



Editorial

What is the future of the refining industry?

At this time, 95% of the transportation sector depends on petroleum products. Technological progress will no doubt lead to an increase in energy efficiency, but transport's heavy reliance on oil will remain. It is in the European Union's best interest to maintain an effective refining industry.

The downstream refining sector is much less profitable for oil companies than the upstream sector and of the hundred or so refineries in the European Union, eight shut down in the past five years.

The European deficit in middle distillates (diesel fuel, diesel and kerosene) – between production and consumption – was 14% in 2010. There was excessive gasoline production and a shortage of diesel fuel.

Importing both crude oil and refined products weakens the security of our transportation sector's supply chain and, as a result, gradually increases costs.

Europe needs strong, innovative, efficient and healthy industrial companies able to compete with their counterparts worldwide. This is also true for refining. ([continues on page 4](#))

Jean-Claude Charrault
Special Advisor to the EEF

Upcoming events

- 17/04/2013** *General Assembly, Strasbourg*
All Active Members attend
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- 23/04/2013** Dinner-debate Brussels
Air quality in Europe: the future is electric
At the invitation of Eurelectric
-
- 01-03/05/2013** *Fact-finding mission to Singapore and Malaysia in the framework of the biofuels discussions*
At the invitation of Neste Oil
-
- 21/05/2013** Dinner-debate Strasbourg
Energy Post 2020 roadmap for the Chemical industry
At the invitation of CEFIC
-
- 28/05/2013** Dinner-debate Brussels
Vision for Sustainable Shipping in the EU: Fuelling the Future of Transport
At the invitation of Wärtsilä
-
- 18/06/2013** Dinner-debate Brussels
Smart Meters & Consumer: what happens to my data?
At the invitation of ESMIG
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EEF events

The responsibilities of electricity distributors within the smart grids

12/03/2013: Dinner-debate in Strasbourg

At the invitation of EDSO for Smart Grids & ERDF



Improving efficiency is one of the constant energy industry challenges. But being efficient is now linked with technological development oriented towards a more active implication of consumers in the process and to comply with EU initiatives for sustainable development. Efficiency policies in the energy field are now looking at how energy production, distribution and consumption processes can be adapted to the new situation. From the distributors' point of view, the development of smart grids are one of the measures to turn this into reality.

Per-Olof Grandström, Secretary General of EDSO for the Smart Grids and one of the speakers in the this dinner-debate, pointed out the difficulty to *“accelerate the Smart Grids if the don't change the regulation”* and remained *“that talking about reaching the targets we are not talking about technology innovation, which is of course important, we are talking about technology integration: to use what we already know and to share knowledge between each other.”*



According to **Jean-Baptiste Galland**, Director for Strategy and Smart Grids at ERDF, the main challenges for the development of smart grids are *“improving energy efficiency, renewables connection & operation and new consumption patterns”*. He highlighted the quick transformation the business is going through and that will lead to an *“active low cost system”* enabling multiple possibilities of *“energy data management”*.

Board Meeting

13/03/2013: Internal Meeting in Strasbourg

At the invitation of EEF



Board members got together in Strasbourg to discuss about potential debates and activities to be organized by the EEF and review the results 2012 and budget 2013.

The Board is composed of the following MEPs: Giles Chichester (President); Alejo Vidal-Quadras (Treasurer and vice-President); Vice-presidents: Jerzy Buzek, Norbert Glante, Edit Herczog, Romana Jordan, Herbert Reul, Paul Rübig, Britta Thomsen; Directors: Daniel Caspary, Robert Goebbels, Corinne Lepage, Justas Vincas Paleckis, Vittorio Prodi, Vladimír Remek, Valimir Urutchev, Inese Vaidere, Lambert van Nistelrooij.



EEF events

Innovation powering sustainable cities

19/03/2013: Dinner-debate in Brussels

At the invitation of EDF



Development and economic growth is specially concentrated in urban areas. The amount of energy consumed in cities is very high due to the concentration of population and industrial activities around them. This concentration has a positive impact on socio-economic development, but can also bring a negative impact on the environment. Thus the need to find a balance among economic progress and sustainable development which is currently seen as a priority in EU policies.

The contribution of the energy industry to this process is essential to improve the way energy is produced, transported and consumed in cities and develop innovative solutions to face economic and environmental challenges.



Michel Maschi, Head of EDF R&D's Global Operations, emphasized the need to plan cities *"looking at long term impact of decisions, with a systemic approach taking into account the interaction between transport infrastructures, buildings and industrial development"* and insisted on the importance of *"placing the citizen in the center of the approach"*.

ITAC Meeting

26/03/2013: Internal Meeting in Brussels

At the invitation of EEF



The Industrial Technical Advisory Committee Meeting is an opportunity for Associate Members to discuss on the work programme of debates and visits for the coming months of 2013 and share their proposals with Board and Associate Members.

The ITAC meeting is held twice a year and brings together Associate and Board members to the EEF. A report of the last meeting will be sent to our members for information.





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The situation described before is of concern to the European Commission which initiated an in-depth dialogue with the competent industrialists.

It is first a matter of acknowledging that it's up to the industry itself to take action and to deal with its problems without requesting help from the public authorities. The latter must resist giving subsidies that will only delay inevitable plant closings.

The Commission also provides a European dimension to challenge this global problem which is of concern to us today.

After organising two round tables with the refining industry and publishing a communication entitled "A Stronger European Industry for Growth and Economic Recovery", the Commission created a "European refining forum" which will meet for the first time on April 12.

All parties interested, including workers' unions, will be able to express their opinion to prepare proposals that will assist the refining industry's recovery and ensure that the measures planned at the European level are consistent, complete and in line with the other policies being developed for Europe.

Energy Events



Gas Week 2013

23-25/04/2013

[Gas Week 2013](#)

First Euro - Mediterranean Rendez-vous on Energy

11/04/2013

[First Euro - Mediterranean Rendez-vous on Energy](#)

[ITRE: Reul Report calling on 2030 renewable energy target adopted](#)

Source: ITRE

[Green Paper 'A 2030 framework for climate and energy policies'](#)

[EC quarterly report on European electricity markets](#)

[EC quarterly report on European gas markets](#)

Source: DG Energy

