
An introduction to EFCEM

EFCEM is the only Commercial Kitchen Equipment Group represented in Brussels by Orgalim, the highly respected voice of the Europe's Technology Industries. Through such high level of representation EFCEM can advocate and influence current legislation while anticipating regulations.

The federation is active in the formulation of standards for the industry and through its meetings seeks to identify and act on issues of common interest. By being involved within EFCEM, National Associations and their Members benefit from unrivalled technical expertise and resources.

EFCEM update: This quarter we begin with the sad news of the passing of EFCEM Secretary General, Fabio Gargantini, and previous Secretary General, Bryan Whittaker.

Fabio Gargantini – EFCEM Secretary General

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Fabio Gargantini on Saturday 26th February 2022.

Fabio had been the Secretary General of the European Catering Equipment Association (EFCEM) since 2012. He had been an effective and supportive administrator of the Federation's work and was a professional and courteous man.

To many, Fabio will be remembered for his work as a professional 'standards man'. He sat on, or was convenor, of many committees responsible for foodservice equipment and in those roles, he contributed to and ran very effective meetings. His expertise spanned electrotechnical and gas work at European and International levels.

More recently he will be remembered for his work in refrigeration, where he was involved in the scoping work for the Eco-design and Energy Labelling Directives. He was the convenor of the TC44 Committee that developed the standard for evaluating the energy performance of professional refrigerated storage cabinets (PRSC) and commercial refrigeration. The PRSC energy label was implemented in 2016 and this has subsequently become an ISO standard.



Phil Williams, EFCEM President said, "Fabio will be a great loss to our industry and to his friends and colleagues in the sector. He has supported successive Presidents in the role and

his knowledge and understanding of catering equipment and its associated standards was unrivalled. He supported the internationalisation of industry standards, and he was passionate about their development. We must count ourselves as fortunate to have had the benefit of his services as secretary general of EFCEM over recent years. His vision, knowledge, professionalism and integrity were well respected and acknowledged by all who met him. EFCEM is sad to have lost his contribution to our great work.”

Bryan Whittaker – former EFCEM Secretary General

It is with the greatest sadness that the Foodservice Equipment Association (UK) reports the passing of Bryan Whittaker MBE, on Saturday 2nd April 2022. He was 84 years old and passed away after a short illness. Bryan was Secretary General of EFCEM from 1995 to 1997 and the chair of its Technical Board.

Bryan had an open, convivial and multifaceted character, with a great depth of knowledge. He was able to talk knowledgeably on many aspects of life. He had an engaging personality and was at ease with all he met, regardless of their role or status.

Bryan was technical director of CESA (now FEA) until 2001, when he ‘retired’ to serve as the CESA Technical Consultant, from 2001 to 2017.

In 2005 he received the MBE for services to the industry, which included the extensive revision of the Machinery Safety Directive to ensure its clarity and relevance to manufacturers. His strong attention to detail and commitment to clarity meant he was highly respected by standards and policy makers. In 2007 Bryan received the Outstanding Service to the Catering Industry Award.



Keith Warren, chief executive of FEA, was a close friend. He says, “Bryan will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of working with him and who were fortunate to know him as a friend.”

Management Board Report

At the last meeting Keith Warren (FEA) was appointed as the Secretary General of EFCEM to take over the administrative duties following the death of Fabio Gargantini. Work is in hand already to arrange the transfer of the EFCEM bank account, web site access, and other key issues including the agendas and calling notices for forthcoming meetings.

General Assembly 2022; date and location agreed

This year's General Assembly will be on Thursday 16th June 2022 in Barcelona. All national associations and their company members are encouraged to attend the meeting which will be preceded by an informal dinner on the evening of Tuesday 15th June 2022. A diary invitation has been forwarded to confirm numbers, this can be passed to colleagues or company members.

EFCEM STATISTICS for Refrigeration, Warewashing Cooking Equipment and Hot Beverage Equipment/Coffee Machines

In order for EFCEM to have robust data on the installed base of equipment in Europe, the Management Committee approved the expenditure to produce data which is directly linked to the number of sites in the nations covered by EFCEM members. It has been a frustration that the EU Commission's consultants repeatedly present inaccurate data when making representation on important legislation affecting EFCEM member companies. This project will enable EFCEM to increase the value of its work in providing an effective counter to this inaccurate data.

