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CECIMO PRESS RELEASE

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EMO Milano 2009

2010: year of transition for the global machine tool industry

- **EMO confirms its position of catalyst of innovations in the global machine tools sector**
- **EMO is the most international machine tools show in the world**
- **All international associations confirm a drop in machine tools orders from 60% to 70% in the last 12 months**
- **Although the decline has been slowing down for a few months, there is no real sign of a sustainable recovery yet**
- **CECIMO took the opportunity of EMO to show the latest innovations to a high ranking EU delegation that has purposely come from Brussels**

The EMO exhibition that has taken place in Milan since Monday 5 October gathers 1400 exhibitors from 39 countries, which confirms that EMO is the most international innovation-focused show of machine tools.

Despite the downturn experienced by the machine tools industry with orders down by 60 to 70% compared with the same period of the exceptional year 2008, exhibitors show that they have reacted to the crisis through innovation and the extensive use of flexible labour hours.

EMO Milano takes place at a very strategic period, when the decline is slowing down and the worst might be behind in some specific sectors. Although it is too early to speak of a sustainable recovery in the machinery industry that usually follows the general industrial trend with an average 6 to 9 month time lag, the international associations of machine tools builders agree that 2010 will be a year of transition.

CECIMO expects a production of machine tools down by 37% in 2009 in comparison with 2008, with a value to 15,5 billion €.

With a capacity utilization lower than 70% in most of our end-user sectors that will take time to recover to the 80% level that traditionally triggers off investments in new machines, the short term recovery of the European machine tool industry must pass by innovation, and by convincing clients to switch for more efficient, precise, environmental friendly and clean technologies.



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The consumption of machine tools is strongly shifting to Asia, with China amounting to one third of the global consumption in 2009. Much is for instance expected in the Chinese automotive and electrical engineering sectors. CECIMO and its member associations are committed to support the strategic move of the leading European industrialists and to facilitate their trade with Asia by providing information on the different markets and legislations as well as by discussing with the European Authorities on how to develop our trade further.

At EMO Milano 2009, you could see that the European Machine tool builders are taking initiatives to reduce constantly the energy consumption of their products and solutions.

Innovation has been the topic of 2 important CECIMO events at EMO: the NEXT conference and the EU day.

The 4-year long EU funded project NEXT, which came to an end at EMO, gave a good and clear insight of the future trends of the European manufacturing technologies:

- **Environmentally friendly machines** that consider environmental aspects through their entire life-cycle
- **Automation** of machining tasks and process conditions
- Process oriented **high performance** production equipment with always more precision and accuracy
- **New Business Concepts** supported by an increased collaboration service between End Users and Machine Tool Builders

Besides the NEXT conference, CECIMO organised the “EU day” on 8 October around the topic of “**innovation for a sustainable and competitive manufacturing technologies industry**”. A delegation of EU Officials, mainly from the European Commission, came purposely from Brussels to present the recent European initiatives supporting the manufacturing sector in Europe and its shift from a resource based industry to a knowledge based industry. Focus was for instance put on the **Factories of the Future** public private partnership, which is a component of the European recovery package released by the European Commission in November 2008. Organising such an event at EMO gave the EU Officials the occasion to visit the booths of our manufacturers and better understand the concrete technological challenges in our industry.

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