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EFCA agenda

Ambitious goals to start an exceptional new year

With vast support of the Finnish association SKOL and under the guidance of director Helena Soimakallio, EFCA will publish its **'State of the Union'** in September 2019.

THE STATE
OF THE UNION

The concise paper will set out what is needed to create the right conditions to enhance our industry's competitiveness and enable engineering consultants to play their role in society to the newly elected Members of European Parliament and appointed Commission officials.

Springtime 2019 will bring the launch of EFCA's **new website**.



It will make it easier for all visitors to find the information they eagerly expect to find, whether a report on past successes or ongoing advocacy efforts of the committees, contact details of the national associations, EFCA news and publications. The site will be optimised to be used across a variety of devices and it will be easy to navigate the content on a phone, tablet or desktop computer.

The world is changing rapidly and profoundly. The industry is witnessing an era of substantial changes and should not only address societal challenges but also take leadership in handling them.

The second annual **EFCA Future Trends Booklet** will again present provoking insights into technological developments that bring disruptive and incremental changes. It will be launched at the 9-11 May 2019 EFCA Annual General Assembly Meeting and **Conference** in Dublin.



The directors of EFCA's member associations agreed to develop **guidance on governance**, based on the outcome of the 2018 national association benchmarking survey. This EFCA guidance will present several models (board and committee members recruitment, role, term, composition, accountability, etc.) and describe ongoing changes and identify European best practice by 2020.

The update of the 2014 EFCA Booklet 'Comparative study about **consulting engineers' liability and insurance requirements across Europe**', as well as the review of the EFCA **subscription model** and **Charter** are other major 2019 projects that are already in the pipeline.

'Consulting engineers need to get out into the limelight'

EFCA president interview



European federation EFCA represents 26 member associations across the continent and works closely with FIDIC on the key issues facing the industry. EFCA president Kevin Rudden thinks engineers need to be much bolder about what they do, writes *Ryan Tute*.



“Engineers are too modest to shout out about achievements”



In an interview for **Infrastructure Intelligence International**, EFCA President Kevin Rudden underlines the need for the industry to demonstrate more loudly its significance and contributions to economic growth and proven investments globally.

Whereas EFCA's primary role is to promote the European consulting industry in Europe and internationally and to represent it to European institutions, it is also helping the sector to raise its profile.

'Engineers have to capitalise on the areas of influence that capture the public's attention to form a position that puts consulting engineers on the centre stage. We have to focus on the areas the public are interested in such as the **commitment** to achieving the Paris 2015 agreement and the huge input consulting engineers have on that. Consulting engineers need to be much bolder about what they do to accelerate the delivery of a sustainable built environment.'

Stable consulting engineering markets in Europe



The latest EFCA [Barometer](#) report shows a stabilised market in Europe that is still growing in some parts. But there are also factors that challenge profitability.

The EFCA Barometer shows biannual trends and expectations amongst European consulting engineers.

Henrik Garver, Chair of the Barometer task group said, 'The markets in southern Europe are still improving while the markets in Northern Europe are staying at a steady level of progress after a period of steady growth.'

Market signals are positive. In eight of 20 countries there has been an increase in the average order stock of the consulting engineering companies. In the remaining 12 countries order stock is stable. Compared to the EFCA 2017 autumn barometer, order stock has increased by almost two months.

As a result of growing order stocks, turnover is also increasing. 12 out of 20 countries expect the total turnover of the consulting engineering industry in their country to increase. Profitability is also improving across Europe. The average profit ratio (EBITDA) for 2017 was 7.9%, which was an improvement from 7.1% in 2016.

Profitability is expected to level out in 2019 as staff shortages lead to more competition for employees which speed up salary increases. Low fees and staff shortage are two major challenges for the consulting engineering industry.

BIM and new business models will be key drivers for the next improvement in profitability.

Get recognised as the rising talent by the European industry leaders



networking for new knowledge

The annual EFCA YP award is the opportunity for young professionals to showcase their talents and entrepreneurship in engineering consultancy projects and to enhance their career.

All entrants will be invited to attend the EFCA - ACEI [conference](#) and YP meetings in Dublin on 9-11 May 2019, where the winners will be formally announced and receive their prizes.

The conference will not only offer the best opportunity to get close to leaders from major engineering consultancy firms from across Europe and beyond; participants will get new insights, develop entrepreneurial mindsets and share inspirational experiences with one another. It is the occasion to meet enthusiastic international peers with parallel interests and expand professional and personal networks.

Contact your national association should you wish to shine a spotlight on your good work and achievements in your company and with your team and for your client.

The competition rules are laid out at: <http://www.efcanet.org/News/Detail.aspx?id=4010>

Closing date: 31 March 2019

2018 STD Sector Review: continued strong growth, consolidation and internationalization



The Sector Review, annually published by STD-Företagen (now renamed 'the Federation of Swedish Innovation Companies – Innovationsföretagen', a dedicated association for knowledge-intensive companies that develop businesses and society through innovation), presents rankings of the largest corporate groups in Sweden, the Nordic countries and Europe, interesting key business ratios, and brings news about structural transactions and economic developments in the sector over the past year.

This year's report shows a strong sector undergoing changes from digitalisation and globalisation. It shows five major trends that impact on the sector: innovation, artificial intelligence, robotisation, big data and sustainable development.

Learn more by [ordering](#) the 2018 Sector review.

E F C A A G E N D A

European External Aid Committee	Brussels	23.01.2019
Internal Market Committee	Brussels	24.01.2019
Barometer Task Group	Brussels	25.01.2019
BIM Task Group	Brussels	01.02.2019
Board of Directors meeting	Brussels	15.02.2019
BIM Task Force	Brussels	22.02.2019
Directors & Secretaries General meeting	Brussels	22.03.2019
Board of Directors meeting	Brussels	26.04.2019
Board of Directors meeting	Dublin	09.05.2019
2019 EFCA GAM & Conference	Dublin	9-10.05.2019
Board of Directors meeting	TBD	20.09.2019
Directors & Secretaries General meeting	Vienna	08.11.2019
Board of Directors meeting	TBD	22.11.2019

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