

FEDERATION NEWS

Industrial and Private Market Task Force defines preliminary action plan	p1
Revision of EU public procurement law: EFCA assessment of key points	p1
FIDIC-EFCA Sustainable Development Committee: reshuffled priorities	p2
ACEI urges clients to choose quality and avoid false economies at design stage	p2
YP initiatives: learning good practices from each other	p2
EFCA agenda	p3

Industrial and Private Market Task Force defines preliminary action plan

The members of the newly established task force agree a preliminary action plan and timetable, and nominate Hubert Labourdette (Assystem, France) as Chair.

The 2012-2013 EFCA business plan explicitly sets the reinforcement of the industrial engineering and private sector task force's activities as priority.

The task force discussion on the proposed terms of reference swiftly focused on the industry's need for balanced and fair standard contract conditions and/or guidance, which would benefit both parties (i.e. clients and service providers) in their negotiations.

It was agreed to start the work from a review of generic issues in a few relevant existing general conditions and reports on the national associations' involvement in the development of such conditions.

The creation of a Europe-wide business and networking platform is another subject that the task force will deal with at its next meeting on 29 January 2013.

A proposal of the task force's '2012-2014 project plan' will also be on the agenda then.

Revision of EU public procurement law: EFCA assessment of key points

EFCA's Internal Market Committee identifies the industry's major issues in the ongoing European Parliament Committee debate on the proposed revised EU public procurement law.

Early July, EFCA submitted its proposed amendments on targeted issues of the European Commission's proposal to IMCO Rapporteur Marc Tarabella and MEP Frank Engel, and urged its member associations to contact their MEPs (Members of the European Parliament).

Early October, EFCA's Internal Market Committee considered the total of 1427 amendments that were tabled to Rapporteur Marc Tarabella's draft report, of which some reflect EFCA's recommendations.

The Committee agreed to further outline our key considerations with regard to the content of the MEAT (most economically advantageous tender) criterion and life cycle costing, division into lots, modification of contracts and 'in-house' activity to the MEPs.

FIDIC-EFCA Sustainable Development Committee: reshuffled priorities

At its September 2012 meeting in Seoul, the joint FIDIC-EFCA Committee reviewed its 2012-2013 action plan.

The priorities that were identified in Seoul primarily focus on the FIDIC-UNEP (United Nations environment programme) cooperation.

Consequently, the Committee will now reconsider its road map to prepare concrete activities in the next year.

The implementation plan would include actions related to the EFCA-FIDIC White Paper 'Rethink Cities', the Project Sustainability Logbook (PSL), ISO Technical Committee (TC) 268 - Sustainable development in communities, and enhanced FIDIC collaboration on various UNEP initiatives.

At the European level, the Committee will monitor the development of horizontal standardised methods for the assessment of the integrated environmental performance of buildings in CEN/TC 350 ('sustainability of construction works').

ACEI (Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland) urges clients to choose quality and avoid false economies at the design stage

At the occasion of a joint ACEI-EFCA Board meeting in Dublin, ACEI President Michael Moriarty highlighted the extremely challenging engineering consultancy environment resulting from the overall contraction in the Irish construction industry.

The Irish association is persistently explaining to policy makers that engineering consultants need a stable economic construction environment to retain the industry's skills base and innovative capacity. Through its membership of the Construction Industry Council, ACEI aims at maximising its influence on key decision-

makers and to foster appreciation of the industry's added value to economic and social life.

The 2012 – 2013 ACEI task list is very focused on specific achievements.

Jan Bosschem reported about the challenges that EFCA is addressing at European level, and the issues on which the federation is working together with its international sister federation FIDIC.

ACEI representatives exchanged views with the EFCA Board members on the engineering consultants' role in integrated teams and PPPs, fee scales, the use of a ratio in award criteria of price and quality that results in price becoming the determining factor, and the association's actions to make clients understand the advantages of quality based selection over price-based procurement of professional services.



YP initiatives: learning good practices from each other

EFCA YPs will identify and collect national associations' commendable activities.

