

CRAEMER GROUP / PRESS RELEASE: CRAEMER SUPPORTS INDUSTRY INITIATIVE IN BRUSSELS

For regional media and the trade and business press

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Craemer backs call to safeguard manufacturing and industrial value chains in Europe

Herzebrock-Clarholz/Brussels. On 7 September 2026, the Craemer Group took part in the “European Convoy for Industrial Competitiveness” in Brussels, an industry demonstration calling for fair competition across Europe’s manufacturing value chains. Organised by industry association EUROMETAL, the event brought together more than 200 representatives from Europe’s steel, metals trading, metalworking, logistics and manufacturing sectors. With 15 trucks and ten symbolic industrial coffins in the European Quarter, participants drew attention to the companies, jobs, investments and production sites threatened by unequal competitive conditions.

By taking part, Craemer is backing a joint appeal by European companies and associations to secure a future for industrial value creation in Europe.

Craemer directly affected as a steel processor

As a metal forming company operating internationally, Craemer is directly affected by energy prices, CO₂ costs, trade policy measures and regulatory requirements. At the same time, the group competes with manufacturers in non-EU countries, some of whose products are made under different economic and climate policy conditions.

“We process steel into complex components and assemblies for the automotive industry and other sectors. This places us right at the interface between the European steel industry and our industrial customers,” explains Christoph J. Brandenburg, Managing Partner of the Craemer Group.

Focus on the competitiveness of steel processors

Through its involvement in the Brussels initiative, Craemer is highlighting that European industrial policy must not stop at the factory gates of steel producers. In the company’s view, measures to protect and decarbonise steel production can only be effective in the long term if downstream processors also remain competitive.

Craemer therefore supports the call for a level playing field from steel to the finished component. The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and trade defence instruments should be designed to take account of the basic materials industry while also safeguarding the competitiveness of the downstream steel-processing industry. Otherwise, there is a risk that, instead of emissions being reduced, industrial production and investment will move out of Europe and skilled jobs will be lost.

Joint appeal to safeguard value creation in Europe

The initiative's key demands, which Craemer supports, include effective measures to counter downstream carbon leakage, appropriate coverage of steel-intensive finished products by trade and climate policy instruments, improved traceability and stricter proof-of-origin requirements.

"Europe needs a strong steel industry. But a strong steel industry also needs competitive companies to process that steel in Europe," stresses Christoph J. Brandenburg. "For us, 'Keep Manufacturing in Europe' means one thing above all: retaining investment, industrial expertise, jobs and value creation in Europe over the long term," Brandenburg concludes.

About the Craemer Group

The Craemer Group is an international family-run company specialising in the core business areas of metal forming, plastics processing and toolmaking. The group's main plant is in Herzebrock-Clarholz in East Westphalia, Germany, where Craemer GmbH was founded in 1912. In 2025, the group generated a total operating performance of around 380 million euros with approximately 1,100 employees.

In metal forming, the Craemer Group ranks among the leading international suppliers of precision-stamped parts and large formed components produced in high-volume series for a range of industries, including automotive, hardware, large household appliances and heating equipment. Examples of its metal components for the automotive sector include structural parts for seats, doors, instrument panel supports, roof bows and chassis components, as well as seatbelt system components, fittings and connecting elements for seat structures.

About EUROMETAL

EUROMETAL is the European association for the steel, tube and metals trade. The association represents companies across the entire European steel and metals value chain and works to promote competitive, sustainable and resilient industrial markets in Europe.

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IMAGES



A Craemer truck took part in the “European Convoy for Industrial Competitiveness”, which brought more than 200 industry representatives to Brussels to call for fair competition across Europe’s steel and manufacturing value chains. Photo: Craemer Group



The Craemer Group's main plant in Herzebrock-Clarholz is one of four European production sites operated by the family-run industrial company. Photo: Craemer Group