

Joint ACEA/FuelsEurope express concerns on the French Ministerial order increasing the maximum level of fame in diesel.

Brussels, 12 January 2015: The European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA), and FuelsEurope, representing the EU petroleum refining and marketing industry, express concern at the French Ministerial Order published on 3 January 2015.

The Ministerial Order (DEV1431074A) increases the maximum level of FAME (Fatty Acid Methyl Ester) in diesel sold at public filling stations in France to a maximum of 8% by volume. ACEA and FuelsEurope strongly support the internal consistency in terms of quality and specifications of the EU fuel market: the French Ministerial Order runs contrary to this principle and may lead to a fragmentation of the single market for road fuels.

ACEA and FuelsEurope call for keeping the quality of diesel sold across the entire EU consistent with the standards set by the European Fuel Quality Directive (2009/30/EC) and by the European Technical Specification for Diesel fuel EN590:2013 (max 7% FAME content).

A deviation from this standard by individual Member States is neither in the interests of EU consumers nor the EU economy. It will lead to unnecessary higher complexity and extra-costs in the logistics and supply system, due to the proliferation of diesel grades throughout Europe. It puts consumers at risk in cases where their vehicles have a warranty that covers diesel fuel to a maximum of 7% FAME content.

ACEA and FuelsEurope reiterate their call for a single consistent and high quality fuel market in the EU.

- Ends

The European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) represents the 15 Europe-based automobile manufacturers. ACEA's members are BMW Group, DAF Trucks, Daimler, FIAT SpA, Ford of Europe, Hyundai Motor Europe, IVECO SpA, Jaguar Land Rover, Opel Group, PSA Peugeot Citroën, Renault Group, Toyota Motor Europe, Volkswagen Group, Volvo Cars, Volvo Group. More information can be found on www.acea.be or @ACEA_eu.

About the EU automobile industry:

- Some 12.7 million people - or 5% of the EU employed population - work in the sector.
- The 3 million jobs in automotive manufacturing represent 10.3% of EU's manufacturing employment.
- Motor vehicles account for €388 billion in tax contribution in the EU15.
- The sector is also a key driver of knowledge and innovation, representing Europe's largest private contributor to R&D, with €32.3 billion invested annually.
- The automotive sector contributes significantly to the EU trade balance with a €95 billion surplus.

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FuelsEurope represents with the EU institutions the interest of 42 companies operating refineries in the EU. Members account for almost 100% of EU petroleum refining capacity and more than 75% of EU motor fuel retail sales.

FuelsEurope aims to promote economically and environmentally sustainable refining, supply and use of petroleum products in the EU, by providing input and expert advice to the EU institutions, Member State Governments and the wider community and thus contributing in a constructive and pro-active way to the development and implementation of EU policies and regulations.

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