
EFCEM Newsletter General Assembly edition

President's Report, Mr Phil Williams

I would firstly like to pay tribute to our colleagues, Fabio Gargantini and Bryan Whittaker MBE for the long service to both EFCEM and the wider European Catering Industry, their skill sets, endless work ethic and dedication to our Industry will be sadly missed, both were characters in their own right, both very knowledgeable and experienced season campaigners.

I would like to especially thank Fabio for taking the lead and steering everyone through a vigorous series of debates and generally arriving at a consensus. We now have the difficult task of finding a suitable replacement for Fabio as Secretary General, a process that starts now and will take several months.

As Europe and the rest of the world continues to recover from the last two years of the COVID Pandemic and the subsequent widespread economic turmoil that we are all still coming to terms with, EFCEM needs to continue to play an important proactive role within Europe, supporting and speaking as a unified voice for the European commercial catering manufacturers and industry interests.

I would also like to thank the Executive Directors and Representatives of all the National Associations for their time and insight that has aided the successful development of Working Group activities within the EFCEM structure over the last two years and for their continued support going forward in these difficult times.

Once again, this year as with previous years, I think it is important to recognise and thank the individual Working Group Convenors for the commitment and efforts and their many communications over the last twelve months and in keeping all working group members fully engaged. Thank you also to the national association members and individuals who have provided input over the last year. Thank You!

We now enter a new chapter for EFCEM. I look forward to the future of EFCEM under the guidance over the next twelve months of the EFCEM Board and with the support of all the National Associations in addressing the many important issues that are facing the commercial catering industry in this coming challenging post pandemic era.

I welcome and look forward to the return of the next Global Summit, re-engaging on issues around data communication, machine intelligence, challenges of the Circular Economy and global energy efficiency issues as we move out of this global pandemic phase.

EFCEM will continue to represent industry on EU Policy, Directive and Regulations as well as co-ordinating Standard work and responding to member questions, no other organisation has this authority, mandate or role in our sector.

Our strategy moving forward continues to be to maintain, develop and improve EFCEM's position as the leading voice for professional cooking equipment manufacturers in Europe.

Phil Williams,
EFCEM President

Working Group Reports

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

The IFSEBIM Parameter Group last met on the 13th of June 2022. It considered and approved comment forms relating to earth leakage devices, digital connectivity and ingress protection. These developments will be included in the next update of the data dictionary. It was also reported that the FCSI Worldwide board is to establish a technology committee covering BIM and connectivity; the next stage of its work will be to integrate the IFSEBIM parameter work into the FCSI Standard and to add a material list.

This is welcome news for integration into North American processes and leaves IFSEBIM to provide the nationally specific, multilingual resource for use outside the USA. IFSEBIM.org has been updated and all national associations are encouraged to ensure that links are included within their own websites, as a great resource for member use.

Work was also reported relating to integration of the IFSEBIM work into Building Smart activity.

Contact: secretary.general@efcem.info
[View EFCEM Members](#)

The next meeting of the parameter group will be on Monday, the 12th of June 2023 at 3 pm. Whilst this is nearly a year away, comment forms can be submitted to keith.warren@fea.org.uk.

Connectivity

Work is ongoing to develop a data strategy for connectivity with food service equipment and it is expected that a meeting will be held in the Autumn to move this onto the next stage of development. Work was undertaken at the recent NRA exhibition to support this activity with key stakeholders.

Working Group Two: Environmental Matters

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Since the end of March, Working Group Two has been working on a large number of new regulation proposals. Starting with the new Ecodesign framework: Ecodesign for sustainable product regulation (ESPR), which we have studied extensively, to the proposed new rules of fluorinated greenhouse gases - review of EU rules (2015-20). Here is a brief overview of activities:

