



PROMOTING COMPETITIVENESS BY REINFORCING THE EU'S MARKET SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Wednesday 5 November 2025

18h00 Cocktail – 18h30 Roundtable – 19h30 Dinner & Debate
Members' Salon, European Parliament

Organised in partnership with ORGALIM – Europe's Technology Industries



INTRODUCTION BY PARLIAMENTARY HOST

Maria GRAPINI MEP (S&D, Romania) Vice Chair, Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee

As Vice Chair of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee, I am very pleased to welcome the representatives from the Sejourné Commission Cabinet, DG GROW, and European manufacturers.

Hannah Anttilainen, welcome to you and your European Commission colleague, you are very important speakers for us this evening.

As a former Government minister and an engineer, I understand how important the EU and U.S. markets, and the systems that support them, are to manufacturers across Europe. I am therefore very much looking forward to hearing your recommendations this evening.

It is important that we have concrete examples, as they help us develop meaningful suggestions for our Committee, for the Commission, and for Parliament. Decisions are always better when based on real input from industry, rather than made in offices without practical information.

Thank you, Antony, and your team, for creating this opportunity for a face-to-face debate. This allows us to gather direct recommendations for both the Commission and Parliament.

I would like to ask all speakers, whenever possible, to provide concrete examples and practical solutions to the issues we are discussing today. It is important that we listen carefully – this evening is about hearing from you, not from me, as I am simply the host.

And now, as we begin our conference, I am delighted to introduce our keynote speaker, Hannah, from the Cabinet of the Executive Vice President and Commissioner, Stéphane Séjourné, who is responsible for the Single Market Strategy.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION KEYNOTE SPEECH - PROMOTING COMPETITIVENESS BY REINFORCING THE EU'S MARKET SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Hanna ANTILAINEN, EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Cabinet Member, Executive Vice President Stéphane Séjourné, responsible for Single Market Strategy

Good evening, and thank you very much for having me. It is a real pleasure to be here, and I am actually more interested in hearing from you: your concrete problems, ideas, and solutions.

This is a very important and impactful topic and a top priority for the Commission: promoting competitiveness by strengthening market surveillance in the EU.



The Single Market is one of our greatest achievements – €18 trillion GDP, 32 million companies, 450 million consumers – but it is under pressure both internally and externally. Internally, there are still too many barriers to trade in goods and services.

Externally, we face unfair competition, particularly from a surge in imports of low-value, often non-compliant products, mainly from e-commerce. In 2024, 4.6 billion items were imported – 97% from China. Customs and market surveillance authorities are overwhelmed: only 82 out of a million items are inspected. The system is not working as it should.

We need to reinforce the Single Market by removing internal barriers (the ‘Terrible 10’) and protecting it externally through stronger market surveillance. This will rebuild trust and boost competitiveness. Market surveillance is now at the core of the Commission’s agenda.

The revision of the Market Surveillance Regulation will tackle challenges such as poor cooperation between customs and authorities, outdated IT tools, and insufficient resources. It will be part of the upcoming European Products Act, which will modernise legislation:

- making standardisation more agile and inclusive
- strengthening cooperation
- revising Article 4 on authorised representatives
- clarifying tasks and deadlines
- boosting digital tools (including the digital product passport) and
- ensuring efficient, cost-effective testing facilities.

But this may not be enough.

We might need to strengthen EU-level governance, possibly by creating an EU Market Surveillance Authority to:

- intervene in major cases of under-enforcement
- coordinate Member States, and
- ensure consistent enforcement.

In conclusion, we must act fast and on all fronts. Unsafe, unfair, non-compliant products have no place in the EU. We must enforce our rules so that only products meeting EU standards and values are sold.

I really count on your feedback and encourage you to contribute to the upcoming Public Consultation – to be launched next week.

I am looking forward to hearing your ideas—please think out of the box—and also your thoughts on today’s announcement by France about suspending SHEIN until its products are proven compliant.

PRIORITIES FOR EUROPEAN MANUFACTURERS

Javier Ormazabal Echevarria, ORGALIM, President & VELATIA, President and CEO

Competitiveness is at the heart of Europe's industrial future, and at the heart of every factory, workshop and lab represented here today. Tightening our market surveillance system is essential to make Europe more competitive.

I am both the President of my own company, Velatia, which offers advanced technological solutions for smart cities and electric networks, and President of Orgalim, the voice of Europe's technology industries.



Europe's technology industries are comprised of 770,000 companies with an annual turnover of €2,753 billion and are responsible for over 11 million direct jobs, many more indirect ones, and a third of all European exports.

The products that we make here in Europe are some of the highest and finest quality in the world. European manufacturers are held to high standards by the rules of the European Union and hold themselves to high standards personally.

Behind every high-quality European product is a high-quality team - skilled engineers, designers, technicians - people who care about doing things right and who believe in the products they make.

When I went to work at Velatia, it wasn't simply because it was my family company. It was because I believe in what we do. I firmly believe that what we do is important. I wanted to make high quality products.

And when I became President of Orgalim, it is because I believe in what we all do – the makers, the creators, the innovators – those of you here tonight and those all across Europe who produce the tools, machines and technology that are powering us towards a sustainable, digital, smart future.

We do what we do because we have a pride in our work.

But our pride in quality is being tested, - not by a lack of innovation or ambition, but by a system that often lets us down and rewards those who cut corners.

Today, European manufacturers are often at a disadvantage. While we are making huge efforts to comply with the standards set by the EU, others are not.

Every day, substandard products are entering the EU market – products that do not comply with the rigorous safety and sustainability standards that we adhere to.

This is putting our industries at a serious disadvantage. And it needs to stop. We need more rigorous market surveillance. And we need it now.

Member States, who are responsible for conducting market surveillance activities need to step up, as does the European Commission, who should rigorously defend the single market by harmonising what is considered sufficiently robust market surveillance.

If proper market checks are carried out, more of the products that enter the EU market will be compliant. Today, there are a huge amount of non-compliant products and very little consequences for the businesses responsible.

Thorough market surveillance would ensure a level playing field for everyone.

Today, there are misconceptions and a lack of understanding about what needs to be prioritised. And, more often than not, market surveillance is deprioritised. This needs to change. Customs authorities need to work more closely together with market surveillance authorities to strengthen controls at the external borders of the EU.

By ensuring that the system has sufficient resources to meet today's import levels, we will reward honest companies for playing by the rules and creating the best product they possibly can.

