

# FEM

# Newsletter

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**ISSUE 02/2024**

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**Quarterly publication of the European  
Materials Handling Federation**



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## FEM News

### FRANK VAN DIJCK BECOMES VICE-PRESIDENT OF FEM



On 24<sup>th</sup> April, the FEM Board elected Frank van Dijck – CTO at Vanderlande as FEM Vice-President.

Frank is President of the Intralogistic Systems Product Group and member of the Board of FEM. He is due to take over the presidency of FEM from Christophe Lautray at the next Congress in Istanbul.

### FEM CONFERENCE ON THE GREEN TRANSFORMATION AT CONGRESS IN ISTANBUL

The next FEM Congress will provide an opportunity to discuss how the materials handling industry is transforming itself to become more sustainable. The conference will include an overview of the EU green transition policy agenda followed with a panel discussion with keynote industrialists from our different FEM Product Groups.

You can find the conference program below. More information and names of keynote speakers to be know soon! Make sure you visit <https://femcongressistanbul2024.com> and register!

#### **27 September (11.00 – 13.00) - The Green transformation of the materials handling industry**

- 11.00 – 11.10: Welcome speech - ISDER
- 11.10 – 11.20: Setting the scene - FEM President
- 11.20 – 11.45: The EU Green Transition policy agenda
- 11.45 – 12.30: Panel discussion with 4 industrialists from FEM Product Groups
- 12.30 – 12.45: Concluding remarks - FEM Secretary General

### SWISSLOG AND MGF JOINED FEM

MGF and Swisslog were welcomed as FEM members during the FEM Spring General Assembly meeting in Brussels on 24 April 2024.

**Maskingrossisternes Forening (MGF)**, the Norwegian Association, brings together 116 member companies within the machinery industry.



Tone L. Grøstad, President of Maskingrossisternes Forening: *“MGF is happy to be part of FEM and sees this as an opportunity to be closer to the European market. We are currently working on a national plan with regulation, environment and sustainability, and HES issues in the material handling market, and being a part of FEM’s network will provide valuable insight to other countries and organisations, and common EU regulation. It also provides a unique opportunity to work together and make connections with the industry at European level.”*

With more than 3000 people working across the globe, **Swisslog** delivers data-driven and robotic solutions for logistics automation and specialises in the manufacturing of palletizers, shuttles, cranes, conveyors and picking robots for manifold applications.

Jens Christian Schmale, CEO of Swisslog: *“As a manufacturer of materials handling equipment and software, we believe that joining FEM will not only align us with industry standards but also provide us with valuable networking opportunities and resources for further growth and development.”*



You can read the full Press Releases [on FEM website](#).

### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON THE NEW FEM AIV GROUP



To foster technical cooperation and information exchange, FEM has launched a group dedicated to autonomous intralogistic vehicles (AIV) and aiming to establish the largest European platform for AIV manufacturers to engage in technical cooperation and information exchange!

To this day, 18 manufacturers covering 9 countries have already signed up. If you are interested in joining them, you can find more information [HERE](#)

The new Group will work on technical cooperation and statistical exchange. On the latter part, the first steps have been taken for the establishment of specifications (reporting categories, frequency, scope...) and the development of a dedicated statistical platform. This work has been taken over by FEM French member EVOLIS, who has taken over the secretariat of the group.

The first meeting of the group will take place in the summer. The date is to be confirmed soon.

## Task Forces Activities

### BATTERIES

#### Batteries and Waste Batteries Regulation

For the Battery Task Force, implementation of the [Batteries and Waste Batteries Regulation](#) remains the priority. EU institutions are currently involved in the early stages of development of secondary legislation with regards to carbon footprint rules and restriction of substances in batteries.

On 30 April, the European Commission opened the [stakeholders' consultation](#) on its draft Implementing Regulation and Annex setting out the format of the carbon footprint declaration. This establishes a tabular format, applicable to all battery types in scope, consisting of a list of minimum information to be included in declaration. While the timeline for adoption and entry into force is still to be defined, it has been confirmed that the Implementing Regulation on the format for the carbon footprint declaration cannot be enforced before the carbon footprint rules have been established.

