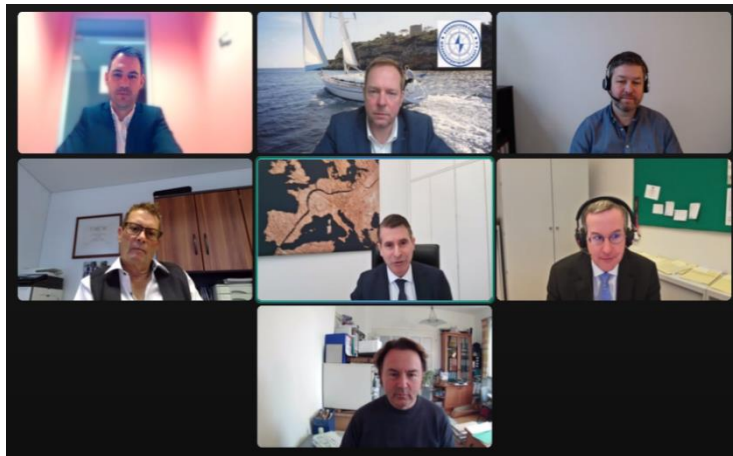


Boating industry supports policy-makers in goal of decarbonisation of Lake Constance

Brussels/Munich, 1 March February 2024 – Industry associations from Germany, Austria and Switzerland as well as EBI as the European umbrella organisation support the efforts to decarbonise recreational boating on Lake Constance. The aim of the International Lake Constance Conference is climate-neutral boating by 2040.



Philip Easthill (EBI), Karsten Stahlhut (German Marine Federation), Vinzenz Batt (Swiss Boat Builders Association) Uwe Biatel (Boating Industry Working Group, Austrian Chamber of Commerce), Eric Beißwenger MdL (State Minister for European Affairs and International Affairs), Stefan Schumann (Ministerial Councilor, Bavarian State Chancellery), and Gerhard Schöchel (Boating Industry Working Group, Austrian Chamber of Commerce)

In a very constructive, virtual exchange with the Bavarian State Minister for European Affairs and International Affairs, Eric Beißwenger MdL, close cooperation towards the decarbonisation goal was agreed

The associations will now be integrated into the work of the International Lake Constance Conference (regulatory body for the lake) with the aim of working together on the steps towards effective decarbonisation. Important topics for the industry are the establishment of the necessary infrastructure, an open technology mix, realistic periods for converting the existing fleet, effective funding programs, and close

coordination with EU legislation.

At the meeting of the heads of government of the Lake Constance Conference member countries in December 2023, the goal was set to implement climate-neutral boating and maritime transport on Lake Constance by 2040. This took place under the Chairmanship of the Free State of Bavaria in 2023 led by State Minister Eric Beißwenger MdL. In 2024, the Swiss canton of Appenzell Innerrhoden and its Executive President Roland Inauen took over the chairmanship.

On behalf of the industry, the Boating Industry Working Group of the Austrian Chamber of Commerce, the Swiss Boat Builders Association, the German Marine Federation and European Boating Industry as the European umbrella organisation took part in the event. Minister of State Eric Beißwenger welcomed the industry's interest in actively participating and establishing Lake Constance as a Europe-wide model region. The associations are united in their approach to supporting decarbonisation and jointly developing opportunities for the industry through innovation and growth.

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About European Boating Industry (EBI)

EBI represents the recreational boating industry in Europe. It encompasses all related sectors, such as boatbuilding, equipment manufacturing, marinas and service providers. The industry is a significant contributor to the European economy, representing 32,000 companies, predominantly SMEs that employ over 280,000 people directly. The mission of EBI is to advance and represent a sustainable boating and nautical tourism industry #MadeInEurope. More information on EBI's website: www.europeanboatingindustry.eu

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