



Free ICT Europe
Aftermarket Alliance for Freedom
to Support, Repair and Resell

Newsletter

Get Informed!

Message from the Board

Change will happen after the European elections, in how far will this have impact? The expectation is that the new commission really needs to step up and increase the efforts for the Circular economy. From small steps and compromises to real choices that will reduce the required resources and extends life-cycles.

The life of our first website is almost over. In between we are working on a new look as you can see to the right.

New cycles started as well, with #1 being the appointment for the MSP advisory group of the EC as a step in further maturing as a European organisation. Also new a new project starts where circularity for enterprise IT equipment will be further developed. Great developments!

The Firmware discussion is extended, stay informed how we #keppushing.

Increasing activities require additional budget. To stimulate further growth of our donors we are getting help to reach out for new members of our alliance!

Wishing you a great summer,
Jan Hoogstrate

Who Are Free ICT?

The Free ICT Europe is a not-for-profit Foundation, founded by independent organisations to actively promote and represent the ICT Secondary Market within Europe. Influencing EU legislation is one of our core activities in order to create sustainable change.

FE promotes a fair and open market, with no barriers for independent trade, repair and maintenance of hardware and software. Fair, open and competitive markets are underpinned by End Users' right of ownership and the freedom to choose providers.



[Learn More](#)



Our Objective

Secure the right of ownership and the freedom for consumers and businesses alike to freely choose their providers to trade, maintain and repair.

This will result in a fair level playing field in the ICT secondary market, without lock-in and restrictive policies.

[Learn More](#)

Our Approach

Our main connection with the political agenda and policy makers are the Circular Economy and the attention for Resource Efficiency to repair/maintenance, upgrading and reuse/repair. The experts in this area are the independent service providers.

FE works collaboratively to share current issues and highlight how markets might be hindered.



Content:

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- **Green Public Procurement for Computers**
- **New study - Improve Circularity for DC hardware**
- **Planned Meetings**

Calling you on behalf of Free ICT

We welcome Sharon Cormack who will be reaching out to you! With our growing list of activities growth in support is required. We are happy that she will help us with the fundraising.

Sharon has 15 years of experience in B2B to and B2C sales across a wide range of markets and industries. Currently she is responsible for Inside Sales at Origina.



Please answer her call!

or contact her through

marketing@freeict.eu

Experts & Advisory towards the EC

For the next 3 years FIE is a member of the ICT advisory platform for the European Commission on matters related to the implementation of ICT standardisation policies. A key element is the Rolling plan that lists all activities and Actions that are required. New actions can be suggested only by the European Commission and the MSP Members.

The first meeting took place on June 17-18, where we could see that this group has another angle and contacts as we had up to now. First step is to create awareness about our industry, next we need to see how we can connect our issues to current projects or to propose new standardisation initiatives.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP
AND SMES

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY
INNOVATION

Directors-General

Dear Mr Hoogstrate,

Thank you for your application for the “European multi-stakeholder platform on ICT standardisation”. We are pleased to inform you about the appointment of Free ICT Europe as a member of this expert group, with Mr Thomas O’Leary and yourself as representatives. The appointment shall end on 31 May 2022.

More information: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/policy/ict-standardisation_en

Ecodesign -The Story Continues

The new Ecodesign law for Servers and Storage has raised some questions. On behalf of the European Commission we provided input, aimed at the Firmware element. Our positioning paper* on this is explaining that there should be no discussion if updates would be charged: as these are fixes they should be free of charge.

The law leaves room to ask a a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory fee for normal updates; security updates are demanded to be free of charge. According our paper, if a fee is applied, this should only be for upgrades that provide new functionality or performance improvements. Also the terms "fair, transparent and non-discriminatory" need to be interpreted more to a practical interpretation.

For the EC this is not an easy part. To come to a solution currently the option to have a meeting with Digital Europe (OEM's), the EC and Free ICT is being discussed. At our proposal also CIO organisations will be invited.

We are pleased that this process takes place, as it will provide more clarity and might prevents cases and/or complaints in the future.

* A thank you to all that did invest time to create this document. When you would like to receive a copy, please contact us.

Green Public Procurement (GPP) - Computers

FIE was invited to take part in the revision of the GPP criteria for Computers and Monitors, we joined as stakeholder. The green procurement has a rising interest and adoption; the GPP is no law. The work started with a questionnaire.

The GPP for Datacenter products is still ongoing and a number of suggestions will be along the same path; promote refurbished to be the first option, extend life-cycle by planned upgrading, move to 3rd party maintenance, a preference for Used/Refurbished Parts and an independent provider for ITAD and remarketing. Overall: make sure that SME's can participate in tenders.

Bottom line, practice what you preach: politics and EC promote all these kind of developments, this should be reflected in their own IT procurement and management.

New study - Improve Circularity for DC hardware

Free ICT will participate in the CEDaCI project, that will build a Circular Economy (CE) for the Data Centre Industry (DCI) to increase reclamation and reuse of Critical Raw Materials in the sector, extend product life through equipment reuse and remanufacturing, reduce use of virgin materials, waste and environmental impact arising from the growth in redundant equipment and develop a secure and economically viable CRM supply chain for the sector.

At present only 10% of CRM from the sector are recycled and recovered but this will increase to 19% and 24% in 5 and 10 years after the project ends; reuse of equipment will also increase to 65% and 75% respectively and at end-of-life overall product 'waste' will be reduced to 35% and 25%.

Clearly our industry is a large contributor for this!

Conferences to attend

Tomas O'leary will be speaking at the Service Industry Association Roundtable:

Madrid

October 10, 2019

Jan Hoogstrate will be joining the European Broker Meeting:

October 23-24, 2019

Monaco

[More Info](#)

Thank you for your attention!



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