During the same period, the European Commission launched the [consultation](#) on the draft Delegated Regulation and Annex establishing the methodology for the calculation and verification of the carbon footprint of electric vehicle batteries. The text provides for life-cycle calculation rules by indicating which life cycle stages are included in the system boundaries, the data collection requirements, and the calculation of the functional unit. While electric vehicles are not a sector of direct interest to FEM, this act lays the groundwork for the secondary legislation on carbon footprint rules for industrial batteries. Except for the functional unit, all other methodologies and requirements are expected to be the same for industrial batteries.

Lastly, The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) [announced](#) that it is preparing a report on substances of concern contained in batteries or used in their manufacturing. In case requested by the Commission, this report will be followed by a restriction proposal on certain substances present in batteries. As last stage, once ECHA submits its restriction dossier, the Commission can adopt a Delegated Act to amend the restrictions on substances in Annex I of the Batteries Regulation, which are currently limited to Mercury, Cadmium, and Lead over specific thresholds. The timeline sets the publication of ECHA's "Phase 1 report" (including substances and alternatives mapping and consultation results) by 30 June 2025 and the final report (update to Phase 1) by 20 December 2026.

FEM will continue to monitor closely all relevant developments in the implementation of the Batteries Regulation and parallel legislation on this subject and, if necessary, get involved in advocacy activities.

## DIGITALISATION

### Legislative updates and developments on the Data Act guidance document

The Digitisation TF keeps on monitoring the legislative developments concerning the Cyber Resilience Act and Artificial Intelligence Act. The final text of the Artificial Intelligence Act has been signed on 13 June 2024 and is expected to be published in the EU Official Journal in the upcoming weeks.

Any update will be shared with the Task Force members as soon as available.

The FEM Data Act Guidance sub-group has been efficiently established and is working on the guidance document to support FEM manufacturers in the implementation of the Data Act. At present, the sub-group held four meetings, the last one on 27 June. The sub-group has been able to generate significant attention, as much as thirteen new experts decided to join it.

The experts of the sub-group are currently analysing the Data Act to address those aspects relevant for the materials handling industry, so as the FEM guidance document will effectively support members to operationalize this Regulation.

The next meeting of the sub-group will take place at the end of July.

## MACHINERY DIRECTIVE

On 12 April 2024, FEM participated in the Commission Machinery Expert Group meeting (MEG).

The meeting focus was on the discussion on the proposed update of the Machinery Directive Guide, on inclusion of digital documentation in the Guide. All the proposed updates have been approved and the [edition 2.3 of the Machinery Directive Guide](#) was published shortly after the meeting.

The new version allows manufacturers to use digital documentation (for instructions for use and for the declaration of conformity).

The work on the future Machinery Regulation Guide will probably start after the summer, but the Commission is already planning to set-up again an “Editorial Group”, consisting of various experts from the industry and the Member States, which was the previous group that dealt with the MD Guide update.

Next FEM Machinery Task Force will take place on 16 September.

## NOISE

FEM Noise TF has been following the progress of the revised [Delegated Act on the Outdoor Noise Directive Annex III](#), amending noise measurement methods for outdoor equipment. The revised Delegated Act was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 2 May 2024 and entered into force on 22 May 2024.

Beyond that, the Noise Task Force is currently engaged in monitoring the development of the European Commission's proposal for a Directive on the rationalisation of reporting requirements, which would eliminate article 16 on the Outdoor Noise Directive; this proposal aims to remove reporting obligations that are not necessary.

Next step is the participation of FEM delegates in the next Commission Outdoor Noise Directive Expert Group that will take place on 11 July 2024.

## ROAD CIRCULATION

The Task Force Road Circulation has been busy with monitoring the institutional developments on the proposal for a Regulation on the EU approval and market surveillance of Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) circulating on public roads.

On 24 April 2024, the European Parliament formally approved the [text](#) and the Council have endorsed the deal using the wording corresponding to that of the Parliament's final position, the next upcoming step will be the publication of the final text in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Moreover, FEM has been participating in the formulation of technical requirements, which are set to be defined in a Delegated Act. These requirements are currently being handled by independent contractors hired by the European Commission. The Commission shall adopt the Delegated Acts 24 months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

The FEM Secretariat remains committed to closely monitoring developments in this matter.

## EU Legislative Issues

### CHEMICALS POLICY - PFAS

#### ECHA's restriction proposal of PFAS substances

The restriction process on PFAS substances is going ahead at a slow pace. The two ECHA's scientific committees Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) and Socio-Economic Committee (SEAC) held [plenary meetings](#) on 11 and 14 March 2024, in which they assessed the sector of cosmetics, ski wax, and consumer mixtures and tentatively concluded that these will not be granted derogations.