This will also benefit our climate change targets. Many of the new requirements that manufacturers are being asked to meet are designed to raise the bar on sustainability and ensure that Europe is on track to successfully complete the green transition.

European companies are stepping up and complying with these new green standards. However, there are other companies that import products onto the EU market that do not comply. This undermines the EU's agenda.

The big question that remains thus is: how can we achieve more robust market surveillance?

Our call to policymakers, and I am glad to see many of you present in this room tonight, boils down to three main asks:

- Firstly, increase the number and quality of checks, especially for B2B products to make sure that the products available on the EU market are always compliant with applicable quality and sustainability rules.
- Secondly, unleash the power of digitalisation. Digital tools, like the Digital Product Passport, have a huge potential to make market surveillance more effective. But as digital systems improve, physical checks must not be neglected. What we need is a complimentary and mutually reinforcing roll-out of digital and physical measures and checks.
- Finally, strengthen the deterrents against non-compliant products, and increase transparency through regular reporting and increased investments in EU testing facilities.

Let us be clear: only if we strengthen market surveillance and only if we make sure everybody plays by the rules we have all agreed on, Europe's manufacturers will be able to compete on what truly matters: innovation, quality, sustainability.

As Orgalim, we are proud of what we make here in Europe.

We are building Europe's future. A future that is smart, sustainable and secure. Please help us to reach our full potential by providing a level playing field thanks to more robust market surveillance.

Together, let us build a future we can be proud of.

MAKING USE OF THE TOOLS IN THE EU'S MARKET SURVEILLANCE REGULATION

Filip Geerts, CECIMO, Director General

When we talk about Europe's industrial competitiveness, we often think about innovation, trade, or digitalisation. But there is another pillar that is just as important – and that is safety.

Because let us be honest: sustainable growth, real competitiveness, are impossible if unsafe products are allowed to circulate in our market.



At CECIMO, the European association representing the manufacturing technology industry, we see machine safety not just as a legal requirement. For us, it is a core value — a commitment to protecting workers, upholding Europe's reputation for quality, and ensuring our industry remains globally competitive. European companies invest heavily in designing machines that are safe, reliable, and built to last.

And yet, we are seeing more and more unsafe and non-compliant machines entering the European market. This trend is confirmed by the European Commission's Safety Gate Reports – and we know that many more cases are most probably never reported. This creates a real problem: companies that play by the rules face higher costs, while those that do not can sell cheaper products. That is not fair competition – it is an uneven playing field that hurts responsible manufacturers and weakens our industrial base.

Now, customs and market surveillance authorities are doing their best to stop unsafe machines – such as industrial robots, CNC equipment, and laser machines – from entering the EU. But they face huge challenges. The system is fragmented, there is limited technical expertise, and the enormous volume of imports makes it only possible to check a small fraction of products. As a result, some unsafe machines still make their way into our factories, putting both workers and responsible manufacturers at risk.

One place where this problem is especially visible is at trade fairs. If you walk through any major industrial exhibition in Europe, you will often see non-EU machines on display – sometimes new models that may not even meet EU safety standards.

Under current rules, exhibitors can show machinery not intended for the EU market, as long as it is clearly labelled and kept switched off. While that rule makes sense for business, in practice it creates a grey zone. Non-compliant machines can sit right next to fully compliant European products – even though they could never legally be sold or used in the EU.

At CECIMO, we believe machine safety is a shared responsibility. Manufacturers, employers, and regulators all have a role to play. From our point of view, employers – the companies operating these machines – are essential partners in maintaining Europe's culture of industrial safety. Manufacturers must make sure that machines are compliant when they are placed on the market. But once they are in use, enter the workplace, it is up to employers to keep them safe and compliant throughout their life-cycle.

We encourage our customers to take a few simple but crucial steps:

- Always ask for proper documentation and certification — the CE marking, the declaration of conformity, and the user manual.
- Check that your suppliers are trustworthy and transparent.
- Make sure your machines meet minimum safety standards, and carry out inspections before use and

- most importantly – train your operators. Make sure they understand how the machines work, and what the risks are.

These are not just best practices – they are investments in safety and reliability.

It is also worth remembering that under EU law, employers can be held legally responsible if an accident happens because of a non-compliant machine – even if the manufacturer was at fault. So, due diligence is essential before every purchase decision.

Policymakers also have a vital role to play. We need smarter enforcement. And we must make sure that EU public funding, whether through innovation programmes, digital transition initiatives or green investment schemes, does not end up financing unsafe, non-compliant machinery from outside the EU.

We also hope to see a strong step forward with the upcoming revision of the Market Surveillance Regulation. We believe that tools like the EU Safety Gate can be used as a good foundation but it must continue to evolve — with simpler ways to log cases, better categories for machine risks, and direct links to customs systems, to stop unsafe products before they even enter the market. Another promising tool is the Digital Product Passport (DPP).

If it's designed well, it could make CE compliance more transparent and user-friendly, and give customs authorities instant access to key information on product compliance. That would help both enforcement and industry – making compliance easier, faster, and more reliable. It will reduce administrative burdens for both manufacturers and inspectors.

Industry associations like CECIMO also have a key role. We do a lot to support companies and authorities with compliance.

For years, we have produced CE-Marking Guidelines on various types of machine tools, to help manufacturers, users, and inspectors apply EU safety rules consistently. These CE GUIDES are not legal texts, but practical, industry-driven tools that help everyone speak the same technical language. Our latest guide focuses on laser machines, an area where safety risks are particularly high, and where we've seen a big increase in unsafe imports.

We see Laser Machines without the proper CE marking, without the necessary safety interlocks or protective housings, and sometimes with user manuals only available in foreign languages – manuals that many European operators cannot even read or understand.

These are not minor mistakes. They are serious breaches of EU law, and they put people at real risk. When laser equipment is not properly safeguarded, the consequences can be severe – we are talking about permanent eye injuries, serious skin burns, or even fires caused by machines operating without the right protection systems.

This is not just about compliance paperwork – it is about protecting lives and keeping workplaces safe. That's why we created the CECIMO Task Force on Unsafe Machines — bringing together laser manufacturers and experts to share intelligence, identify risks, and exchange best practices with national and international authorities.

This cooperation is a great example of what can be achieved when industry and regulators join forces: practical tools, shared data, and coordinated action to strengthen the single market.

Let me finish with one key message: Safety is not a bureaucratic burden.

It is a shared investment: in safer workplaces; fair competition, and Europe's reputation for excellence. If we combine stronger enforcement, smarter digital tools like the Digital Product

Passport, and closer cooperation between industry and regulators, we can build a European market that is not only safer and fairer — but also more competitive, - one that rewards responsibility, innovation and quality.

