

Euro 6 comes into force across Europe

1 September marked the official launch of Euro 6. All new cars sold must meet this standard from now on. Euro 6 technology vehicles not only boast the lowest CO₂ emissions on record, but they emit virtually zero particulate matter, while nitrogen oxides emissions are more than half those of previous generation motors built in the past five years. Since 1992, the EU has introduced increasingly stricter limits on vehicle emissions through a series of 'Euro' standards. Over the last 15 years, nitrogen oxide (NOx) limits for diesel car engines have been reduced by 84% and particulates (PM) by 90%. Diesel cars also have 15% lower CO₂ emissions per kilometre than equivalent petrol-powered vehicles. The automotive and motor trading industries have launched

www.cleandieselttech.eu to mark the occasion and provide information on what Euro 6 means for the industry and for air quality. The website provides infographics which demonstrate the ways in which technology has advanced over the years and outline the three part system, made up of advanced engines, cleaner diesel fuel and effective emissions controls. (Source: [SMMT](#))



Eurozone unemployment lowest for three years

Unemployment in the eurozone fell to its lowest level for three and a half years in July, raising hopes that economic recovery in the single currency area is taking hold, official data showed. Unemployment in the 19-nation bloc fell to 10.9% in July from 11.1% in June, the first time it has dipped below 11% since February 2012, the EU statistics agency Eurostat said. However youth unemployment was at a still high 21.9%. Analysts cautioned that any improvement in the jobs market remained modest and came after disappointing second quarter economic growth data. In contrast to the fall in unemployment eurozone-wide, unemployment rose in France to 10.4%, in Austria to 5.8% and Finland to 9.7%. The highest rate was in Greece, at 25% in May, the latest data available, but down from 25.6% a month earlier. Youth unemployment in Greece stood at 51.8% and at 48.6% in Spain, another country struggling to reignite job creation after the crisis. The lowest rate in the bloc was in Germany, unchanged at 4.7%.

(Source: [EU Business](#))

Connected car law prepared

European Commission and Parliament officials announced that they were moving towards regulating connected cars, but are still a long way off from sealing new legislation on autonomous vehicles. The Commission is starting a public consultation on telecommunications and broadband legislation next week. Later this month, another consultation will focus on free data flows and clouds. Legislative proposals are expected to follow next year in those areas, which Commission officials say will impact connected cars. Paul Timmers, Director of Sustainable & Secure Society at DG Connect, the European Commission department in charge of telecoms, said the internet of things, and the development of 5G mobile networks, are shaping the way connected cars will be regulated. The European Commission has announced that it will propose legislation in 2016 that will impact connected cars. (Source: [Euractiv](#))

Germany resists French push for eurozone fiscal transfers

It has been reported that Germany is resisting a French push for the eurozone to appoint a new Commissioner with powers to coordinate economic policy across the bloc and preside over fiscal transfers between its 19 members. French Economy Minister Emmanuel Macron had floated the idea in an interview with a German newspaper earlier this week, saying that the eurozone status quo would lead to the currency union's self-destruction. Mr Macron wanted a new European economic government, with a euro commissioner who has the financial means to make investments. Responding to idea, German Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel sounded a note of caution and urged Macron to detail his plan.

(Source: [Euractiv](#))

Week ahead

European Parliament

Monday 7 September

- Plenary Session: Towards improved single market regulation, Untapping the potential of research and innovation in the blue economy, Creating a competitive EU labour market
- ITRE – Towards a new international climate agreement in Paris, Developing a sustainable European Industry of base metals

Tuesday 8 September

- Plenary Session: Presentation by the Council of its position on the draft general budget 2016, Debate - Investment for jobs and growth, Implementation of the 2011 White paper on transport

Wednesday 9 September

- Plenary Session: Key debate – State of the Union

