

The Chairman of APRA Europe

Dr. Daniel C. F. Koehler

The President of FIRM

Clemens Ortgies

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Press release

APRA Europe strengthens the Voice of Remanufacturing through a merger with FIRM

APRA Europe, the Automotive Parts Remanufacturers Association Europe, and FIRM, the International Federation of Engine Remanufacturers, announce their merger which comes into effect from 01 January 2021. By making this step they are now representing a vast majority of the European remanufacturing market and represent far more than 1.000 companies.

APRA and FIRM share a long tradition in the automotive aftermarket and follow very similar purposes and activities. Both associations represent the interests of the parts remanufacturing industry in Europe. While FIRM acts as an umbrella organization of national engine remanufacturing associations and companies and therefore has a clear focus on the engine business, APRA members can be any private or legal entity related to the general remanufacturing business and field of science.

Because of a very successful and close cooperation for many years, APRA Europe and FIRM are now joining forces. By making this step, the associations will be able to offer a higher quality of services to all members and represent a larger share in the market and therefore have a stronger voice towards stakeholders and decision makers.

Together, APRA Europe and FIRM members represent a market volume of more than 1,5 billion EUR with 25.000 employees in Europe. This is equivalent to about two thirds of the European remanufacturing industry.

APRA Europe Chairman Dr. Koehler comments on that: *"I am more than happy that we could realize this merger which was overdue. With this combined broad member base, representing the vast majority of the European remanufacturing branch, we are now able to pave the way for still better recognition of our businesses. As a member-driven association this brings a lot more value to them."*

For the global orientation of APRA, its broad member base and its comprehensive management infrastructure, FIRM merges with and into APRA Europe. With the approval given by both General Assemblies in the course of 2020, the merger comes into effect from 01 January 2021.



The name and recognized brand “FIRM” will be kept and established as a working group for engine remanufacturing inside APRA Europe. The working group will initially be chaired by current FIRM President Clemens Ortgies. To him *“the merger makes perfect sense. Only for historic reasons, we were organized and managed in slightly different manners. Now, we have the great opportunity to bring the remanufacturing branch closer together under the same roof [Clemens Ortgies, FIRM President].*

APRA Europe and FIRM are confident that this step marks an important milestone for both associations as well as the remanufacturing landscape and makes the associations still stronger together.

APRA Europe on the web: www.apra.org/europe
APRA Europe on social media: www.linkedin.com/company/apraeurope/
FIRM on the web: www.firm-org.eu

About APRA (Automotive Parts Remanufacturers Association)

APRA is the only global association that has been representing the interests of automotive remanufacturing companies since 1941. APRA is well-known in Europe as APRA Europe, which is based in Brussels, Belgium. The association's 120 European members (out of a total of approx. 600 members worldwide) are primarily tier 1 suppliers and independent remanufacturers. Together with other partners, APRA Europe represents approx. two-thirds of all employees in the European automotive remanufacturing industry.

APRA Europe promotes remanufacturing as an integral part of the circular economy and represents the interests of the industry, including free trade, an independent aftermarket and legal certainty. Members benefit from the organization's close integration with other industry associations, receiving guidance and support for business matters. APRA Europe also holds its own conferences and other events to bring together supply and demand – for the benefit of each. APRA is the voice of remanufacturing since 1941.

Further information: www.apra.org/europe

About FIRM (International Federation of Engine Remanufacturers)

Founded in 1958 in Vienna, FIRM is the European umbrella organization representing the interests of engine remanufacturers and rebuilders. 10 national trade associations representing more than 1.000 engine remanufacturers and rebuilders are members of FIRM.

Based in Brussels, FIRM is a recognized discussion partner of the European Institutions, fellow associations across the world (AERA, APRA, NZERA etc.) and other international & European trade federations of automotive sectors.

FIRM is also a founding member of the World Engine Remanufacturing Council (WERC) and is a member of the AFCAR Alliance and participates to the Right to Repair Campaign Alliance in Europe (R2RC).

Further information: www.firm-org.eu