



**Confédération Européenne de l'Industrie de la Chaussure**  
**European Confederation of the Footwear Industry**

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**A new phase for the European Confederation of the Footwear Industry**

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*The **European Confederation of the Footwear Industry (CEC)**, based in Brussels, has been re-launched early September with new staff and a new open and pragmatic approach taking full account of the sector needs across Europe and the opportunities worldwide.*

The CEC represents the union of National Footwear Federations and Associations within the European Union, and as such it truly speaks for the entire footwear industry.

An important step forward was taken on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November, when the CEC General Assembly approved its new statutes confirming the broader objectives of the Confederation. From now on, CEC activities will focus not only on promoting the development of an environment in which European manufacturing is successful, but also on reinforcing the competitiveness of the European footwear sector as a whole through the identification and implementation of common initiatives, knowledge - sharing and the participation in projects co-funded by the European Commission.

The CEC will continue assisting its Members and their member companies in their commitment to become more competitive and profitable, by lobbying in Europe and by promoting the uniqueness and importance of the European footwear sector. This industry cares not only about creativity and design, but also about health, quality and sustainability issues, and has a proud record of encouraging skills and specialist training to raise standards (both technical and creative) and create new jobs.

The CEC will be inviting a number of national federations currently not members of the CEC, to join the confederation and to work together in order to optimize the benefits from having a strong, central body to represent the modern European footwear industry in a positive and active way.

This is an exciting time for the footwear industry and an exciting chapter in the history of the already highly respected CEC.

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