Martina Griffo, CECE, Policy Manager

CECE (Committee for European Construction Equipment) is the recognised voice of European construction equipment manufacturers. Established in 1959 and based in Brussels, CECE represents over 1,200 companies, employing 300,000 people, and generating €40 billion annually. Through its national associations, CECE advocates for a fair and competitive regulatory environment, promoting safety, compliance, and innovation across the sector.



Key Challenges in Market Surveillance

There are persistent challenges faced by manufacturers and in general within the EU internal market:

- Continued presence of non-compliant machinery, due to older second-hand machines not meeting current EU legislative framework and standards.
- Grey imports from certain regions that do not comply with EU safety and environmental rules.
- Difficulties in coordination and enforcement, particularly at points of entry such as ports and customs.

These issues undermine fair competition and endanger user safety. CECE remains committed to collaborating with authorities to enhance the efficiency of enforcement mechanisms.

Industry Commitment: CECE's Initiative

A central element of CECE's contribution to this effort is the creation of practical tools and awareness materials to support authorities, customs officers, and end users.

CECE has launched the CECE online platform: www.compliantconstructionmachinery.eu

The platform provides the downloadable Guides on Compliant and Non-Compliant Construction Machinery with visual examples and key compliance criteria, and practical tips for identifying non-compliant equipment. The website serves as a hands-on live tool to various actors (market surveillance authorities, customs officers, dealers and end users) in distinguishing between compliant and noncompliant machinery.

The current set of Guides covers:

- Excavators
- Compact Excavators
- Tower Cranes
- Wheel Loaders
- Compactors and Rollers.

With the support of national associations, CECE hopes to make these materials available in multiple languages beyond English, ensuring broader accessibility and usability across Europe.

Next Steps – Recommendations

To strengthen compliance and safety across the European construction machinery market, CECE recommends the following actions:

- CECE urges manufacturers, industry associations, and market surveillance authorities to intensify collaboration. Building strong partnerships is essential to ensure that only compliant machinery circulates within the EU internal market.
- The organisation is ready to actively participate in roundtables, seminars, and sectoral events. CECE offers its expertise and materials to support joint initiatives that promote fair competition and safeguard the health and safety of machinery users.
- CECE remains open to host guides developed by other stakeholders on its online platform allowing for an expansion of the scope across different machinery segments. To facilitate broader outreach, CECE is prepared to distribute its brochures and provide master files for replication and expansion of the scope.
- Finally, CECE invites all stakeholders to keep the conversation alive. Strengthening dialogue across the sector is key to building lasting bridges and advancing a shared commitment to compliance, transparency, and safety.

Ann-Françoise Versele, BEKAERT, Vice President Sustainability & Governmental Affairs

About Bekaert

Bekaert is the largest non-integrated manufacturer of drawn steel wire products in Europe and globally. Bekaert does not produce its own steel out of iron ore or scrap. Instead, we buy wire rod from steel mills and transform the purchased wire rod. We are a market and technology leader in steel wire transformation and coating, technologies and solutions to the automotive, sustainable construction, energy, utilities and agricultural sectors, amongst others.



The company, which is headquartered in Belgium and was founded in 1880, employs approximately 21000 people worldwide, of which approximately 7500 are in Europe. Bekaert's global sales amounted to around €4 billion in 2024, of which about €1.6 billion were in Europe.

Bekaert is also pioneering, with innovations beyond steel into new & synthetic materials, services, solutions, and markets, including new mobility, to enable the shift towards electric vehicles, low-carbon construction, and green energy.

We are globally active but in Europe we mainly buy local and sell local. We make a valuable contribution to the EU's green transition, competitiveness and economic resilience.

Enforcement and Specific Comments About the EU Market Surveillance Regulation.

Regarding enforcement, we see:

- Inconsistency & variability
- Different approaches in different Member States and also sometimes between separate regions in the same Member State and
- Low to very low profile enforcement.

Instead, we want to see:

- Consistency in approach across the EU
- Actual enforcement of rules and regulations rather than assumed compliance or self-policing
- A level playing field inside the EU between Member States but also for third country imports versus EU-produced goods;
- High standards but not impossibly high standards

- A balanced approach to enforcement that is effective and has teeth but is not an administrative burden nor excessively expensive
- No new rules & regulations, just better enforcement of the current rules & regulations (without being too heavy handed)
- Sufficient resource capacity to conduct checks and follow up.

Specifically, regarding the EU Market Surveillance Regulation, we see this as important in order to provide transparency, a level playing field and to facilitate fair competition.

A concrete example we have is how will surveillance measures ensure that recycled content requirements will be enforced and valorised?

European consumers – whether they are businesses or end-consumers – should know the products they buy are compliant with EU rules. The Regulation itself does not need to be changed, but the tools provided need to be used (and used similarly across all Member States).

In this regard, enforcement of the Regulation should cover all market related regulations, including, for example, the requirements of the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, as well as product safety.

And finally, whilst the product digital passport should be a useful tool to demonstrate compliance, in our view this should not be a separate digital product passport to the digital product passport for the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation. Each product should only have one digital product passport, containing all relevant product information.

Carsten Dannöhl, CATERPILLAR, EU Government Affairs Manager & Head of Brussels Office

This year 2025 has been a very special one for Caterpillar, as we are celebrating our Centennial Anniversary!

Before turning to the main topic of tonight's discussion, allow me to say a few words about Caterpillar: with 2024 sales and revenues of \$64.8 billion, Caterpillar Inc. is the world's leading manufacturer of construction and mining equipment, off-highway diesel and natural gas engines, industrial gas turbines and diesel-electric locomotives.

Caterpillar, known and easily recognizable by its emblematic yellow brand, is active in three primary segments: Construction Industries, Resource Industries and Power and Energy. Another very important and strategic business division is digital and technology.

Caterpillar has a large footprint in Europe, with operations across European countries – employing more than 16,000 people. Add to that the number of employees of the independent Cat dealer network, providing sales and services support for Caterpillar products in these countries and worldwide.

Speaking about market surveillance means speaking about compliance. A company like Caterpillar operates today in an unprecedented global regulatory enforcement environment. The compliance expectations have never been higher. We embrace those high expectations and are committed to delivering this for our company and our products.

Take the example of safety



Caterpillar puts safety first with an aspirational goal to prevent all injuries, occupational illnesses and safety incidents. Our commitment to safe practices extends throughout our value chain, from suppliers to end users. We are committed to providing our customers with products and services that are safe and reliable.

