

Press Release

Brussels, 7 February 2008

Enterprise Europe Network and Chambers together, 'connecting business to Europe'

EUROCHAMBRES welcomes with great satisfaction the establishment of the 'Enterprise Europe Network' (EEN) – launched by the European Commission today – which will reinforce the services offered to companies in the field of EU information, business cooperation and innovation.

SME managers have limited time and resources, so they need to be able to identify and access high quality services quickly and easily. Now that a 'one-stop-shop' solution has been put in place – grouping the services previously provided by the Euro Info Centres (EIC) and Innovation Relay Centres (IRC) – it will be easier for SMEs to develop their innovative potential and to raise their awareness on EU policies.

"The Chamber network is proud to be strongly represented within the new Enterprise Europe Network, with almost 30% of the host organisations being Chambers of Commerce. Indeed, the spirit of the network seems to match closely with EUROCHAMBRES' motto 'Connecting business to Europe'," said EUROCHAMBRES' President Pierre Simon at the launch event of the EEN.

Given the significant involvement of Chambers all over Europe in the former EIC network, and the considerable expertise gathered over the years, Chambers will continue their strong local involvement in the new network to ensure that the internal market functions better for enterprises, in particular SMEs.

EUROCHAMBRES – The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry represents over 19 million enterprises in Europe through members in 45 countries and a European network of 2000 regional and local Chambers