The sector identified under the denomination "Metal plating and manufacture of metal products" was discussed during the [plenary meetings of 3-6 June](#). Committees agreed on sector-specific aspects such as emissions, alternative risks, risk reduction, and sector-use specific derogations.

In parallel, the five Member States that submitted the restriction dossier to ECHA are currently reviewing their original restriction proposal in light of the consultation's comments. ECHA committees' opinions – foreseen in the first quarter of 2025 – will reflect the updated report.

This restriction proposal on PFAS substances remains of key importance to FEM due to its potential significant impact on the whole industry. FEM will continue gathering intelligence on developments from ECHA as well as from other relevant sources.

### COMPETITION – INVESTIGATION INTO CHINESE PLATFORM MANUFACTURERS

Last October, the European Commission has opened an [anti-dumping investigation](#) on imports of mobile access equipment (MAE) originating from China. The investigation, triggered by a complaint from a coalition, concerns mobile access equipment designed for the lifting of persons, self-propelled, with a maximum working height of 6 meters or more.

On 14<sup>th</sup> June, the European Commission released its provisional findings, which propose the application of customs duties ranging from 23.6% to 56.1%. These would come on top of the existing 10% customs duties already applicable. These provisional measures will apply from 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024 onwards. Definitive measures will come into force by mid-January 2025.

For more information about the case is available [HERE](#).



## RADIO EQUIPMENT DIRECTIVE

The third meeting of the group dealing with the revision of the RED Guide, coordinated by the AdCO RED Chair, took place on 7 June. The meeting focused on the input of stakeholders concerning possible changes to the RED Guide. Most stakeholder comments tabled were editorial updates to references of the Blue Guide as well as other guidance documents and directives/regulations. In summary, the main points of discussion were the following:

- The group will work on clarifications regarding the use of harmonised standards with restrictions. The aim is that it should be up to the manufacturer to make a first assessment if the restriction affects the radio product; i.e. no need to contact a Notified Body.
- The requirement to have the CE-mark visible was discussed. Today there is some guidance on having CE-marking under a battery, which will be further worked on. The outcome may be different if the product is provided to the customer with the battery in the product or with the battery separately.
- There was also a discussion regarding risk assessment and technical file updates.

Everything in the RED Guide is still open for discussion; members will still have the possibility to provide inputs or questions during the next meeting of the RED Guide revision group, which is tentatively scheduled for the middle of September.

## Publications and Events

### FEM 2024-2025 CALENDAR

Make sure you already mark your calendar!

#### Summer 2024

First meeting of the new FEM AIV Group (date TBC)

First meeting of the new CBAM ad hoc group (1 July, 14.30 – 16.30)

#### 26-27 September 2024 in Istanbul

FEM Congress, organised by ISDER

*Location: Hilton Kozyatağı Istanbul Hotel*

**Make sure you visit <https://femcongressistanbul2024.com> and register!**

#### 17-18 March 2025 in Brussels

17 March: FEM members Dinner

18 March (8.30 - 14.00): Board, PG secretaries, Executive Committee and General Assembly meetings

### ORGALIM RELEASES A NEW EDITION OF ITS WORLD-RENOWNED GENERAL CONDITIONS



Orgalim has released a new edition of its bestseller **General Conditions for the Supply and Installation of Mechanical, Electrical and Electronic Products**.

These General Conditions are drafted by Orgalim’s Legal Affairs Working Group, which consists of lawyers and legal experts from Orgalim’s national member associations. This ensures both expert knowledge of our companies’ business environment and a text that reflects different legal cultures and common international practice.

Building on the success of SI 14, the fourth edition of Orgalim Supply and Installation Conditions brings about clarifications and some additions without compromising on the balanced approach towards the parties’ interests.

It is now available in 11 languages. More information on [Orgalim’s Licensing Website](#)

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS RESERVED**  

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**TO FEM MEMBERS**  

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**FOR ANY ENQUIRY, PLEASE CONTACT:**

FEM Aisbl

Olivier Janin, Secretary General

BluePoint Brussels

Bd. A. Reyers 80

B-1030 Brussels (Belgium)

Tel: +32 2 206 68 66

Email: [info@fem-eur.com](mailto:info@fem-eur.com)

[www.fem-eur.com](http://www.fem-eur.com)