How can we ensure and check that other market participants embrace compliance with the same rigour that we do? That brings me to the crucial role of market surveillance, and we welcome that tonight we are having a discussion on this crucial topic.

I would like to highlight four key suggestions that we think would help to improve market surveillance in the EU:

- First suggestion is a more uniform and cooperative application of Market Surveillance Authorities activities across the broad range of products that fall into scope.
- In that context, Market Surveillance Authorities should collaborate to share experience to better focus efforts on actors that have a record of being non-compliant. Let us keep in mind that across the EU, there are several hundred market surveillance authorities in total, covering different sectors and regions.
- The focus should not be only on administrative points – such as presence of the Declaration of Conformity (DoC) and the CE mark. Authorities should foresee evaluations including, where required, tests.
- Last but not least, Market Surveillance Authorities may benefit from collaborating with trade associations.
CECE, our sector association representing the construction equipment industry, just launched yesterday during the CECE Summit its platform for compliant construction machinery. This platform offers authoritative guidance on the compliance of specific categories of machinery with European Union legislation – and is an example how such collaboration could be beneficial for all.

Laura Casuscelli, WINDEUROPE, Senior Adviser – Trade and Industry

WindEurope's Priorities for the EU Market Surveillance System

WindEurope represents over 600 members across the wind energy value chain, including raw materials and component manufacturers, Original Equipment Manufacturers [OEMs], grid operators, developers, and research institutions. It plays a pivotal role in Europe's clean energy transition. The wind sector currently supplies nearly 20% of the EU's electricity, supports more than 400,000 jobs, and contributes €52 billion annually to the European economy.



But while wind energy is already playing a major role in the energy transition and the EU economy, we still have much further to go. To meet the EU's climate and energy targets, wind energy capacity must almost double, reaching 425 GW by 2030. This is achievable if we align our policies and investments effectively.

In this regard, the EU must ensure that its Single Market is not only open and integrated but also secure, resilient, and fair.

The strategic importance of the EU market surveillance in wind market surveillance is often perceived as a technical compliance mechanism, but for the wind energy sector, it can be a strategic enabler. Effective market surveillance ensures that wind turbines and their components meet the highest EU standards for safety, sustainability, and performance.

This is essential for three main reasons:

- To protect the industry's integrity
Surveillance authorities act as gatekeepers, preventing substandard imports and unfair competition from entering the European market. This protects both consumers and reputable manufacturers.
- To support innovation
By upholding high standards, market surveillance encourages continuous innovation and investment in advanced technologies.
- To enable the green transition
Reliable and compliant wind infrastructure is foundational to achieving Europe's climate and energy targets.

Emerging threats: Security and Resilience

The wind energy sector is facing unprecedented risks due to the increasing digitalisation and connectivity of its infrastructure. Foreign interference, cyber threats, and supply chain vulnerabilities are no longer hypothetical – they are real and growing concerns.

WindEurope is developing a comprehensive Security Concept for both offshore and onshore wind farms. This framework addresses physical, operational technology (OT), and cyber risks. Building on this, the WindEurope Cybersecurity Task Force has proposed risk assessments for seven critical systems within wind infrastructure. These assessments are designed to evaluate whether components can be safely sourced from systemic rivals, align with the EU's modalities for risk evaluation, and provide actionable insights for both industry and regulators. This is crucial for safeguarding Europe's energy infrastructure and ensuring the resilience of supply chains in the face of evolving threats.

Enhancing Competitiveness Through Coordination of Market Surveillance

To maximize the effectiveness of initiatives to address evolving risks in products placed on the EU market, the EU must however prioritize coordination and harmonization across Member States. WindEurope recommends the following actions:

- Harmonise Surveillance Practices
Common standards and procedures must be established to avoid discrepancies that could be exploited by non-compliant actors.
- Equip Authorities for Digital and Cyber Risks
Surveillance authorities must be provided with the tools and expertise needed to assess evolving digital and cybersecurity risks, which are increasingly relevant in modern wind energy systems.
- Avoid Fragmented National Interventions
National measures should not undermine investment certainty or create barriers within the single market.
- Support Initiatives Like Digital Product Passports
The EU must develop a practical, interoperable digital product passport to enhance traceability and compliance across the single market. This tool should be aligned with industry realities to avoid unnecessary administrative burdens.

Conclusion

WindEurope is committed to collaborating with EU institutions and Member States to ensure that market surveillance evolves in support of a competitive and sustainable wind energy sector. Surveillance should be recognized as a strategic instrument, supporting industrial policy,

fostering innovation, and underpinning Europe's strategic autonomy. By advancing these priorities, Europe can better protect its critical infrastructure, strengthen supply chain resilience, and reinforce its global leadership in clean energy.

Ralph Ronald Göbel, SIEMENS, Head of Certification

I am speaking on behalf of Siemens AG as head of certification for low voltage products and the Market Surveillance Support Initiative [MSSI] as convener of the MSSI Europe which is an initiative of European Committee of Electrical Installation Equipment Manufacturers [CECAPI] serviced by Orgalim.



For my following three statements the aims of Siemens AG and MSSI are on the same track. Both strive to:

- Strengthen market surveillance
 - Ensure the enforcement of existing rules and regulations
 - Both should be supported by a Digital Product Passport
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- Strengthening market surveillance
 - We support the idea of establishing an EU market surveillance authority to better utilize synergies and pool scarce resources.
 - Such an EU body could effectively coordinate national programs, organize best practice sharing and alignment of practices, or support Union-wide campaigns

In order to support these ideas, we suggest

- to utilize the EU PCN and the Safety Gate database
 - and an AI identification of non-compliant goods which helps to identify those non-compliant goods which re-occur again under a new brand name
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- Enforcement
 - Regulatory requirements are only as good as their ability to implement, monitored and enforced
 - Therefore, we suggest existing and future legal acts to undergo an enforceability check in order to ensure the necessary capacities and competences to monitor compliance and thus support fair competition in the European marketplace.
 - We do not need more or more detailed Regulations but ensure the obedience of the existing ones
 - We want to avoid seeing goods without any function or serious safety risks
 - We suggest
 - to use PSG as base for an AI check (PSG = a Product Safety Guide launched by MSSI in order to have a first compliance check)
 - to include organizations (according to article 9 MSR) in order to identify noncompliance
 - In order to support market surveillance and enforcement we suggest the Digital Product Passport as a tool to accelerate the necessary communication
 - The Digital Product Passport will enable automatic access to compliance related data
 - A pilot project for market surveillance will be launched by QI Digital - a Germin initiative to accelerate the digitalization of quality infrastructure
 - The Digital Name Plate will summarize all compliance related data

