

EGMF Policy Manifesto

Industry challenges at hand – and how we respond

September 2016

Introduction

The outdoor tools and machinery used in the upkeep of gardens, turf and trees are covered by a plethora of European regulations and standards. Safety of machinery, outdoor noise and the use of chemical substances are some of the most prominent issues regulated thoroughly at EU level. This legislation is established by the institutions of the European Union and the standardisation bodies in which our industry and all other societal stakeholders are actively involved.

As part of a continuously growing industry, EGMF represents more than the usual basic garden machinery: in a globalised market environment, more types of outdoor power equipment and machinery are available than ever before. The steady growth of robotic lawn mowers in use exemplifies how a new product can become subject to increasing regulatory provisions beyond purely mechanical legislation, and including requirements on frequency/telecommunications or energy efficiency.

In this context, our industry stands at the interface between

- **Ever more stringent European legislative requirements**
- **Our customers' (and our own) high expectations in terms of performance, service and safety**
- **The threat from non-compliant and counterfeit products entering the EU Internal Market.**

How we respond

- **Rightly, society and policy makers are increasingly demanding with regard to legislative requirements – and our industry supports this where feasible.**

The trend towards sustainability changes what society and consequently policy makers ask for: equipment should be safe and perform better with less emissions, for example. Therefore, current and upcoming legislation at both national and EU level covers not only performance and safety, but increasingly environmental and resource efficiency requirements. Today, it includes noise and engine emissions, use of chemical substances and banning of hazardous materials, as well as national recycling schemes. In line with the EU's 2020 sustainability agenda, EGMF is fully committed to meeting these ever more stringent European and national legislative requirements and ensuring full compliance of our products, provided this is technically feasible and justified.



A selection of some of the most relevant EU legislation for our industry:

- Machinery Directive on essential health and safety requirements (MSD) ([2006/42/EC](#) and 2009/127/EC)
- [Low Voltage Directive](#) (LVD) (LVD 2014/35/EU)
- [Electromagnetic compatibility Directive](#) (EMC Directive) (EMCD 2014/30/EU)
- [Outdoor Noise Directive](#) (OND) (2000/14/EC)
- [Gaseous Emissions of Non Road Mobile Machinery Directive](#) (NRMM Emissions) (97/68/EC)
- New Legislative Framework for marketing of products ([Regulation\(EC\) No 764/2008](#) - [Regulation\(EC\) No 765/2008](#) – [Decision 768/2008/EC](#))
- Batteries, accumulators and waste batteries Directives ([2006/66/EC](#) – [Corrigendum article 12\(4\)](#) - [2008/103/EC](#))
- [Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment Directive](#) (WEEE II) (2012/19/EU)
- [Restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical & electronic equipment Directive](#) (RoHS II) (2011/65/EU)
- Regulation on Registration Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) ([Regulation EC 1907/2006](#))
- [Ecodesign Directive](#) (2009/125/EC)
- [Radio Equipment Directive](#) (RE-D) (2014/53/EU)

Read here our activities on meeting ever more stringent legislative requirements at EU and national level: <http://www.eqmf.org/en/regulations/overview-of-eu-legislation/>

- **High expectations of performance, service and safety of our products are at stake if we don't address bottlenecks in terms of skills and service provision**

As our industry will be increasingly driven by the move towards more sustainability, new technologies such as state-of-the-art batteries and remote controlled products will be used. Already today, the garden machinery sector is ahead of many industries with robotic mowers being one of the most promising personal robot applications. This leads to a growing demand for skilled technicians for maintenance and repair of our equipment. These job opportunities could even increase if there is a demand for prolonged life cycles of our equipment through better servicing. However, to make this happen, we need to address the shortage of skilled personnel in this area. Moreover, the growing trend towards e-commerce will contribute to increased competition within the EU market and among the different distribution channels (DIY, specialised dealers) and will lead to a change in purchasing behaviour among our customers, making proper service provision even more challenging.



➤ **If market surveillance remains patchy, there will be no level playing field on the EU Internal Market**

A well-functioning and truly integrated EU Internal Market is essential for our European economy to thrive and is vital in a globalised world. Unfortunately, an increasing number of non-compliant and counterfeit products are entering the EU Internal Market. This not only poses safety risks for our customers, but also undermines the efforts of those manufacturers who have invested heavily in compliance with EU legislation. Consequently, European and national market surveillance authorities must take action to stop this trend. EGMF is committed to supporting these bodies by providing them with detailed information such as compliance checklists.

See here the EGMF compliance guidelines and our involvement in PROSAFE:
<http://www.egmf.org/en/market-surveillance-europe/>

About EGMF:

The European Garden Machinery industry Federation – EGMF – has been the voice of the entire garden machinery industry in Europe since 1977. With 30 European corporate members and 7 National Associations representing manufacturers of garden, landscaping, forestry and turf maintenance equipment, we are the most powerful network in this sector in Europe. See also: www.egmf.org.

