**Opportunities for the EURIS Industries post Brexit**

As the UK’s relationship with the EU changes, the EURIS industries will be increasingly focussing on the opportunities for business both within the remaining EU and with the rest of the world. Looking forward from a position in the early part of 2017 there are some areas where industry believes these opportunities may lie. These are outlined in this paper, along with the necessary actions by both Government and Industry in order to deliver these.

The development of international trade outside the EU is the clearest growth opportunity for our combined industries. Our associations are already active in several markets working with the DIT to develop these external markets. BEAMA and GAMBICA alone have led or are leading exhibitions for UK exporters in China, Dubai and India in the first quarter of 2017. For these actions and interventions to be successful, there need to be a much greater level of collaboration between the DIT support structures for exports, in particular for SMEs, and the EURIS industries.

These export markets rely to a large extent on the standards upon which the products are based. These might be seen as British standards, but they are in fact part of the European standardisation system. The compliance with European Directives and related legislation is also key for market acceptance in many of these export markets beyond the EU.

Innovation is at the root of many export opportunities for UK based companies. The continuing involvement with the European R&D programs, linked to related standards and legislation has, and it is hoped will remain, a key route for companies to develop new and innovative solutions within their markets. Most innovations lead to the company creating and maintaining Intellectual property, which we believe can be maintained at European level in line with the R&D and standardisation activities.

The development and expansion of new export opportunities relies for many companies on export experiences nearer to their home market. For UK based EURIS companies, their existing or potential exports into the EU, or EEA will be the basis of wider exports around the world.

In conclusion the EURIS industries believe that there are significant export opportunities, as a result of the UK leaving the EU. To achieve these the Government and industry need to work very closely together, and a number of supporting European activities will need to be maintained. EURIS associations and their members are very willing to work with DExEU and other Government departments to achieve these goals.

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