- Today this data is distributed through the product on the device printing, nameplate sticker, packaging label or paper attachment
- In the future, the Digital Name Plate will transport all above information with underlying data and digitally signed certificates
- The access can be granted for example via ID-Link
- The ID-Link is a standardized QR-code
- which leads to a digital name plate and all further product information
- Benefit for industry: Less effort to change data on the product
- Which currently consumes millions of Euros throughout the industry
- Benefit for market surveillance: a direct compliance check in a digital way

To summarise:

- We support the idea of an EU market surveillance authority which can coordinate the national levels and cares that existing rules are obeyed in an efficient way
- This should be eased by digital access to all compliance related data
- MSSI will support selecting potential non-compliant products based on the content of their Product Safety Guides
- Siemens AG will support by rolling out the ID-Link (QR-code) throughout its portfolio.



Dennis Kredler, DOW, Senior Director Government Affairs Europe & Head of Brussels Office

(Written presentation submitted—unexpectedly unable to attend)

- The following remarks take a broader perspective than online marketplaces but rather look at market surveillance more broadly because the enforcement challenges we encounter are not limited to online marketplaces.
- As a speaker from the chemicals industry, you would probably expect me to speak about REACH, and this is what I will do. But I will also address a few other areas where enforcement is a challenge.
- In the chemicals industry, we see significant gaps in enforcement, particularly with REACH compliance. This is detrimental to companies that invest heavily in compliance efforts – European companies and global companies such as Dow.
- Data from Member States reported to the Commission shows a worrying trend: the level of REACH and CLP compliance in imported goods has been decreasing, reaching a low of 71% in 2018. A recent CEFIC study [<https://cefic.org/news/more-than-90-of-all-non-compliant-chemicals-in-consumer-products-come-from-outside-of-the-eu/>] which analysed data for 2019 found that 92% of consumer products that contain chemicals that are not compliant with REACH come from outside the EU Single Market.
- One major challenge is of course the limited resources available to customs authorities. European Chemicals Agency [ECHA] data indicates that customs authorities only actively control about 2% of all shipments, with 98% being processed automatically. This opens the door for non-compliant products to enter the EU.

- At a time when European industry's competitiveness is challenged and overcapacity of chemicals and plastics is increasing in countries like China, the time is ripe to show EU producers that investing in compliance pays off.
- We believe that enforcement should be a central consideration in EU decision-making on chemicals. Specifically for REACH, that means making sure advice from the ECHA Enforcement Forum is accounted for in the same way as other ECHA Committees. The MSR's mechanisms for coordination and information exchange should include this and ensure there are:
 - more frequent and higher-quality checks, including for B2B products, not just B2C.
 - more EU testing facilities to support authorities with technical capacity
- But enforcement is not only an issue related to REACH. Many policies across the EU are not designed with enforceability in mind.
 - For example, the Spanish plastics packaging tax that was supposed to promote the use of recycled plastics has led to increased imports of plastic films claiming high amounts of recycled content that cannot be verified. But industry experts believe that the technical performance of these films is impossible to achieve with that amount of recycled content. So there is a suspicion of fraudulent behaviour that cannot be verified but that means that the policy objective is likely not being reached because effective enforcement is not possible.
- This is not only an issue in Spain: the plastics industry has warned that there has been a sharp increase in imports of plastic resins and finished goods from regions with less stringent environmental standards, while the plastics recycling industry highlighted imports from recycled plastic from outside the EU – which are often unverified. Because these imports are much cheaper than European recycled plastics, this is making the transition to a circular economy unviable in Europe.
- Effective enforcement is essential for achieving the transformation we seek in Europe. Without it, we risk being undercut by unverifiable imports. We must ensure robust certification requirements and regular audits to maintain a level playing field.



INTERVENTION BY PROFESSOR DANUTA HÜBNER, former Commissioner and former Parliamentary Chair (EPP) of the Constitutional Affairs Committee [*Virtual presentation*]

I hugely appreciate the invitation to say to you a few words in the context of this EFM Forum, which is about promoting competitiveness by reinforcing the European Union's single market.

I also understand that this morning your Advisory Committee had an exchange on the European Commission Work Programme for the next year. And I also hope you agree with me that the Single Market is the first step towards simplification of European legislation, as it implies moving away from 27 national rulebooks towards European level legislation.

I would like to take a few minutes of your time to share my views on the first point of the Commission Work Programme 2026, which comes under the name of 28th Regime for Innovative Companies and would enable companies to operate without friction across the EU member states.

When Enrico Letta proposed it in his Report, he actually called for the creation of a virtual 28 state with a very simplified business law, without removing the corporate law of each of the 27, in order to give companies an option to choose. And I see it as an example of enhanced cooperation that we know so well, giving the companies that want to move faster on innovation an option to join voluntarily the 28th Regime and to work across border, which would be, I believe, a chance to boost the Single Market and to boost innovation at the corporate level. And this Regulation would be a major step in the so badly needed simplification, as it will address the inconsistency in how the rules coming from Brussels are applied across member states.

It was proposed by Enrico Letta, but it was also supported by Mario Draghi in his Report. And it is in reality about an additional layer of corporate law at the European level, available as an option to companies across the European Union. And it would be an alternative to the not very popular – as we know among Member States – harmonisation of national rules that are behind the fragmentation of the Single Market.

And as I said, the 28th Regime would coexist with national legislations and that would be, in my view, a very useful instrument to boost integration and efficiency of the single market and work towards competitiveness of European economy.

I am also aware that it is not going to be a walk in the park to get it done and then implement it, and it would be, of course, necessary to introduce the 28th Regime through a Regulation and not a Directive. Otherwise, you might end up with 27 different approaches to the 28th regime.

I would like also to, if I can, to recommend to the forum to invite the Commission to come and explain the planned initiative to the European Forum for manufacturing as a future meeting.

Let me also say that an excellent report was prepared by Centre for European Policy Studies [CEPS] at the request of the European Parliament, which is working on their report. And Nicoletta has said in one of his interviews regarding the proposal that it is about rolling out a red carpet for business.

I do not know about red carpets which might show the way, but I am convinced it is a huge chance to improve legal environment for European business at times, which are challenging both at home and out there in the global world.



