitation, by simulation methods, on control valves.

The programme targets SMEs (between 75% and 100% reimbursement of expenses!) but it is open to all companies, small and large.

This would be an important achievement for CEIR in terms of visibility and recognition, and an excellent opportunity for companies to gain knowledge and increase expertise in CFD (Computational Fluid Dynamics).

In this context, CEIR has started discussions about the creation of a consortium that would lead a project concerning cavitation issues in control valves.

Many companies from different countries are interested in this project. The aim would be to develop simulation tools to help detect, during the design phase, the occurrence of cavitation under certain conditions of use.. The objective is to reduce drastically the need for physical prototyping, which is costly and causes delays to projects. Another target would be to have a better estimation of the scaling effects (change of diameter in the same range of products).

Funding of the project by the European Commission would be from 75% to 100% for SMEs and from 50% to 100% for other companies.

CEIR will own the results and will distribute them under very advantageous conditions to its members.

NEW CEIR STATISTICS TASK FORCE

The European economic situation is strongly affected by the global crisis. The CEIR Marketing & Communication Committee has therefore decided to monitor market trends in CEIR member countries. In order to have reliable data, the survey participants will be CEIR member companies. The objective is to compare quarterly and yearly the trend in turnover, orders, employment and investments. The survey will include a short-term forecast analysis. CEIR will therefore have a report from each member country and an outlook for all countries.

CEIR IS RE-DESIGNING THE 'CEIR WEBSITE'



The CEIR Marketing & Communication Committee has agreed to re-design the existing CEIR website (www.ceir.eu). The new website will allow better communication between CEIR and the valve industry and will include a broader content which will be continuously updated with recent activities. The

aim of this project is to increase the benefit visitors get from the website and to make it the 'first point of call' on issues that may/will affect the European valve industry. Work started with the first meeting of the M&CC on 29 September in Milan. The project will be the responsibility of the Communication Working Group which plans to launch the new website in 2012.

NEW RoHS AND WEEE DIRECTIVES TO APPLY TO SOME CEIR EQUIPMENTS?

The WEEE directive 2002/96/EC puts the responsibility for disposal of electrical equipment with the manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment, and requires them to dispose of unwanted items in an environmentally-friendly manner. The WEEE directive today applies to 10 product categories (large & small household appliances; IT, telecommunications, consumer products, lighting equipment...) which include specific devices such as microwaves, toasters, computers, TVs, electric tools...).

The Directive is now being revised and discussed by the European Parliament and Council, and both institutions already agree on extending its scope of application to all electrical and electronic equipment, unless specifically excluded (large fixed installations, large industrial tools...). Although the definition of electrical and electronic equipment may not change, this extension of the scope associated with an increased WEEE collection target (% per year to be agreed between 65% and 85%) will certainly lead the legislator to include many more types of equipment.

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The RoHS Directive, which restricts the use of specific hazardous materials found in electrical and electronic products since 1 July 2006, has already been revised. The recast RoHS Directive 2011/65/EU will be applicable on 2 January 2013. Its scope, originally similar to that of the WEEE Directive, has also been extended to "other EEE ..." as from 22 July 2019. The European Commission has been instructed to review what this scope extension will mean in practice, and to give guidance to both authorities and manufacturers.

The substances banned under RoHS remain the same: lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), cadmium (Cd), hexavalent chromium (CrVI), polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE).

CHROMIUM TRIOXIDE ON THE WAY FOR AUTHORIZATION

Chromium trioxide is classified as carcinogenic and mutagenic in accordance with REACH, the European Regulation on registration and authorisation of chemical substances. It is considered a substance of very high concern and, as such, is now a "candidate" for an authorisation procedure. Substances that are subject to authorisation may not be used in the EU after a specific sunset date, unless a company (the formulator, and their registered users) have been authorised to do so. This will mean that eventually these substances are phased out of all non-essential uses.

Discussions continue on whether chromium trioxide should be authorised. A decision is expected in the next few months. If it is subject to authorisation, companies and/or users of chromium trioxide will have to request authorisation for use from ECHA, the European Chemicals Agency.

