

WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 19 September

EU new car registrations up in July and August

New passenger car registrations were up by 5.6% in July and by 2.1% in August 2014, continuing the upward trend that began twelve months ago. Eight months into the year, demand for new cars amounted to 8,336,159 units, or 6.0% more than in the same period last year. France was the only major market to shrink in July, down by -4.3%. For the other major markets, growth ranged from 5.5% in Italy, 6.6% in the UK and 6.8% in Germany, to 11.1% in Spain. This has led to a 5.6% upturn in the region, with 1,041,683 new cars registered in the month. In August, this upturn continued across significant markets, which resulted in an overall increase of 2.1% in the EU. France, Germany and Italy registered a slight decrease (-2.6%, -0.4% and -0.2% respectively), while the other major markets expanded, registering 13.7% more in Spain and 9.4% in the UK. In the month of August the EU totalled 688,464 new car registrations. Growth prevailed across the major markets from January to August, reaching 1.6% in France, 2.6% in Germany, 3.5% in Italy, 10.1% in the UK and 16.4% in Spain. (Source: ACEA)

<http://www.acea.be/press-releases/article/passenger-car-registrations-6.0-over-eight-months-2.1-in-august>



Green eMotion conference showcases electromobility system

Green eMotion, the EU's flagship electromobility project, has for the first time organised an electric vehicle rally from the Green eMotion demonstration regions to Brussels. Five teams – EdF (Strasbourg), ESB (Belfast), RSE (Milano), TÜV Nord (Hannover), and Verbund (Austria) – drove electric vehicles to Brussels, using different charging stations along the way. The tour culminated in a high-level conference with the Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner for Transport Siim Kallas. Dr Heike Barlag, from Siemens AG and the project coordinator of Green eMotion, said "Green eMotion has achieved major milestones during the 3 ½ years of project work to enable to mass market roll-out of electromobility: prototype implementation of a really scalable, open ICT system enabling Europe-wide access to charging infrastructure, development of necessary standards for electromobility and a roadmap for future standardisation work, detailed technical work, as well as the preparation of guidelines and policies." Following the keynote speech by Vice-President Kallas, Green eMotion representatives explained some of the successes of the project, including the demonstration of an interoperable electromobility system, the setting up of a market place for roaming throughout Europe, and the work carried out on standardisation.

(Source: EURELECTRIC)

www.greenemotion-project.eu

EU funded project demonstrates driving system to boost electric cars

Results from an EU funded project on electric vehicle demonstration have been presented.. Six partners from Germany, France, Austria and Spain have used EU funds to cut the consumption of electric vehicles with a new intelligent management and recovery system. The OpEneR team has developed new functions, and better connected the components and

systems, which will allow the driver to receive braking tips based on traffic flows, and advice on the best route to limit energy use. Up to 30% of energy can now be saved without increasing journey time too much. These new solutions will be progressively commercialised and integrated into the production of new models, making electric cars even greener. After three years of intense collaboration and with €4.4 million of EU investment, the project team presented two demonstrator electric vehicles in Spain this summer. Engineers and researchers have worked to improve the electrical powertrain, the regenerative braking system, the navigation system and the surround sensors. They have developed a networked architecture with various functions that connect these elements with each other. By 2020, the European Union aims to have 8 to 9 million electric vehicles on the road.

(Source: EU Commission)

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-1019_en.htm



Week ahead

Council of Ministers

Thursday 25 – Friday 26 September:
Competitiveness Council (COMPET) - To discuss issues such as: a policy debate on industrial competitiveness; a policy debate on the state of implementation of the European Research Area (ERA); a debate on the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy for jobs and growth.

European Parliament

Wednesday 24 – Thursday 25 September:
IMCO – Including the consideration of mandate to enter trilogue negotiations on the development of the eCall in-vehicle system and a presentation of studies on the contribution of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection to Growth – Achievements, Trends and Key Policy Issues.

Wednesday 24 – Thursday 25 September:
ITRE – Including a presentation on Industry, Competitiveness and Space Policy, and a presentation on the Security of Supply and Energy Efficiency.

Wednesday 24 September:
INTA – Including the exchange of views on the State of Play of International Trade Negotiations and EU-Russia Trade Sanctions.