My Bergdahl, TEKNIKFÖRETAGEN, Director Digital Trade and Standardisation

Thank you for the opportunity to speak about a topic that is fundamental to both consumer safety and fair competition: market surveillance.

We are entering a pivotal moment. The European Commission has announced it will be proposing an update of the Market Surveillance Regulation next year. This presents a valuable opportunity to reinforce what works and to address what doesn't.

Let me begin with a concrete example. A Swedish company producing electrical components invests heavily to comply with EU product rules. Yet, they see competitors selling similar products that do not meet the same standards – without facing consequences. This is not only unfair. It undermines the integrity of the internal market and discourages responsible business practices.

- Adequate resources for market surveillance authorities.
Market surveillance is underfunded in many Member States. In some cases, authorities do not even report their surveillance costs separately, making it difficult to track and improve performance. Without sufficient resources, inspections are sporadic, enforcement is uneven, and consumer trust erodes.

With the transition towards a circular economy, authorities work will fundamentally change and increase. We must ensure that authorities have the tools and capacity they need—and that enforcement is consistent across the EU.

- Collaboration between authorities and industry Sweden's Market Surveillance Council is a good example.
It brings together regulators and industry representatives for regular dialogue. This builds trust, improves understanding, and leads to better solutions. For instance, when new regulations are introduced, such collaboration helps identify practical challenges early and avoid unintended consequences. We should encourage similar models at the EU level – especially in emerging areas like AI and cybersecurity, where the pace of innovation often outstrips regulatory clarity.
- Clear information for businesses
Many companies, especially SMEs, struggle to understand which rules apply. Referring them to directives and regulations is not enough. We need practical, coordinated, and accessible guidance – ideally inspired by successful models like EU-OSHA's work in occupational safety. Imagine a small manufacturer trying to enter the EU market with a new product. If they cannot easily find out what standards apply, they may either give up, or unknowingly break the rules.

Neither outcome is good for the internal market.

What can legislators do?

- Require transparent reporting of market surveillance costs in Member States to enable benchmarking and accountability.

Today, it is difficult to assess how much is actually invested in market surveillance across the EU. By introducing a requirement for transparent and harmonized reporting, we can enable benchmarking, identify gaps, and ensure that resources are allocated where they are most needed. This would also help to monitor the effectiveness of national strategies and support evidence-based policymaking.

- Establish an EU-wide knowledge hub for product compliance guidance, tailored to the needs of SMEs.

Small and medium-sized enterprises are the backbone of the European economy, but they often lack the legal and technical capacity to navigate complex product rules. A centralised, multilingual platform, developed in close cooperation with industry and national authorities, could offer practical guidance, FAQs, templates, and sector-specific examples. This would reduce unintentional non-compliance,

lower entry barriers to the internal market, and foster innovation by making rules more accessible.

- Strengthen the Commission's coordinating role.
When multiple Member States identify recurring issues with specific products or economic operators, the Commission should be empowered to coordinate joint actions, facilitate information exchange, and issue guidance. This would help prevent fragmented enforcement and ensure that problematic products are addressed swiftly and consistently. It would also reinforce trust among Member States.

Let me end with a reflection.

Market surveillance may not always make headlines, but it is the quiet backbone of a functioning internal market. It protects consumers, rewards responsible businesses, and upholds the credibility of our common rules. As we look ahead to the revision of the regulation, let us build a system that is fair, effective, and future-proof, for businesses, consumers, and the internal market as a whole.



Michał Zakrzewski, APPLiA – Home Appliance Europe, Senior Policy Director, Digital & Competitiveness

APPLiA is the European association representing leading home appliance manufacturers and our sector makes the machines that millions of Europeans. All of us in this room tonight rely on these every day to store and cook our food, wash our clothes, and heat our homes and APPLiA does so by consistently investing in quality, safety, and innovation.

But this excellence can only thrive in a competitive and predictable market. When non-compliant products enter the EU, it is not just consumer safety that is at risk. European businesses lose, innovation is stifled, and the Single Market loses its competitive edge.

In 2024, more than 400 electrical appliances from outside the EU were listed in the Safety Gate system, with over 200 deemed high-risk. These numbers represent real threats to consumers, real losses for compliant companies, and a real erosion of trust in the European market.

The New Legislative Framework is the blueprint for a functioning Single Market. But it only works if rules are enforced consistently. Today, enforcement faces real challenges: fragmentation across Member States, limited resources, gaps in knowledge, low deterrence, and the pressures of a rapidly changing market with booming e-commerce.

The upcoming revision of the Framework under the 2026 Commission Work Programme is an opportunity we cannot miss to address these challenges. We must ensure that the Framework sets clear requirements and guarantees their consistent enforcement across Europe.

At APPLiA, we believe this can only be achieved through four key pillars:

- Legislation should set goals, not solutions.
It must make clear what is expected for consumer safety and ensure that Member States act when products fall short. But the law should not tell manufacturers how to achieve these goals. That is where innovation thrives and expertise comes in.

- Technical requirements should be defined by standardisation experts, ensuring space for innovation. For example, take safety standards for washing machines: these are developed by technical committees of experts who understand the risks of water and electricity interaction. By referencing these standards rather than mandating one exact solution, the law allows manufacturers to implement different, innovative designs that still meet safety requirements.
- Conformity assessment should be proportionate to risk, with responsibility firmly resting on the manufacturer. European manufacturers carry responsibility proportional to the risk of their products. In Europe, appliances undergo strict testing by accredited laboratories and documentation review. For instance, appliances like kettles, are carefully certified before they reach consumers. Market Surveillance Authorities should then focus on the highest-risk products, ensuring enforcement is effective without stifling responsible businesses.
- Finally, enforcement must match reality, especially in a world of growing e-commerce. This means effective physical inspections, better coordination between Member States, and more efficient use of tools, like the Safety Gate, to ensure unsafe products are removed quickly.

By strengthening these pillars, we can future-proof the NLF, protect consumers, and restore a level playing field where compliant European businesses can thrive.

The Single Market is Europe's competitive heart but it only works if rules are respected, enforcement is effective, and consumers can trust the products they buy. Let us seize this moment to make that vision a reality for Europe, for businesses, and for citizens.

Casper Vanden Bilcke, BELGIAN FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMY,
Market Surveillance, Single Liaison Officer,

EU Market Surveillance in the Age of Online Platforms and High-Volume E-Commerce

E-commerce has fundamentally changed the landscape of market surveillance in the European Union. What once relied on product-to-product checks at the border and nationally centred enforcement systems has become a global, platform driven environment. The scale, speed, and complexity of cross-border online commerce now challenge our traditional tools and assumptions. The central question is no longer whether a single product is compliant, but whether our enforcement system can still function in a digital, high volume marketplace that moves faster than the structures designed to regulate it.



