



PRESS RELEASE

Champion of sustainable manufacturing appointed to accelerate European innovation in remanufacturing

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Erik Sundin, Associate Professor at Linköping University in Sweden¹, has today accepted an invitation to become the first **Principal Academic Networker** for the Conseil Européen de Remanufacture.



The CER's member organisations – which include IBM, Lexmark, SKF, Panalpina, Volvo, syncreon and Autocraft – gathered in Paris in late 2017 for the first annual members meeting and gave their support for Erik's nomination to this position. Over the next two years he will define and develop the role and assist the council in coordinating relevant research and linking it to business.

With a current EU R&D budget of €1 billion for the circular economy², there is an opportunity to accelerate innovation in the product design and remanufacturing processes for many more new products. The Council plans to publish its own list of priority research topics as one way of engaging with the research community with Erik's support and guidance.

Erik is one of the organizers of the bi-annual International Conference on Remanufacturing (ICoR) together with researchers from University of Strathclyde, and is acknowledged for his leading contribution to research on the topics of remanufacturing, design for assembly/disassembly and product/service systems. At present, remanufacturing is estimated to be worth €30 billion in Europe. The CER aims to see this grow to €100 billion by 2030 as businesses adopt new technologies and business models to offer extended-life products to consumers.

This appointment will run until December 2020.

Note to editors:

The **Conseil Européen de Remanufacture** was launched in January 2017 in Brussels. It attracts member organisations that support the life extension of products through remanufacturing. See www.remancouncil.eu For further information: Contact Council Director David Fitzsimons at david.fitzsimons@remancouncil.eu

Remanufacturing (sometimes referred to as re-conditioning, refurbishment, repowering) is “the process of returning a used product to at least its original performance with a warranty that is equivalent to or better than that of the newly manufactured product. From a customer viewpoint, the remanufactured product can be considered the same as a new product. It involves dismantling the product, restoring and replacing components and testing the individual parts and whole product to ensure that it is within its origin design specifications. Performance after remanufacture is expected to be at least to the original performance specifications.”³

¹ <https://liu.se/en/employee/erisu71>

² See: https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/maximising-impact-eu-research-and-innovation-2018-jan-11_en

³ Source : *Presidency non-paper on the Waste Framework Directive*