

WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 31 October

EEA: Car and van makers ahead of CO2 emission targets

A new European Environment Agency report, 'Monitoring CO2 emissions from passenger cars and vans in 2013' shows that almost all car and van manufacturers have met European carbon dioxide emission limits several years ahead of their deadlines. The average passenger car sold in 2013 emitted 126.7 grams of carbon dioxide per passenger kilometre (g CO2/km), already below the legal threshold of 130 g CO2/km to be fully reached by 2015. Similarly, the average van sold must have emissions below 175 g CO2/km by 2017, but levels were already at 173.3 g CO2/km last year, according to the updated data from manufacturers and Member States. Other key findings include:

- New cars in 2013 were on average 14 % more efficient than those sold in 2010.
- Vans sold in 2013 were around 4 % more efficient than those sold in the previous year.
- The number of purely electric cars in the EU has increased from around 700 in 2010 to around 25 000 in 2013. Plug-in hybrid numbers have also increased rapidly over recent years.

(Source: EEA)

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/monitoring-co2-emissions-from-passenger>

EU commercial vehicle registrations rise 13.2% in September

Figures published by ACEA, the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association, show that in September, the EU market for new commercial vehicles expanded for the thirteenth consecutive month with demand increasing 13.2%, totalling 181,436 units. In September growth prevailed in the van and heavy trucks segments, while the truck and bus and coach segments slightly declined. All major markets expanded and, in particular, Italy (+33%), Spain

(+20.2) and the UK (+10.6%) recorded a double-digit growth. From January to September, 1,352,410 new commercial vehicles were registered, or 9.6% more than in the same period last year. Looking at the largest markets, France remained stable (0.4%), while Germany expanded (+7.5%). The UK (+12.4%), Italy (+16.9%) and Spain (+32.4%) posted double-digit growth.

(Source: ACEA)

<http://www.acea.be/press-releases/article/commercial-vehicle-registrations-9.6-over-nine-months-13.2-in-september>



EEA and European Commission release annual Progress Report

The European Commission, assisted by the European Environment Agency (EEA), have released its annual Progress Report assessing the EU's headway on climate action. The key findings are detailed below:

- The EU is on track to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 21% of 1990 levels by 2020, surpassing its 20% target.
- The EU is ahead of the planned trajectory to hit 20% renewable energy by 2020, with 14% of final energy consumption generated by renewable sources in 2012.
- Energy consumption is falling faster than would be necessary to meet the 2020 energy efficiency target.
- Nine Member States are making good progress in pursuing three linked policy objectives

(greenhouse gas emissions reduction, renewable energy and energy efficiency) while no Member State is underperforming in all areas.

- Three Member States are at risk of missing their individual targets for 2013 under the Effort Sharing Decision.
- Projected greenhouse gas emissions for six Member States indicate that they will not achieve their 2020 targets through domestic policies and measures.
- Projections from Member States show little or no emissions cuts in the transport and agriculture sectors.
- Current projections for 2030 indicate that further efforts are required at national and EU level to keep the EU on track towards its new 2030 targets, as well as its longer term objectives to decarbonise the European energy system and cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80 to 95% by 2050.

(Source: EEA)

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/trends-and-projections-in-europe-2014>



Seventh round of TTIP negotiations take place

The seventh round of TTIP negotiations took place in Washington between 29 September and 3 October. With respect to regulatory issues, all negotiating areas with the exception of textiles were covered. There was progress on technical work on the regulatory component and in particular on sectors. Discussions on market access consisted of market access texts, services and investment offers and agricultural non-tariff barriers. As in previous rounds, there were no discussions on investment protection or investor-to-state dispute settlement (ISDS). On services and investment, explanatory discussions continued on the EU services offer which had been tabled just ahead of the 6th round. At chief negotiators' level both sides reaffirmed their similar approach to public services –

reserving policy choices in this area for governments. Discussions also took place on further consolidation of texts of trade in goods and on agricultural non-tariff barriers. On the regulatory cluster, constructive discussions were reported in most sectors with the heavy involvement of regulators. In the rules areas, discussions took place on customs and trade facilitation, energy and raw materials, IPR (including GIs), dispute settlement, SME's and legal and institutional issues. Discussions will continue between regulators on data alignment. On Energy and Raw Materials, discussions continued with an exchange of information between regulators on energy transit and third party access issues. Both sides agreed to discuss and confirm in the coming weeks the dates for the next TTIP round which would take place in Brussels.

(Source: European Commission)

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2014/october/tradoc_152859.pdf