ECONOMIC SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN 2010

Employee ownership was continuously progressing across Europe since the financial crisis

The number of employee owners was nearly 10 million in 2010 in large European companies (out of 32.6 million employees). The number of companies that have employee ownership was increasing (91.7%), as well as those having share plans for all employees (53.7%) and those with stock option plans (64.1%).

However, significant differences can be seen between countries: A significant increase in the number of employee owners in Spain, Poland, France and the Nordic countries (Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland), contrasting with a significant decrease in Belgium, Ireland and The Netherlands.

Overall, the capitalization held by employee owners rose back to 192 billion Euro in 2010. In % held, there was a slight decline for the first time for many years (from 2.82% to 2.71%). However, the share held by Top Executives has increased, while it is the "common" employees who have seen their share shrink.

All details are to be published in May in the next "Economic Survey of Employee Ownership in European Countries in 2010".

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Employee owners (million people)	9,6	9,4	9,0	8,5	
Employees' share in ownership structure	2,71%	2,82%	2,72%	2,69%	2,37%
Capitalisation held by employees (billion €)	192	162	242	282	205
% European companies having employee ownership	91,7%	91,5%	85,9%	83,3%	79,3%
% European companies having broad-based plans	53,7%	53,1%	51,8%	49,7%	46,1%
% European companies having stock option plans	64,1%	63,6%	62,4%	60,1%	56,7%
% European companies having launched new plans	27,5%	31,3%	36,0%	26,7%	