CEIR HAS VISITED THE SWISS VALVE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (URS) ABOUT 4MS INITIATIVE



In September, CEIR visited the Swiss Valve Manufacturers Association (URS) to brief Swiss manufacturers about developments in the 4MS initiative on Materials in Contact with Drinking Water. Mr Christophe Bochaton from Profluid, who is an active participant in the 4MS initiative, presented the current developments and the latest situation. The 4MS initiative, once a black box to most of the valve industry, is now much more transparent to CEIR and its members. As a result, the working group on 4MS has become more active and is at a point where it can influence the 4MS position. We invite all our interested members to be a part of this working group.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH INDUSTRIAL VALVES ASSOCIATION (SPAP)



The CEIR President, Mr Bulent Haciraifoglu, participated in the 15th anniversary of the Polish Industrial Valves Association "Stowarzyszenie Polska Armatura Przemysłowa (SPAP)" on 20 October. The event took place in Kielce, Poland and was

attended by leading members of the Polish valve industry. During this visit, Mr Haciraifoglu had the chance to meet with Polish valve manufacturers and invite them to join CEIR, the only official association representing and protecting the interests of the European valve industry. SPAP represents more than 50 Polish valve manufacturers, covering most of the Polish valve industry.

73RD ANNUAL CONGRESS OF VMA – USA



The Valve Manufacturers Association of America held its 73rd Annual Meeting on 13 – 15 October in Orlando, Florida. There were very interesting sessions on Chemical Process Accidents in the USA; Current Trends in Valve Distribution; Outlook for the Petrochemical/Refining Industry, Water Industry, Industrial Market, Energy Industry; Current Political and Economic Situation. The CEIR President had the chance to make a presentation about the European Valve Industry. This three-day event took place in the Ritz-Carlton Orlando Grande Lakes Hotel and participants enjoyed social and sporting events in addition to educational sessions.

REMARKS ABOUT THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

During the summer an increasing flow of published statistics has been showing a slack economic tendency in OECD countries. This is especially clear in the US, where the figures for the actual development of GDP growth have been revised downwards considerably. In both the US and the euro area, GDP growth was already slowing by the end of 2010, and a relatively lackluster tendency was also expected in the second quarter of 2011.

Monthly statistics for employment, industrial output and confidence indicators, for example, have been surprisingly weak. This development has contributed to growing pessimism among financial market operators about the capacity of heavily indebted euro-area countries with large budget deficits to meet their commitments.

At the same time, the political systems in both the US and the euro area have shown little ability to take action, adding further to the concern on financial markets. In this uncertain environment stock prices have fallen sharply throughout the world and the few indicators of economic activity for July and August published so far also point downwards.

Consumer confidence about the development of the economy has fallen in most areas of the world and will probably continue downwards if the turbulence persists. Because of the uncertainty, growth in household consumption is decreasing. Investment plans of business firms have also been adjusted downwards. In most OECD countries GDP growth is expected to be weak for the rest of 2011.

If the turbulence on financial markets dies down, the confidence of consumers and firms in the OECD will return during the course of 2012. Postponed consumption and investment decisions will then be implemented, and growth will probably pick up again. This statement assumes that political decisions will be taken to convince markets that euro countries with weak central government finances will meet their commitments.

The growth of the world economy will be comparatively limited in the next few years even though the turbulence will already be subsiding this autumn. Recovery will be slow as fiscal policy must be tightened in much of the OECD area, while at the same time households in many countries will be expected to save considerably in order to reduce their debt burden.

The intensified crisis in the euro zone will also have effects on economic activity in other countries. The downturn in the real economy will contribute to a fall-off in world trade, dampening growth of exports in many countries. The preparedness of governments and central banks for crises is better now than in 2008. At the same time, the scope for stabilisation policy to counteract the weakening of an economy is now more limited.

A wave of downward revisions of world GDP growth has taken place over the past couple of months. The consensus forecast of world growth for 2011 is now at some 3% in volume compared to 3.5% half a year ago. The outlook for next year has also been revised with growth at about the same rate as in 2011. Optimism has faded for the euro area and the US, whereas Asia still looks favourable.