- Request to the European Commission to clarify "self-contained equipment" and why the concept of "hermetically sealed" is replaced in the new **F-gas proposal**? How to apply the scheme between "HFCs", "fluorinated greenhouse gases" and "other fluorinated greenhouse gases"?
- Preparation of a position paper on the proposal for **Regulation of fluorinated greenhouse gases** – Document COM(2022)150 - 05/04/2022. We made some specific comments on the approach taken for the definitions, placing on the market prohibitions and possible impacts on the professional and commercial refrigeration products. Please find the uploaded document here: [Feedback from: European Federation of Catering Equipment Manufacturers \(EFCEM\) \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Preparation of a position paper on the **Final Draft 2021 ETL Criteria Combination Steam Ovens** - 12/05/2022 (UK). Our recommendation is to revise the proposed approach and consider that the data are, from our point of view, not sufficient to reach a conclusion, and also evaluating a postponement of the introduction of criteria regarding Combi Ovens.
- Discussion the **Ecodesign Working Plan 2022-2024**: Our focus will be professional dishwashers and laundry.
- RepowerEU plan of the Commission: Consequences, discussing interconnection of regulations, conclusions for our sector.

- Endorsement of EFCEM Italia's analysis of the proposition of certain limits regarding the energy efficiency by Tait Consulting in the process of **review of the Regulations (EU) 2015/1094 and (EU) 2015/1095**. If the proposed limits will go forward **Ecodesign** will exclude a large number of products from the market.
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Working Group Three: Safety, Hygiene, Potability of Water ***Convener contact carlo.carincola@appliaitalia.it***

Machinery Directive

EFCEM WG3 supported the ORGALIM Joint Industry Statement on Priorities for the Machinery Regulation proposal, co-signed by several European industry associations, that outline the key concerns regarding the Machinery Directive. In particular, 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.

New Legislative Framework

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.

Food Contact

The European Commission published the evaluation of the Food Contact Materials (FCM) legislative framework. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess whether the current EU legislative framework for FCM is fit for purpose and delivers as expected. The evaluation covers the functioning of the FCM Regulation in its entirety and the rules and tools provided for by this legislation, such as specific implementing measures. It also examines the situation concerning materials for which there are no EU measures and which are subject to permitted national measures.

The Evaluation underlines differences in the interpretation of the status of some items, questions about the full effectiveness of labelling and communication to consumers, including the use of symbols or pictograms. This document will be used as base for the future development of the FCM legislative framework revision proposal that is expected for 2023 that will be followed by EFCEM WG3.

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.

The European Drinking Water Alliance (EDW), of which EFCEM is part, shared his Q&A document with its members to collect suggestions to update the current version which is 3 years old. EFCEM asked for clarification for the convergence of legislation in particular FCM, REACH and RoHS, the WG will be updated as soon as EDW will publish the new document. EFCEM WG3 will continue to follow the developments on the DWD thanks to the EDW 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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At the EFCEM General Assembly the results of the recent State of the Market survey were presented. The survey questions centered around the after-effects of the covid pandemic on the commercial catering equipment sector and the market effects of the Russia Ukraine conflict. The survey included participants from Germany, Ireland, Italy, United Kingdom, and Switzerland.

Key takeouts from the survey

- Compared to six months ago there is still some distance to go until the market picks up. Whilst many respondents are recording a 'Level' amount of sales it's worth remembering where we were six months ago.

- The sales forecasts for the next six months are a reflection on the results of the previous six months with the majority of respondents projecting to still be behind budget.
- Supply chain delivery times are a major issue, with the majority feeling that delivery times will be even slower in six months' time.
- To compound the struggles the market doesn't offer any respite. Supply chain delivery times have gotten worse, and distributors have also increased their delivery costs.
- Majority of respondents have experienced an increase in transportation costs since the start of the Russia Ukraine conflict.
- Cost increases have been passed on to the customer.
- The overarching concern for manufacturers is the sharp increase in raw materials, most notably steel.
- The full results can be viewed [here](#).

A round table discussion followed the presentation of the results and highlighted the similarity in experiences between members regardless of the country.

In addition to this it was agreed by those in attendance to prepare a generic set of survey questions for National Associations to use with members and for EFCEM to collate a European perspective whilst allowing NAP's to have a national perspective. The updated survey will be circulated at the end of Q3 2022.

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