

Survey: The European Company – Perceptions of Employers in Malta

This survey, carried out in Malta in October/November 2005, replicates the survey conducted by Cameron McKenna in UK in September 2004. The Malta Federation of Industry (FOI) and the Malta Employers' Association (MEA) sent the electronic questionnaire to their members. Below is a breakdown of the 34 responses.

1. Do you know that as from 8 October 2004 a new type of company called a European Company or Societas Europea (SE) can be formed?

	Count	%
Yes	4	12
No	30	88

2. Do you think that the SE is generally a good idea for European business?

	Count	%
Yes	9	26
No	0	0
Don't know	25	74

3. Do you think that your company will ever consider converting into an SE?

	Count	%
Yes	2	6
No	2	6
Don't know	30	88

4. What would be the main incentive/s for your company to convert into an SE?

(Number of responses – five. The other respondents stated that they could not answer the question.)

- Reduction in costs would make company more competitive.
- Ability to trade with other EU countries without the need to go through bureaucratic procedures.
- Easier access to setting up operations in other EU countries.

- Better financial backing, stock exchange listing, better access to market.
- Some tasks could be pooled or avoided, therefore some cost savings.

5. What concerns might you have about conversion into an SE?

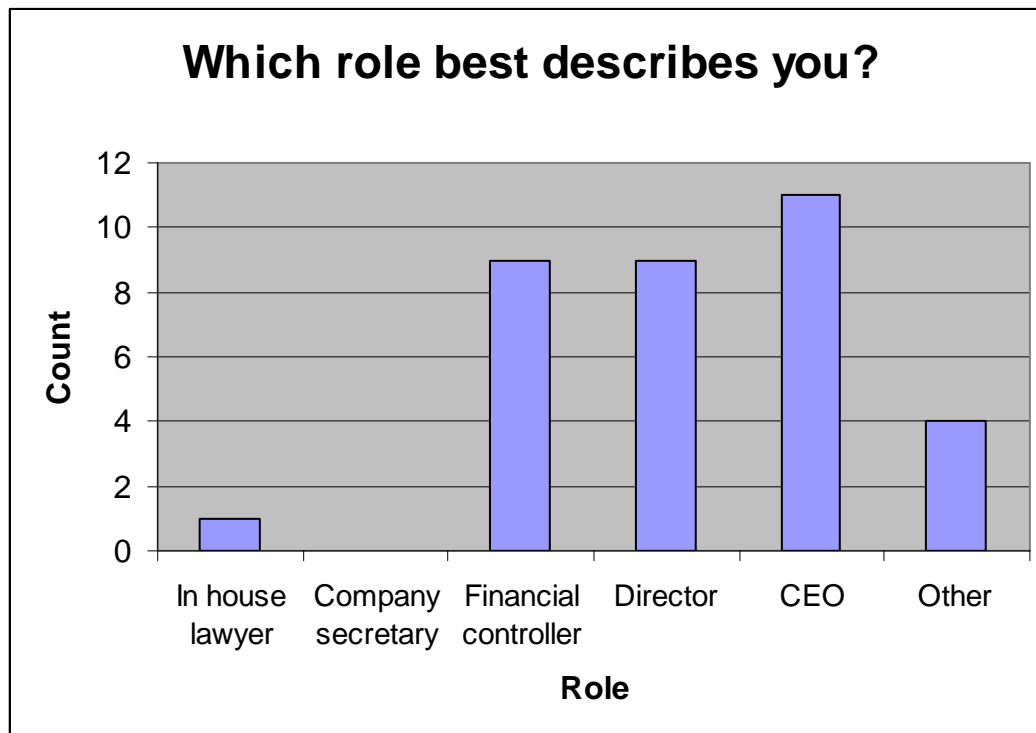
(Number of responses – seven. Reason for non-response as above.)

- Foreign (non-European) shareholders.
- Legislative requirements differ from one country to another. This may imply additional expenses.
- The impact of such a conversion on domestic trading.
- Company tax and VAT (two responses).
- Bureaucracy and paperwork.
- Certain tasks would be double-handed, therefore resulting in increased costs.

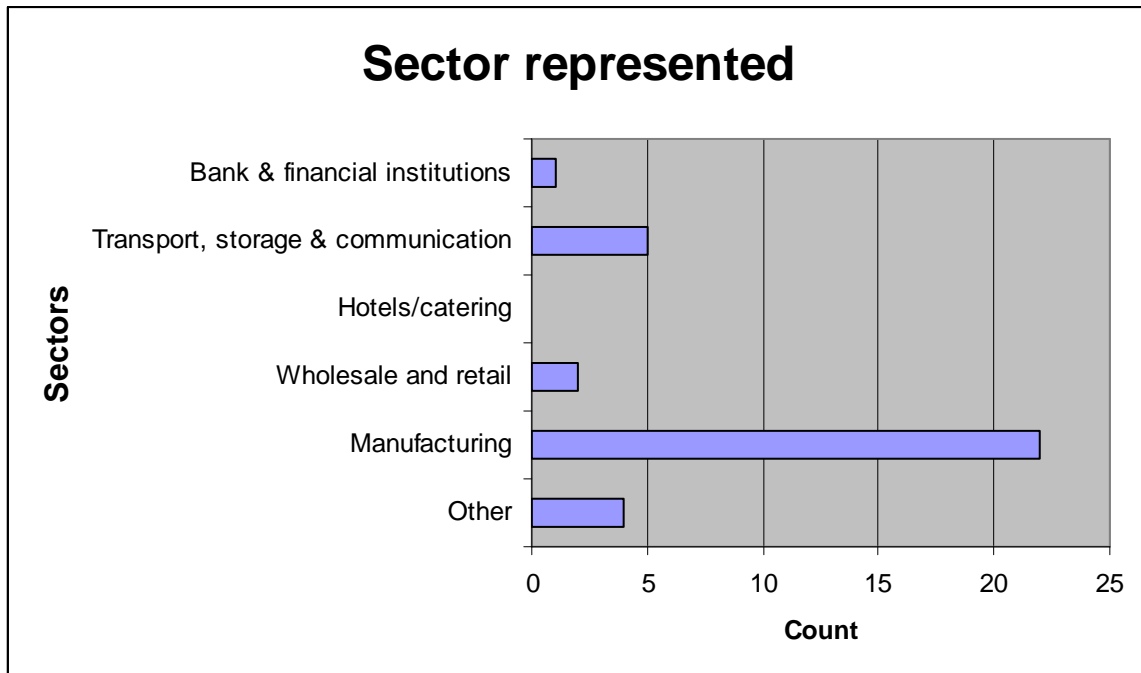
6. The conversion into an SE entails greater employee participation. Would that be a concern to you?

	Count	%
Yes it would	2	6
No it would not	26	76
No response	6	18

7.



8.



9.