BATHROOM CONFERENCE EMBRACES SUSTAINABILITY



The concept of sustainability, which was once just an aspiration for the eco-aware, is now fully embedded in all aspects of the construction industry. The realisation that there is a need to create water- and energy-efficient homes has grown, in just a decade, to become the most talked-about topic.

To reflect this, the UK's Annual Bathroom Conference on 9 November 2011 fully embraces sustainability as its theme.

The UK Bathroom Conference, at the ultra modern Heythrop Park Hotel in Oxfordshire, England, is open to anyone in the bathroom and construction industry. The full day of presentations, the exhibition and the networking opportunities will be fronted by award-winning science writer and broadcaster Sue Nelson who has been described as 'one of BBC Radio 4's best science presenters'. Sue will bring her wealth of experience and knowledge of sustainability to the event as both presenter and facilitator.

Seven other expert speakers will accompany Sue at the state of the art venue to discuss the role of the bathroom industry in creating a sustainable future for our children, whilst at the same time generating profit for those engaged in it.

"Some in our industry have been wondering how we could possibly improve on last year's amazing conference," commented Yvonne Orgill, Chief Executive Officer of the Bathroom Manufacturers Association "but we have done it and in some respects this could be our most important conference yet. Whether we like it or not, our planet's resources are limited and we have to find a way of living within our means. But at the same time our industry must prosper and if it is to survive we have to profit from the green agenda. Fundamentally that's what it's all about."

Not to be missed –

The UK's Annual Bathroom Conference @
www.bathroom-association.org/conference



DETAILS OF THE NEXT CEIR ANNUAL CONGRESS ARE SHAPING UP



As announced in April 2011 in Istanbul, the 2012 Annual Congress of CEIR will be held on 3 – 5 May 2012 in Paris. The Tiara Chateau Hotel Mont Royal Chantilly will be hosting this most important event of the European valve industry, where all

technical committees will meet and decisions will be taken about the future of the industry. PROFLUID, the French national association of valves, is in charge of the organisation of this event. Participants will be able to visit CETIM (Technical Centre of the Mechanical Industry) in Senlis and the CSTB (Technical and Scientific Centre of the Construction Industry) in Marne la Vallee. External speakers will be invited to debate with all participants on current issues affecting the industry: materials in contact with drinking water, environmental declarations and the economic outlook. For more information, please contact Roxane Nicolas at PROFLUID: micolas@profluid.org. We invite all our members to register for this event.

REGISTRATION FORM

To have more information about CEIR membership or activities, please send us this registration form.

After completion, please fax the form to +32-2-706 82 53 or email to guy.vandoorslaer@orgalime.org

I would like to have detailed information about CEIR membership / CEIR activities.

Company:

Name :

Address :

Country :

Phone :

Fax :

Email :



TAKE YOUR PLACE AMONG KEY PLAYERS OF THE EUROPEAN VALVE INDUSTRY

CEIR (The European Committee for the Valve Industry) is the **only** official association representing and protecting the interests of the European Valve Industry.

CEIR represents **14 National Associations** with a total of **340 Member Companies** around Europe.

WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER?

All legally constituted **trade associations** of the valve manufacturers in Europe may become members within CEIR.

In those European countries where there is no such relevant association, **individual** companies may apply for CEIR membership upon special request.

WHY SHOULD I BECOME A MEMBER?

Participate to the most important events of the European Valve Industry (CEIR Annual Congress, Marketing or Technical Committee Meetings, Working Group Meetings) and have the chance to meet the **key players** in the market.

Make your voice heard and have the chance to be a **decision maker** among the European Valve Industry.

Access to special market reports, analysis, trends in the industry and position your company accordingly.

Learn and act about the **upcoming regulations & laws** binding valve industry from years away, get the chance to intervene for the benefit of the valve industry and stay one step ahead of your competitors.

AND

Enjoy the prestige that you are a recognized **European Valve Manufacturer** who is qualified for CEIR Membership.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CEIR, AND TO LEARN WHETHER YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF CEIR OR NOT, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CEIR.EU OR CONTACT GUY.VANDOORSLAER@ORGALIME.ORG.