In 2024, more than four billion individual items entered the European Union through major e-commerce platforms such as Temu, Shein, AliExpress, and Amazon, with eighty five percent of these products originating from China. At the current pace, this volume is on track to double again. More than half of these parcels enter through Belgium and the Netherlands, placing both countries at the forefront of this evolution and giving enforcement authorities a clear and direct view of its consequences. The sheer volume alone demonstrates that our traditional model of inspections and border checks cannot keep pace with the growth of online trade.

This situation also exposes a structural gap in responsibility. Sellers outside the European Union can reach European consumers directly without appointing an EU based responsible person or

meeting EU obligations. Platforms accelerate and scale this trade, yet they do not carry responsibility for product compliance. This creates a responsibility gap in which unsafe and non-compliant goods can reach consumers, harm legitimate European businesses, and harm our environment.

The existing legislative framework, including the New Legislative Framework [NLF] and Market Stability Reserve [MSR] was not built for this reality. These instruments work well for harmonised products moving through traditional supply chains. They are less equipped to manage billions of small parcels entering the union through fragmented and opaque channels. Market surveillance authorities remain highly effective in identifying risk and enforcing rules, but they cannot solve a systemic misalignment between digital market structures and analogue enforcement tools.

Addressing this challenge requires strengthening the first and second lines of defence: customs authorities and market surveillance authorities. Each depends on the other. Customs requires the technical expertise of market surveillance to identify risks. Market surveillance requires access to customs data in order to act early and effectively. Supporting one without the other will not work. Both require stable resources, modern digital tools, and structured cooperation.

Technology must play a central role. Artificial intelligence, automated data extraction, web crawlers, and developing systems such as the Digital Product Passport [DPP] will be essential to scaling enforcement capacity. Data is now a core enforcement resource. The ability to exchange and use data across borders and authorities will largely determine the effectiveness of European enforcement efforts going forward.

Legislation must evolve accordingly. Platforms are now gatekeepers to the European market. They must share responsibility, not as the economic operator for the products themselves, but for enabling their placement on the European market. The Digital Services Act has introduced important steps, but the prohibition on general monitoring principle remains a limiting factor. If platforms are to meaningfully contribute to protecting European consumers, they must proactively prevent unsafe and non-compliant products from being offered, which requires a form of systematic monitoring. A future revision of the MSR will need to find a solution to this problem and will need to reflect this reality by aligning definitions and enforcement expectations across regulatory systems.

Demand must also be considered. Enforcement can address supply, but it cannot alone change an economic model in which unsafe and extremely cheap products find consumers easily. Better information and transparency can help consumers make informed decisions. However, this may not be sufficient. To ensure that prices reflect the true cost to society, including safety, environmental impact, and enforcement burden, there may be a need to consider levies or fees on products that externalise these costs.

There is no single solution to this challenge. Coordinated European action, shared intelligence, aligned legislation, platform responsibility, modern technology, and informed consumers must work together if we are to maintain trust in the single market and ensure a fair and safe trading environment for all. The integrity of the European single market depends on our ability to enforce its rules effectively, even in the face of global digital commerce. Decisive and collective action is needed. The scale and urgency of the challenge demand nothing less.

ADDRESSING GAPS IN THE CURRENT REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Thomas Kraus, ORGALIM, Internal Market Working Group, Acting Chair; VDMA, Deputy Head Technical Affairs & Standardisation

It is an honour to address you today on the crucial topic of market surveillance and the future of product compliance in the European Union. We have already heard many insightful interventions – including that of Orgalim’s President – which underline the significance of market surveillance and demonstrate the challenges currently facing the system.



In my intervention, I would like to focus on why - and how - we should seek to strengthen Article 4 of the Market Surveillance in the upcoming legislative proposal for a European Product Act.

Article 4, Market Surveillance Regulation – What Is Its Significance?

Article 4 of the Market Surveillance Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 was introduced to address a fundamental challenge: ensuring that every product placed on the EU market, especially those sold online or imported from third countries, has a responsible economic operator established within the Union. This provision was designed to:

- Guarantee that only compliant and safe products reach European consumers, regardless of their origin or sales channel.
- Provide market surveillance authorities with a clear point of contact for compliance and enforcement.
- Level the playing field for European manufacturers, ensuring that all products are subject to the same rules and standards.

In short, Article 4 is a cornerstone of our Single Market, supporting fair competition, protecting consumers, and upholding the integrity of the European regulatory framework.

The Findings of The Commission’s Evaluation Report

Earlier this year, the Commission published a report evaluating the implementation of Article 4. This report yielded important insights:

- Partial Effectiveness: While Article 4 has improved product safety and compliance, challenges persist—particularly in identifying responsible operators for online and cross-border sales.
- Efficiency and Costs: The system has been implemented with moderate efficiency and manageable costs for businesses, but enforcement remains uneven across Member States.
- Gaps in Enforcement: Notably, information required under Article 4 is often not provided to customs authorities, creating loopholes for non-compliant products entering the EU.

These findings highlight that whilst some progress has been made, there is still significant work to be done to ensure a robust, future-proof market surveillance system.

Orgalim’s Proposal To Address This Gap In The Current Regulatory Framework

Orgalim-Europe’s technology industries, has developed a set of proposals to address the challenges identified in the evaluation report. When it comes to strengthening Article 4 we have one very concrete proposal

- Verification of data: We would like to see a proposal on the verification of Article 4 data from EU representatives, ie. the importer, the authorised representative, or the fulfilment service provider, with regard to their existence, their mandate, and the accuracy of the information provided.

We are concerned that the very limited resources allocated by Member States to their Market Surveillance Authorities are being wasted, as those authorities are forced carry out

painstaking work to check if the information provided is even accurate. A harmonized European solution would allow those limited resources to be used more effectively.

Conclusion

In 2026, the Commission will present the European Product Act. This is expected to cover the New Legislative Framework, the Standardisation Regulation and the Market Surveillance Regulation.

We sincerely hope Orgalim's views and those of its members will be taken into consideration and reflected in this proposal.

We look forward to working with the European institutions and other stakeholders to strengthen the EU's market surveillance system.

HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF A DIGITAL PRODUCT PASSPORT FOR THE NEW LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Alexandru Ion, EUROPEAN COMMISSION, DG GROW, Team Leader DPP

I would like to share a few updates on the Digital Product Passport [DPP] and how it ties into the upcoming European Product Act.

