

WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 29 November

New car CO₂: Informal triologue deal agreed

An informal agreement on new rules to achieve the 2020 CO₂ emission target of 95g/km for new cars was reached by the European Parliament and member state negotiators on 26 November. The dossier was reopened after EU ministers failed to endorse a previous informal deal with MEPs. During the negotiations, a proposed “phase-in” of the 95g/km mandatory target was agreed with 95% of new cars complying by 2020 and 100% by 2012. Super-credits (favourable weightings for cleaner cars within a manufacturer’s range) would be allowed from 2020 to 2022, but capped at 7.5g/km over that period. COREPER will now consider the deal on Friday 29 November and then the Parliament may consider the deal at ENVI Committee in December and vote in plenary session on 13 January (which will also vote on the vans deal). Commenting on the announcement rapporteur Thomas Ulmer stated: “I am satisfied with what was agreed today. We fought for a good agreement, combining flexibility for manufacturers, protection for the environment, and the best interests of consumers. This is a good deal for the three parties involved”

(Source: European Parliament)

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20131126IPR26748/html/Car-CO2-emissions-MEPs-reach-a-deal-with-Lithuanian-Presidency-of-the-Council>

EU commercial vehicle registrations up 8.1% in October

Figures published by ACEA, the European Automobile Manufacturers’ Association, show that demand for new commercial vehicles in October 2013 rose 8.1%, with growth prevailing across all segments. The EU recorded a total of 158,960 new registrations in the month, which counted on average the same number of working days as in October 2012. Italy was the only major market to shrink (-12.8%), while Germany

(+2.4%), France (+4.3%), Spain (+25.7%) and the UK (27.2%) all expanded. Over ten months, France (-5.8%) and Germany (-5.9%) performed similarly, while demand fell more sharply in Italy (-15.7%) and increased in Spain (+4.3%) and the UK (+9.6%). Overall, the EU recorded a 2.7% downturn with 1,389,244 new registrations.

(Source: ACEA)

http://www.acea.be/index.php/news/news_detail/commercial_vehicle_registrations_-_2.7_over_ten_months_8.1_in_october



Transport committee vote supports roll-out of alternative refuelling infrastructure

The European Commission has welcomed the vote of the European Parliament's Transport Committee on measures to build-up alternative fuel stations across Europe. In January 2013, the European Commission proposed a Directive to ensure the roll-out of alternative fuels stations across the EU, with common standards to ensure EU wide mobility. The Committee’s vote overall supports the Commission’s initial proposal in the following key areas:

- It requests Member States to set national targets that are at least in line with the minimum requirements set by the Commission;
- It adds to the content of the national policy framework that each Member State must develop with amongst others provisions related to the reduction of urban congestion and the deployment of electrified public transport;

- It introduces provisions for the use of electricity at airports and for the recharging of electric vehicles during off-peak times when consumption and prices are lower;
- It supports the Commission's provisions regarding standards while introducing the notion of wireless recharging technologies;
- It strengthens the provisions related to information to consumers through an easily comparable indication of the prices of fuels offered and the harmonisation of the colour of hoses and nozzles;
- It confirms the possibility to implement the Directive in a cost-neutral way, but also details the financial means available at EU level.

Following this vote the Council is expected to adopt a General Approach at the Transport Council on 5 December. The Commission's expectation is that a first reading agreement could be found before the European Parliament's current session ends. (Source: European Commission)

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-1168_en.htm

Event held on future challenges of advanced vehicle technologies

On 27 November 2013, the FIA hosted a high level debate with EU Commissioner for Transport Siim Kallas and key stakeholders to debate the future challenges of advanced vehicle technologies in Brussels. The event brought together a diverse and extensive list of speakers to discuss how to make '5-star drivers, in 5-star vehicles, on 5-star roads' a reality. Much of the discussion surrounded the "connected" car and its potential to provide drivers with access to extensive information about congestion, accidents, road conditions, road works, weather changes and upcoming hazards. This technology also enables vehicles to communicate with each other and with the infrastructure to provide warnings, such as unsafe lane departure or risk of collision. The event featured a plenary session where speakers approached car connectivity from a variety of perspectives and showed how close the technology is to being a reality, but also discussed potential barriers. The afternoon's parallel sessions focussed on the vehicle, the driver and infrastructure. These are three specific areas where collaboration and focus is essential to realise safer mobility through the connected vehicle. Coinciding with the event, the FIA, European Road Federation, ACEA, and the IRU, joined EuroRAP and Euro NCAP in calling for a step-

up in road maintenance standards by together launching a joint statement for roads to be regularly and properly maintained for greater driver assistance and to optimise safety gains in vehicle technology. (Source: FIA)

http://www.fiaregion1.com/en/fia_region_1/news/greater_cooperation_needed_to_deliver_new_car_technologies_to_consumers.htm



Week ahead

European Commission

Wednesday 4 December

Commission to propose a Quality Framework for Traineeships: The Recommendation would set out guidelines to enable trainees to acquire high-quality work experience under safe conditions. The Quality Framework would aim to increase transparency with regard to traineeship conditions, for example on remuneration/compensation and the prospects for possible longer term hiring by the company employing the trainee.

Council of Ministers

Thursday 5 December

Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council: General approach on building up a minimum infrastructure for alternative fuels in the EU (tbc).

European Parliament (Committees - Brussels)

Monday 2 December

ENVI & ITRE: A 20130 framework for climate and energy policies – consideration of amendments