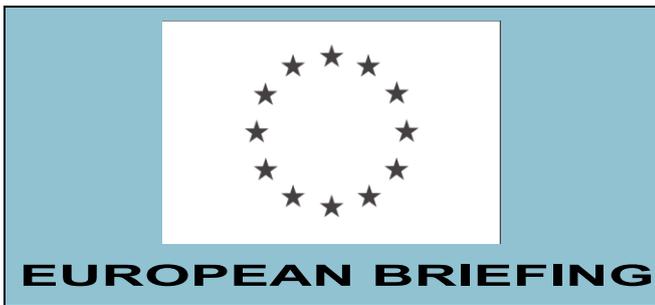


networking for new knowledge

EFCA YPs will share their thoughts, ideas and suggestions for energizing national YP groups. The idea is to inspire and help all YP groups in offering young engineering consultants opportunities for personal and professional growth.

E F C A A G E N D A

European External Aid Committee	Brussels	24.10.2012
FIDIC-EFCA Sustainable Development Committee	Brussels	06.11.2012
D&S meeting	Luxembourg	16.11.2012
Board of Directors meeting	Brussels	14.12.2012
Industrial and Private Market Task Force	Brussels	29.01.2013
Board of Directors meeting	Brussels	08.02.2013
Internal Market Committee	Brussels	28.02.2013 (tbc) Alternatives: 21.03 or 25.04.2013



INTERNAL MARKET	p4
Avoiding bankruptcy by tackling late payments	
Single Market Act II: four growth drivers	
'Single market: the way forward'	
EU FUNDS & PROGRAMMES	p5
€10 million EU support for water infrastructure in Egypt	
Almost €200 million support to key infrastructure projects	
MISCELLANEOUS	p5
New EU energy efficiency directive	
Get a quick impression of some of the adaptation challenges in Europe's cities	
Industry: an opportunity for growth	
'Research and innovation for Europe's future mobility'	
"A world you like. With a climate you like"	
CONSULTATIONS	p6

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/single-market-goods/late-payment-campaign/fighting-late-payments/index_en.htm

Single Market Act II: four growth drivers

The completion of the Single Market is a central element of the European growth agenda to address the current economic crisis.

Twelve key actions for rapid adoption by the EU institutions are concentrated on four main drivers for growth, employment and confidence: a) integrated networks, b) cross border mobility of citizens and businesses, c) the digital economy, and d) actions that reinforce cohesion and consumer benefits.

The Commission will put forward all key legislative proposals of the Single Market Act II by spring 2013 and the non-legislative ones by end 2013.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/smact/index_en.htm

'Single market: the way forward'

Brochure, published by BusinessEurope.

INTERNAL MARKET

Avoiding bankruptcy by tackling late payments

European Commission Vice President Antonio Tajani launched an information campaign to encourage speedy incorporation of the Late Payment Directive into national law even before the 16th March 2013 deadline.

Directive 2011/7/EU on combating late payment in commercial transactions is the EU's tool to combat overdue payments.

The campaign puts particular importance on ensuring that SMEs know the new rights conferred by the directive and how to exercise these rights.

FACTS ABOUT THE SINGLE MARKET

WORLD'S LARGEST ECONOMY
→ GDP = €12.6 TRILLION

ADDING €500 BILLION A YEAR TO EUROPE'S ECONOMY **3 MILLION NEW JOBS CREATED**

2.5 MILLION ERASMUS STUDENTS

MORE COMPETITION
ACCOUNTS FOR 20% OF GLOBAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

WIDER CHOICE OF GOODS AND SERVICES
PRICE AIRLINE TICKETS DROPPED BY 40% 6 MILLION PEOPLE WORKING IN ANOTHER MEMBER STATE

€2,800 BILLION TRADED IN GOODS IN 2011

500 MILLION PEOPLE

It carries examples from companies and quotes from their CEOs, showing the achievements of 20 years of single market, pointing to remaining challenges for companies and providing recommendations for the future.

