Industry’s contribution to the new Commission’s political objectives was highlighted in President von der Leyen’s first speech to the European Parliament in November 2019, in which an industrial strategy is proposed as part of and support to the European Green Deal. The European technology industries, and in particular our pumps, compressors and taps and valves sectors, have for a long time considered the enhancement of their global competitiveness within the framework of societal and environmental challenges, notably by contributing to the preparation of energy efficiency regulations (Eco-design directive). In parallel, digitalisation has provided increased opportunities and brought new challenges, including regulatory debates (use of industrial data, Artificial Intelligence, cybersecurity, etc). These developments, amidst a fierce international competition where public authorities and private sector more and more work together to design and deploy strategies that promote national value chains, require an overarching EU positioning. This will be the subject of the plenary session, six months after the start of the new Commission mandate.

- Welcome of participants and short overview of the three industry sectors: Sönke Brodersen, President, Europump
- Panel debate
  - Moderator: Mr Malte Lohan, Director general of Orgalim (invited)
  - Member of the European Commission in Charge of Industrial and Digital Policies (invited)
  - Representative of the Council of the European Union (invited)
  - Member of the European Parliament from the ITRE Committee or the ‘Long term & sustainable investment: Competitive European industry’ Intergroup (invited)
- Conclusions by Carlos Velasquez, President, CEIR
II. 15h25 - 16h40 Parallel Technical Sessions

The three parallel technical sessions of the Joint Conference are aimed at discussing specific technical and policy issues which are relevant for our sectors: compressors, taps and valves, and pumps. One of main criteria when selecting the themes of the sessions has been the direct reference to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Within this focus, the three associations intend to highlight how, together with the importance for companies to address technical aspects impacting their daily business operations, they consider the positive role of industry in addressing societal challenges. Indeed, all the workshops will have a technical theme matching with one of the seventeen UN SDGs: Circular Economy and Eco-design, Industry’s Digital Transformation and Innovation, and Restriction of Use of Substances. Each session is intended to have one representative from the European Commission and two technical experts – from the industry or research institutes – highlighting the direct and important implications of those policies for both the business and the society. Each workshop will be moderated by a representative of one of the associations.

Parallel Session 1: Circular Economy & Eco-design

Relevant UN Sustainable Development Goal n. 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.

Eco-design has been extensively a topic of high relevance over the past years. The high demand and new legislative requirements, particularly at EU level, for more efficient products to reduce energy and resource consumption has driven our industries to carefully consider the environmental and business opportunities for improving the energy efficiency of products. The new eco-design requirements will keep considering the energy efficiency of the products as well as their interconnection with circular economy. Indeed, the EC is now promoting the reparable, upgradable, durability, and recyclability of products by extending the scope of eco-design requirements beyond energy efficiency. With the eco-design and circular economy closely connected to each other, the session will address their main EU legal framework, as well as case studies highlighting the direct impact for the industry. Within the framework of circular economy, industry representatives will present successful case studies on how circular economy is positively impacting their businesses.

Moderator: Frank Ennenbach, Chairman of the Europump Standards Commission
Robert Nuij, DG ENER Head of Sector, Energy Efficiency: Buildings and Products: the new Eco-design Work Programme
Speaker from Caleffi (ANIMA): The benefits of Circular Economy (invited)
Jesper Jerglang, Standardisation Manager, Danfoss Drives, and Circular Economy TF Chair, CEMEP (invited)
Parallel Session 2: Industry’s Digital Transformation and Innovation

Relevant UN Sustainable Development Goal n. 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure.

How to manage and fully embrace the on-going massive digitalisation of our engineering industries, enabled by recent advancements in three areas: increase of computing power, availability of data and of new algorithms.

Industry has first and foremost started by developing its own international standards in the machine-to-machine area, particularly the OPC, the interoperability standard for the exchange of data in the industrial automation space and in other industries, and then the OPC Unified Architecture, a platform independent service-oriented architecture that integrates all the functionality of the existing OPC specifications.

The session will discuss whether standardisation is enough for our industries to cope with an increasingly rapid international race and if an additional support of public authorities is necessary. The EU is developing a comprehensive legislative framework in key areas such as data (GDPR and non-personal data), artificial intelligence (AI), and revising current safety legislation (machinery, general product safety directives) which have an impact on our industries’ capability to design and deploy any digital transformation: is this helpful? Besides, a comprehensive cybersecurity scheme requiring a strong involvement of companies is being implemented under the guidance of ENISA, the EU Cybersecurity Agency. Also, specific EU programmes are being crafted to support both R&D and Innovation and Investments in digital transformation: how can our companies, and notably the SMEs benefit from this? Understanding and discussing positive aspects and potential obstacles of the policy framework put together by the EU to support European industries digital transformation will be the objective of this session.

- Moderator: Luc de Beul, Member of the Council, Pneurop
- Representative of the European Commission DG CNECT or of the European Cybersecurity Agency – ENISA: Implementing the EU Cybersecurity Act: the role of companies (invited)
- Andreas Faath, Head of Interoperability OPC UA: Creating a global language for production
- Filip Van Elsen, Partner, Law Firm Allen & Overy: IP ownership of data and AI; valorisation and value protection of non-personal data
Parallel Session 3: The restriction of use of materials and substances of concern

Relevant UN Sustainable Development Goal n. 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

The regulatory and technical working environment related to the materials and substances allowed to be used in the production value chain of our sectors is constantly evolving and will further evolve with the tabling by the European Commission of a new Chemicals Strategy, scheduled for the Summer 2020. A comprehensive understanding of how authorisations work is therefore needed to ensure that companies fulfil the legal and technical requirements impacting their business. The session will be aimed at providing some concrete examples of substances and materials currently regulated or under revision at EU level that are extensively used in our industries. In particular, the use of lead is raising in the policy discussion leading to its inclusion in the REACH candidate list, meaning a possible procedure for the authorisation of this substance. Lead is also a substance currently under discussion within the revision of the Drinking Water Directive, notably as regards to materials and substances in contact with water intended for human consumption. Within the framework of use of materials and substances, the newly established ECHA Waste Database will be discussed.

- Moderator: Representative of CEIR
- Klaus Ockenfeld, European Copper Institute: Lead restrictions in Europe: an overview
- Caecilia Benzin, SEW-EURODRIVE / Orgalim IT Expert Group ECHA Waste Database: the new SCIP-ECHA Waste Database (invited)
- Manol Bengyuzov, DG GROW Policy Officer in Unit Chemicals and Plastics Industries: the new EU Chemicals Strategy

III. 17h00 – 18h00 Wrap up session & conclusions

- “Welcome back to the Plenary Session”, Luca Conti, Secretary General, CEIR, and Pierre Lucas, Secretary General, Europump and Pneurop
- Outcome of the three Technical Sessions, illustrating the main findings of each session by the three sessions moderators
- “Regulatory Affairs Update”, Orgalim Partnership Team
- Conclusions by Jouko Peussa, President, Pneurop