What Is the Digital Product Passport?

The Digital Product Passport is a digital container of product-specific information. This means that any piece of sectoral legislation can include its own data points inside the passport.

It was first introduced under the Eco-Design for Sustainable Products Regulation, focusing on information related to sustainability, circularity, and environmental impact. Over time, other pieces of legislation have adopted it as well including: the Batteries Regulation, the Construction Products Regulation, and the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation, with upcoming proposals such as the Toy Safety Regulation and the Detergent and Surfactant Regulations.

All of these use the DPP as a central framework — a container for declarations of conformity and other essential information.

In the future, the passport could host a wide variety of data: instructions for use, carbon footprint, product origin, composition, manufacturing processes, and even disposal options.

Decentralisation and Structure

Now, a frequent question I receive concerns how such a system will be structured. Some wonder whether we are moving toward a centralized European database for all products, or something more distributed.

Let me clarify that point: there will not be a single centralised system managed by the Commission.

The Eco-Design Regulation provides for a decentralised implementation. What the Commission will manage centrally is a Registry — a system recording high-level elements such as product identifiers, operator identifiers, and facility data.



But the passport itself, with all the product-specific data inside, will be hosted by the economic operators responsible for placing those products on the market, or by Digital Product Passport service providers acting on their behalf.

So, while there will be a central registry to ensure coherence and traceability, the actual product information will remain decentralised, under the control of businesses themselves.

This approach ensures that data remains secure, flexible, and adaptable across different sectors while still allowing the European market to function as one unified digital environment.

Why It Matters

The Digital Product Passport gives us a unique opportunity to transform how the Single Market operates.

For businesses, it brings unprecedented transparency to supply chains, opens the door to new business models – especially downstream – and enables companies to interact with customers in new ways.

For consumers, it makes informed purchasing decisions easier and increases trust in product information – which, as we all know, is not always so clear-cut today.

And for public authorities, the DPP supports more efficient market surveillance and enforcement. It provides standardized, structured, product-specific information that helps automate risk assessment and investigative processes.

In the future, it will also allow us to track non-compliant products across borders and increase transparency around compliance checks carried out by national authorities, though, of course, that will depend on the final legislative framework.

Legal Fragmentation and Horizontal Rules

Now, one of the main challenges we face with such an ambitious system is legal fragmentation.

Different pieces of sectoral legislation are introducing their own DPP-related provisions, which risks inconsistency and unnecessary complexity.

The European Product Act provides a solution. It allows us to establish horizontal provisions for the Digital Product Passport – a common foundation that applies across all sectors.

This is not about rewriting sectoral work plans like the one under the Eco-Design Regulation.

Rather, it is about creating a unified structure that can be reused everywhere, ensuring that whenever a DPP is introduced under new legislation, it fits seamlessly within one coherent framework.

By doing this, we lower implementation costs for companies, reduce duplication, and prevent a patchwork of incompatible systems.

Over time, this also encourages the market to develop reusable digital tools and services that can work across multiple sectors, driving efficiency and innovation.

Confidentiality and Sensitive Information

Of course, one recurring concern from industry is about confidentiality, especially since the passport involves sharing detailed product data.

Before talking about how information will be protected, we first need to determine what information actually goes into the DPP.

Every delegated act under the Eco-Design Regulation will be supported by a Joint Research Centre study and a full impact assessment, conducted in close consultation with stakeholders. These studies will identify the data points that are necessary and evaluate how they can be shared safely. If any sensitive information is included, those same delegated acts will clearly define who has access to what, and under which conditions.

So, confidentiality safeguards are not an afterthought – they are built into the legislative design of each delegated act.

The goal is to ensure transparency where it is useful – for compliance, sustainability, or consumer awareness – without compromising the competitiveness of European companies.

Cybersecurity and Data Ownership

Some also worry that hosting product data in a digital format could make it a target for cyberattacks, especially if it were centralised.

Let me be very clear: the product data will not be hosted by the European Commission. It will remain with the economic operators – the manufacturers or importers – or with authorized DPP service providers they choose.

The aim is to create a single point of entry for product data, not a single storage point. In other words, when legislation requires companies to digitize product-specific information, we want them to use the Digital Product Passport as the tool to manage access to that data — not to build yet another system.

This decentralized approach both enhances security and flexibility, and aligns perfectly with the principles of the Single Market Strategy.

Key Milestones Ahead

Let me briefly touch on what comes next:

- The harmonized standards being developed by CEN/CENELEC will be available in the first trimester of 2026.
- The Digital Product Passport will be officially launched in July 2026.
- And the first products to carry a DPP will be specific types of batteries, starting in February 2027.

These are ambitious but achievable milestones – and they mark the beginning of a new era of digital traceability, sustainability, and transparency in the European Single Market.

Closing Remarks

To sum up, the Digital Product Passport is not just a new compliance tool — it is a cornerstone of a more transparent, circular, and digitally integrated European economy.

By establishing a clear, horizontal framework, maintaining decentralization, and ensuring both data protection and accessibility, we are laying the foundation for a system that benefits consumers, businesses, and regulators alike.

CLOSING REMARKS

Antony Fell, EUROPEAN FORUM FOR MANUFACTURING, Secretary General

This evening's Forum has focussed on how to strengthen the EU's market surveillance system. Speakers have this evening called on policymakers to make full use of the tools available in the EU's Market Surveillance Regulation and to increase the number and quality of checks. They have stressed the importance of addressing gaps in the current regulatory framework. In addition, they considered the need to harness the potential of a Digital Product Passport for the New Legislative Framework.



I would like to thank the Vice Chair of the Internal Market Committee Maria Grapini for hosting this important Forum on promoting competitiveness by reinforcing the EU's Market Surveillance. I also wish to express our appreciation to Hanna Anttilainen, Member of the Cabinet of Executive Vice President Stéphane Séjourné, responsible for Single Market Strategy and Alexandru Ion, Team Leader Digital Product Passport, DG Grow in the European Commission.

We were very pleased to hear a wide range of views from Manufacturers from across Europe, who highlighted their priorities, provided the practical examples and proposed concrete solutions. Finally, I would like to thank Orgalim and in particular their President, Javier Ormazabal Echevarria and Ulrich Adam their Director General as well as their policy team. The excellent team worked closely with the European Forum for Manufacturing in developing the programme for this evening's debate. I now formally close this European Forum for Manufacturing dinner debate.

