

**EURIS Weekly update**  
**WC. 28.05.18**

**Meeting dates for your diary**

- Next EURIS Members meeting: **6<sup>th</sup> June 1030am – 3pm (British Plastics Federation, BPF House, 6 Bath Place, Rivington Street, EC2A 3JE).**
- Future EURIS Summits: **11/12 September 2018 and 29/30 January 2019.**
- *Thank you to everyone who came back to me so quickly re the change of summit date from October 2018 to September 2018. As the majority can make this new date, it looks like we will go for 11/12 September 2018 for the next summit. The details of this will be discussed at the forthcoming EURIS members meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June.*

**New EURIS Member**

- We are delighted to announce that the British Compressed Air Society are the latest association to join EURIS and would like to give a warm welcome to Vanda Jones, Executive Director. BCAS will be joining EURIS fully from 1<sup>st</sup> July (the start of their new financial year)  
<http://www.bcas.org.uk/>

**Next EURIS Members Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

- Currently confirmed to attend this meeting are: Howard Porter (BEAMA), Steve Brambley (GAMBICA), Stephen Hunt (BPF), Jack Semple (EAMA), Mark Sommerfeld (REA), Keith Warren/Jocelyn Carr (CESA), Steve Schofield (BPMA), Paul O'Donnell (MTA – TBC), Andrew Willman (BEAMA), Tom Skelton (KEB). Thank you to everyone who has sent me apologies for this meeting (they have been noted), if you are planning to attend the meeting and are not on the list above, please do let me know.

**Notified Bodies**

- EURIS has been contacted by a Notified Body to ask for our support in securing an official confirmation from BEIS that UK Notified Bodies can continue their work until the end of the transition period (December 2020), therefore giving manufacturers extra time to consider their options. Notified Bodies have had verbal confirmation from BEIS on this but are looking for written confirmation. Given the benefit to EURIS members in securing this confirmation, we will be using our political contacts to help secure this. EURIS' paper on Notified Bodies can be found here: <http://www.euristaskforce.org/position-papers/euris-paper-8-uk-notified-bodies/>

**Political News**

- Last week the House of Commons Exiting the EU Select Committee published their 5<sup>th</sup> report on the progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal. The Committee concluded that there is a great deal of continuing uncertainty about the Government's plans for providing Parliament with its meaningful vote, the type of analysis that will be provided to aid scrutiny and the length of time that Parliament will have to consider the deal. The Committee are undertaking a separate piece of work on the process of Parliament's consideration of the Withdrawal Agreement and the Political Declaration which will be published in due course.  
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmexeu/1060/106002.htm>
- The Department for International Trade has published a booklet highlighting a snapshot of UK trade – UK Trade in Numbers. It reveals that the UK is the third most popular country for Foreign Direct Investment, with the nearest EU competitor, Ireland, at number six. New figures show the majority of UK trade is with countries outside of the EU, totaling £650.2bn in 2017, (51.1% ) and the US remains our single largest trading partner as our largest export market for goods and services (nearly £100bn in 2016).  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/709761/Pocketbook\\_21\\_May\\_accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/709761/Pocketbook_21_May_accessible.pdf)

- In other DIT news, Secretary of State, Dr Liam Fox visited Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates over the bank holiday weekend to promote more than 68 UK projects worth £30 billion to investors. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-trade-secretary-travels-to-gulf-promoting-investment-and-british-businesses> and the Government made clear their support for the EU's trade negotiations with Australia and New Zealand <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-support-eus-trade-negotiations-as-well-as-our-own>
- The Chancellor gave a speech at the CBI annual dinner in which he outlined he had listened to the CBI's four customs tests, that the Government share the CBI's aspirations to minimise frictions and burdens but that staying in the Customs Union is not necessary to do this. He added that the UK has two possible future customs models – both 'works in progress' <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/chancellor-speech-cbi-annual-dinner-2018>
- Also last week, a senior unnamed EU official accused Britain of "chasing the fantasy" of escaping the consequences of Brexit, as it ruled out UK plans to prevent a hard border in Ireland and build a new security relationship with the bloc.