



# EU Consultation: Industrial Accelerator Act - speeding up decarbonisation

European Association of Chemical Distributors (Fecc)

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The European Association of Chemical Distributors (Fecc) supports the objectives of [the Industrial Accelerator Act \(IAA\) to accelerate decarbonisation](#) while strengthening Europe's industrial base by preventing the relocation of industrial activities and value creation outside of Europe to ensure European companies do not face a structural disadvantage.

Chemical distribution plays a **critical enabling role across value chains**, ensuring access to essential substances, supporting SMEs, and facilitating the uptake of more sustainable and innovative solutions.

Fecc calls for a **balanced, realistic and market-driven implementation** of the IAA that recognises distributors as key supply chain enablers, ensures open and competitive markets, and delivers simplified and harmonised regulatory frameworks.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input in this consultation and would like to highlight key concerns and recommendations:

- **Recognise Distribution as a Strategic Enabler:** The IAA should explicitly acknowledge chemical distribution as part of the **strategic industrial ecosystem** and ensure access to relevant support measures, including funding and infrastructure planning.
- **Deliver Simplified and Harmonised Permitting:** Fecc supports efforts to accelerate permitting but stresses that implementation must deliver real simplification across Member States. A harmonised EU approach should reduce fragmentation and include logistics and storage activities, while maintaining high safety and environmental standards.
- **Safeguard Open Markets and Supply Chain Resilience:** Fecc emphasises the importance of **open and well-functioning global markets**. Decarbonisation measures should avoid unintended market distortions and ensure continued access to essential chemicals and raw materials from diversified sources as opportunities for sourcing European-produced chemicals are becoming increasingly limited. Policy measures should safeguard open markets while also strengthening European production capacities to enable regional sourcing and maintain the competitiveness of European distribution networks.
- **Create Practical Demand for Low-Carbon Solutions:** Stimulating demand for low-carbon products is essential, but measures must remain **technology-neutral and workable in practice**.

Fecc supports the development of harmonised methodologies for carbon footprint calculation and the inclusion of chemical products within emerging low-carbon frameworks.

- **Ensure SME Access to Support:** As the distribution sector is largely composed of SMEs, access to finance remains a key challenge. Support mechanisms under the IAA should be **accessible, proportionate, and adapted to smaller operators**, with simplified procedures.
- **Invest in Enabling Infrastructure:** Decarbonisation requires infrastructure that reflects supply chain realities, including transport, storage, and handling of new substances. Distribution networks must be adequately considered in infrastructure planning.
- **Support Circularity while Maintaining Safety:** Fecc supports the transition to a circular economy, provided that **high standards for safety and regulatory compliance are maintained**. Clear and workable rules are essential to facilitate the safe use of recycled and secondary materials.
- **Competitiveness and Regulatory Balance:** Europe's climate ambition must be accompanied by a **predictable and coherent regulatory framework** that supports investment and innovation by reducing regulatory complexity through pragmatic and proportionate designs that prioritise clarity and workability. Avoiding unnecessary regulatory burden and keeping administrative burden and compliance costs to a minimum is essential to maintaining competitiveness across the value chain. **The importance of competitiveness** should be stated explicitly; climate targets can only be achieved sustainably if Europe remains an attractive place to invest and operate, as a regulatory environment that leads to widespread closures or relocation of businesses would ultimately undermine both economic strength and climate objectives.

Fecc represents chemical distributors, with a strong focus on SMEs, acting as key enablers of safe and efficient supply chains across Europe. We believe that decarbonisation and industrial competitiveness must go hand in hand, supported by a coherent and integrated regulatory framework. Ensuring consistency across EU policies and maintaining open, resilient markets will be essential to achieving credible and effective sustainability outcomes.

Fecc remains committed to continued engagement with the European Commission to address decarbonisation and regulatory challenges. The transition to climate neutrality requires practical, inclusive, and value chain-wide solutions, and we stand ready to contribute to a framework that fosters innovation, competitiveness, and sustainability.

To access the Fecc's response on EU Commission's website, please click [here](#).

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