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## European drive technology well prepared for the challenge of digitalization!

- **4% growth for 2018 in Europe**
- **Turkish Association MIB new member of EUROTRANS**
- **Eric Goos from Hansen Industrial Transmissions N.V. re-elected as EUROTRANS President**



Frankfurt, Germany/Antwerp, Belgium. 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 - The European power transmission engineering industry met for its Annual Meeting of the European Power Transmission Sector Committee EUROTRANS in Antwerp, Belgium on 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018. About 50 European companies from 10 countries joined the meeting, held on invitation of the Belgian Federation of Technological Industry AGORIA and its Gears, Transmissions and Drive Technology Group.

The European Drive Technology Conference's motto was "How Digitalization will influence the Drive Technology Industry". The participants, managers of European drive technology companies, heard interesting speeches on technologies and structural changes occurring with the mega trend digitalization, IoT or Industry 4.0.

Eric Goos, General Manager of Hansen Industrial Transmissions N.V., Belgium plant of Sumitomo Drive Technologies, was re-elected for a second period as President of EUROTRANS at the meeting. Vice president will be Ekrem Sirman from Harmonic Drive AG, Germany.

Eric Goos pointed out: "Digitalization and technologies such as additive manufacturing and robotics will change our companies not only in the production, but also regarding organizational structures, for this we will probably also need new education systems."

During the discussions there was general agreement that the European power transmission industry with its cutting-edge technologies and global presence is a leading player in the global market, and to strengthen this position a strong European network is fundamental.

But focusing on Europe alone will not suffice to be successful in the future. We need networks around the world. International cooperation and networking are essential for being successful in growing markets and in the challenging change process of "Digitalization", this is especially true for small and medium-sized companies. It is therefore a great success that the Turkish association MIB is now part of the European network. EURTORANS is very happy to welcome its new member MIB – Association of Turkish Machine Manufacturers with Nail Türker, general manager of MIB and their representative Mr. Metin Yilmaz from Yilmaz Reduktor.

### **The European power transmission industry expects a 4% growth in 2018**

Currently the economic development of the drive technology industry is still split into two customer areas: on the one hand, the automation and the consumer orientated business, such as the food industry, medical technology, robotics and material handling, which is globally running well and still growing in 2018. On the other hand, the "classical" industrial business, which is also slightly increasing 2018 in Europe.

For 2018 the European industry expects a growth rate of 4%, but the further developments will depend on the global economic and political outcomes. "Although the economic situation is quite positive for the industry, the national global tendencies can affect the daily business since Europe is closely linked with the export business and its world-wide partners. The industry in Europe is innovative and on a long-term perspective it will grow further. The European Drive Technology Conference is an ideal forum to discuss future

trends in an international environment”, summarized Ekrem Sirman, Vice President EUROTRANS.

EUROTRANS will host the next International Drive Technology Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 in Hanover along with the celebration of the 50 years Anniversary of EUROTRANS.



#### **General Secretariat of EUROTRANS**

**EUROTRANS** – European Committee of Associations of Manufacturers of Gears and Transmission Parts.

The member associations represent the interests of more than 600 enterprises within the EU, with a total annual production of more than 40 billion EURO. More than 160,000 people are employed in the European power transmission industry. [www.euro-trans.org](http://www.euro-trans.org)