<http://www.business europe.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=568&DocID=30727>

EU FUNDS & PROGRAMMES

€10 million EU support for water infrastructure in Egypt

The €10 million funding comes as a first contribution from the €303 million European Water Initiative, led by top European Financial Institutions to support Egypt's water supply and sanitation sector.

The funds will go towards improving construction and infrastructure needed to supply water, as well as technical assistance such as financial planning and project management.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/aap/2012/af_aap_2012_egy.pdf

Almost €200 million support to key infrastructure projects

The 2011 annual programme call granted €198.63 million in total funding and aimed to finance the highest priorities of the TEN-T network.

The projects will be managed by the TEN-T Executive Agency, working together with the project beneficiaries and under the auspices of the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission.

<http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/>

MISCELLANEOUS

New EU energy efficiency directive

Early October, the Council adopted the energy efficiency directive.

Member states will have to renovate central government buildings and set out a roadmap for achieving energy savings of 80% in the buildings sector by 2050.

Energy companies covered by the directive would have to achieve a 'cumulative end-use energy savings target' by 2020.

All large enterprises would be required to undergo an energy audit. These audits would need to start within three years of the directive's entry into force and should be carried out every four years by qualified and accredited experts.

The directive will enter into force 20 days after its publication in EU's Official Journal and member states will have 18 months to transpose it into their national laws.

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed_en.htm

Get a quick impression of some of the adaptation challenges in Europe's cities

The European Environment Agency (EEA) published a series of detailed interactive maps, allowing users to explore data from more than 500 cities across Europe.

http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/how-vulnerable-is-your-city?&utm_campaign=how-vulnerable-is-your-city&utm_medium=email&utm_source=EEASubscriptions

Industry: an opportunity for growth

The Commission proposes a number of priority actions to stimulate investments in new technologies, to improve the business environment, the access to markets and finance, and to ensure that skills meet industry's needs.

The Commission also adopted two reports on Competitiveness: the New Industrial Performance Scoreboard on the Member States and the European Competitiveness Report 2012.

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/mission-growth/index_en.htm

'Research and innovation for Europe's future mobility'

The Communication is the starting point for the elaboration of a European strategic transport-technology plan.

The text mentions the need to focus transport research and innovation further in three areas:

- clean, smart, safe and quiet rail and road vehicles, aircraft and vessels (including developments in components, materials and enabling technologies);
- smart, green, low-maintenance and 'climate-resilient' infrastructure;
- efficient and integrated transport services and operations.

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/research/sttp/sttp_en.htm

"A world you like. With a climate you like"

A pan-European communication campaign seeks to put practical solutions at the centre of the climate change debate.

The campaign is designed as a platform for participation where individuals, businesses and local groups will be able to upload, promote and discuss their low-carbon solutions and take part in a pan-European contest to find the best and most original one.

<http://world-you-like.europa.eu/en/>

CONSULTATIONS

Proposed EU Green Public Procurement (GPP) criteria for waste water infrastructure works

In order to facilitate the uptake of Green Public Procurement (GPP), the European Commission is developing EU GPP criteria to assist the contracting authorities throughout the European Union.

The technical background report and the draft EU GPP criteria are available for review and comments at http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/consultation/gpp/index_en.cfm

Deadline: 14 December 2012

Which are the TOP 10 most burdensome legislative acts for SMEs?

The European Commission is calling upon businesses: "Let us know what could be done better - we would like your ideas for reducing red tape!"

Deadline: 21 December 2012

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/public-consultation-new/index_en.htm

Urban transport: time to move sustainably

The Commission invites contributions on how best to contribute with targeted EU-level action to high-quality and sustainable urban transport and mobility.

Deadline: 17 December 2012

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/urban/consultations/2012-12-10-urban-dimension_en.htm

EDITORIAL OFFICE: Jan Bosschem, Jan Van der Putten
EDITOR: Anne Croisiau
ADDRESS: EFCA Secretariat, Ave. des Arts, 3/4/5, B – 1210, Brussels,
Phone: +32-2-209.07.70
Fax: +32-2-209.07.71
E-mail: efca@efca.be
<http://www.efcanet.org/>