The first strand of work will be covering commercial and professional refrigeration, planned for completion by June 2022. However, to complete this, the full co-operation of national associations is required. We can only get this data with your support and a benefit will be that national associations will have clear data on the installed base of equipment in their own country, courtesy of EFCEM.

FOR ACTION NOW – Each National Association should arrange a meeting of members or contacts to evaluate the types and numbers of refrigerated appliances in typical sites in their country. A template will be provided and keith.warren@fea.org.uk will deliver a 10-minute briefing on the project and the requirements at the start of the meeting if required.

Working Group One and Four: BIM and Connectivity

Convener contact keith.warren@fea.org.uk

Because of the overlap of work in these previously separate committees they have been merged. IoT developments mean that BIM and connected equipment are inextricably linked.

BIM – IFSE BIM Data Dictionary

Work is continuing the Data Dictionary to develop the international, multi-platform, multi-lingual parameters for foodservice equipment. This is built on the original FCSI Revit Standards but has been developed to correct some inconsistencies and to align with the work of Building Smart and other key organisations. We are working in conjunction with Roberto Assi on these developments on behalf of FCSI EAME. This is an effective and productive collaboration which has seen positive support from both manufacturers and

consultants who see the time and cost saving benefits of a recognised international standard for the production of content for use in BIM projects.

The group has evolved to form an expert group who are responsible for the development of the work to ensure relevance and practical effectiveness in use. This is a truly international group and at the last meeting the recent 'Comment Forms' were considered and incorporated into the latest version of the IFSEBIM Data Dictionary in seven languages can be found at <https://www.ifsebim.org/>

The next meeting is being held virtually on Monday 13th June 2022 at 15.00 (CET) and comment forms should be sent to keith.warren@fea.org.uk in advance of the meeting.

ACTION: Please notify your members and provide links to the resources, on your national association website.

Connectivity

We have exchanged information with NAFEM and share committee membership. NAFEM developed their own data protocol in 2003 with a more recent update NDP3. Following a review it is clear that the OPCUA Companion Specifications provide a more advanced solution for foodservice equipment and we are working to try and get to a point where there is an agreed international standard for connectivity in foodservice equipment.

ACTION: National association 'expert' representatives are required to join the committee. Please contact keith.warren@fea.org.uk

Working Group Two: Environmental Matters

Convener contact heinz@hki-online.de

The Working Group Two has dealt with the right to repair and the new framework superseding the Ecodesign Directive under the sign of sustainability.

The European Commission launched an initiative on '**Sustainable consumption of goods – promoting repair and reuse**' as part of the Circular Economy Action Plan.

It is an introduction of a "new" right to repair in cases that are not covered by the statutory warranty framework (legal guarantee). The warranty framework specified in the EU Sale of Goods Directive only applies in cases in which the defect in question already existed when the goods were handed over and occurs within the statutory warranty period (2 years in most member states).

The Commission is considering introducing a new consumer right to repair in situations not covered by the current statutory warranty framework, for example where a defect appears after the warranty period has expired or did not exist at the time of delivery but through normal wear and tear or improper handling of the product by the consumer.

The Commission consults on whether such a right to repair should only apply to individual product categories (e.g. electronics, household appliances or vehicles), how long a right to repair should exist for the consumer, whether the manufacturer or seller should be responsible for the repair should be obliged and who should bear the costs of the repair.

EFCEM sees repairability as general positive under the condition of an undisrupted implementation of professional repairs (similar to the established professional maintenance of gas appliances), so that the investment in a high-priced canteen/ professional kitchen is worthwhile.

However, misuse or inappropriate products for its purposes (intensive professional use) should not be passed on through extended warranties. We communicated this view Via our partner Orgalim.

It is important that this initiative is taken very seriously. Repair is introduced as the primary remedial measure in the revision of the EU Sale of Goods Directive (EU) 2019/771 and could be therefore quasi-mandatory.

It is currently envisaged that consumers will be able to choose between repairing and redelivering defective products. The directive could be amended so that repair is always seen as the primary remedy and consumers can only replace a faulty product if repair is not possible, the Commission says.

As a further option, it could also be based on the fact that the costs for a subsequent delivery are always considered "disproportionate" if they are at least as high as the repair costs.

Moreover, the **new framework for setting ecodesign requirements for sustainable products, the Revision of the Ecodesign Directive** was published and discussed in the working group.

