

## PRESS RELEASE

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### UPEI ANNOUNCES NEW PRESIDING BOARD

*The Union of the European Petroleum Independents (UPEI) represents the independent downstream oil sector, principally SMEs, whose main business is to source and supply oil and other energy products in Europe.*

UPEI is pleased to present the composition of its new Presiding Board, which took up office on 1 January 2015.

President: Thierry DE MEULDER

Vice Presidents: Erik DE VRIES  
Ivan INDRAČEK  
Emmanuel RIU  
Teresa SAYERS

Thierry DE MEULDER will take over the role of President from Bernd SCHNITTLER who has overseen the Association in this capacity since April 2010, and as Secretary General from 1999 until February 2014.

Bernd SCHNITTLER is recognised for having led UPEI with great leadership and vision. He oversaw the establishment of the Brussels office and has been instrumental in building up the Association and ensuring that the voice of independent oil companies is effectively represented on the European political scene.

Thierry DE MEULDER was previously Secretary General (2009-2014) of the BPU-UPB (Belgische Petroleum Unie – Union Pétrolière Belge) and has extensive professional experience in the energy sector, notably in the oil and gas sectors.

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For further information please contact:  
Ms Yvonne Stausbøll, Secretary General  
Email: [info@upei.org](mailto:info@upei.org)  
Tel: 0032 2 740 2020