The SPI proposal is getting broaden the scope. The focus is potentially on almost all products with a few exceptions. Unfortunately, the criteria of Article 15 in the existing regulation are no longer taken into account.

"Directive 2009/125/EC has been generally successful in fostering the energy efficiency and some circularity aspects of energy-related products, and its approach has the potential to progressively address the sustainability of all products."

COM(2022) 142 final EFCEM recommended to ensure a 200,000-unit sales threshold per annum, which was part of the Ecodesign Directive, or other suitable minimum parameter able to evaluate the relevance of the implementing measures otherwise we risk missing the potential improvement in terms of environmental impact related to product sectors and product groups. The effort should be proportionate to the purpose in order to not place in a disadvantages position manufacturers with small series, especially SMEs. Orgalim put it in their Proposition Paper as it was backed by other members of Orgalim.

The market should be helped by the regulation in improving product sustainability, not entailing disadvantages that can unbalance the market economy. In order to understand the regulation, when a product is regulated and when not, it would be useful to have such a threshold.

A number would be specific and in this case a continuation of what was negotiated with the Commission. The only problem is that the Commission has already said that it finds the SMERC-principle (specific, measurable, enforceable, relevant, competition friendly) to be outdated because the new approach affects new future products (measurability impossible!) and the relevance/ proportionality is now a thing of society costs (value chains, sustainable/ climate neutral society).

New elements of this proposal include how sustainable aspects of chemicals are dealt with on a product specific level. In future meetings of the working group, we have to understand the role of substances of concern in our appliances for their purposes.

The new Ecodesign is balancing between durability and the restriction or elimination of chemicals: If they are hindering circularity or recyclability and how this affects the durability and functioning of the product.

Working Group Three: Safety, Hygiene, Potability of Water ***Convener contact carlo.carincola@appliitalia.it***

EFCEM WG3 supported the ORGALIM Joint Industry Statement on Priorities for the Machinery Regulation proposal co-signed by Applia, Business Europe, Capiel, Ceemet, CEMA, CECIMO, COCIR, Digital Europe, EFIC, EUROPGEN, EUnited and Small Business Standards that outline the key concerns for industry regarding the Machinery Directive.

In particular, acknowledged that improvements have been made in alignment of the MR to the New Legislative Framework (NLF), transposition of the MD into a Regulation, digitalization of instructions, EU-Declaration of Conformity, and technical documentation, changes are needed to ensure essential health and safety requirements that are technology-neutral, to extend the use of digital formats to the provision of further technical documentation, to request a clear transition period, and to reject the introduction of mandatory 3rd party conformity assessment.

EFCEM participated in a targeted consultation related to the New Legislative Framework led by Commission Consultants. This targeted survey is part of the consultation process for the Study Supporting the Evaluation of Certain NLF Aspects.

The objectives of the study are to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, and EU added value of certain NLF aspects and provide an informed assessment of the NLF's current performance and consider the NLF's ongoing fitness for purpose.

Update on Drinking Water Directive

The European Commission adopted on 19 January 2022 a Decision establishing a watch list of substances and compounds of concern for water intended for human consumption. The watch list includes two endocrine disrupting compounds: 17-beta-estradiol and nonylphenol.

The Member States had until 12 January 2023 to put in place monitoring requirements throughout the drinking water supply chain. Over time, if new substances emerge that are likely to be present

in drinking water and could pose a potential health risk the Commission will add them to the list. EFCEM WG3 will continue to follow the developments on the DWD thanks to the Drinking Water Alliance and share them through the WG3.

Working Group Four: Connectivity

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Please see WG1 update.

Working Group Five: Marketing

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EFCEM will shortly be issuing a State of the Market survey to all EFCEM members for communication to all relevant colleagues and associates. The survey will address how catering manufacturing business are dealing with the market bouncing back from the Coronavirus pandemic and the current crisis in the Ukraine.

The survey will seek to understand issue associated with restrictions, demand for products; supply chain issues; labour shortages; embargos; and policies associated with Russia and Belarus. As is always the case, we encourage all EFCEM members to circulate the survey with as many relevant parties as possible. The greater the level of involvement that we have the greater the understanding that we garner.

Note of thanks

This newsletter would not be possible without the support and input from the Working Group convenors. On behalf of EFCEM I would like to thank convenors Keith Warren (WG1 and WG4), Christian Heinz (WG2), and Carlo Carincola (WG3) for their input.



European Federation of
Catering Equipment Manufacturers
