

WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 1 November

EU commercial vehicle registrations up 6.1% in September

Figures published by ACEA, the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association. Show that in September, new commercial vehicle registrations grew by 6.1% in the EU totaling 160,038 units. The month counted on average one more working day across the region. Looking at the major markets, the French (-1.8%) and the Italian (-3.5%) shrank, in comparison with September 2012, while the German grew by 4.2% and the UK (+12.5%) and Spanish (+25.4%) posted a double-digit upturn. Three quarters into the year, demand for new commercial vehicles was down 4.0% in the EU with 1,230,188 new registrations. Spain (+1.8%) and the UK (+7.9%) recorded more vehicles than in the same period last year, while Germany (-6.9%), France (-7.0%) and Italy (-16.2%) saw their markets decline.

(Source: ACEA)

http://www.acea.be/index.php/news/news_detail/commercial_vehicle_registrations_-_4.0_over_nine_months_6.1_in_september



Third round of EU-Japan trade talks held

The third round of EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement negotiations took place in the week of the 21-25 October in Brussels. This round of negotiations

focused on discussing each side's proposals for the text of the future FTA. Similar to the first and second round of negotiations, discussions took place in Working Groups which covered the following areas: Trade in goods (including Market Access, General Rules, Trade Remedies), Technical Barriers to Trade and Non-Tariff Measures, Rules of Origin, Customs and Trade Facilitation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Trade in Services, Investment, Procurement, Intellectual Property, Competition Policy, Trade and Sustainable Development, Other issues (General and Regulatory Cooperation, Corporate Governance and Business Environment, Electronic Commerce, Animal Welfare) and Dispute Settlement. The European Commission estimates that an agreement between the two regions would boost Europe's economy by 0.6 to 0.8% of its GDP and may create up to 400,000 jobs. It is also estimated by the Commission that EU exports to Japan could increase by 32.7%, while Japanese exports to the EU could increase by 23.5%. The next round of negotiations will take place in early 2014.

(Source: European Commission)

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-998_en.htm?locale=en

EEA report demonstrates 2012 car CO₂ targets met

A report from the European Environment Agency (EEA) has also shown that all the main European carmakers met their 2012 targets for vehicles' average carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. Carbon emissions of the average car sold in the EU fell 2.6% between 2011 and 2012, cutting the EU average to 132.2 grams of CO₂ per kilometre (g CO₂/km). This is close to the 130g target for the average new car sold in 2015. In addition, the annual report 'Trends in global CO₂ emissions', released by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency has shown that actual global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) reached a new record of 34.5 billion tonnes in 2012. Yet, the increase in global CO₂ emissions in that year slowed down to 1.1%, which was less than half the average annual increase of 2.9% over the last decade. This development signals a shift towards less fossil-fuel-intensive activities, more use of renewable energy and

increased energy saving. Increases in fossil-fuel consumption in 2012 were 2.2% for natural gas, 0.9% for oil products, and 0.6% for coal. The share of the 'new' renewable energy sources solar, wind and biofuel increased at an accelerating speed: from 1992 it took 15 years for the share to double from 0.5% to 1.1%, but only 6 more years to do so again, to 2.4% by 2012.

(Source: JRC, EEA)

<http://edgar.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php>

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/co2-emissions-performance-of-car-1>

Commission approves €40 million for new EU research on resource efficiency

The European Commission has approved funding for 14 new research projects to shape a more resource-efficient economy in Europe. The projects, which involve the collaboration of over 140 partners from research organisations and private companies, will tackle the challenges of recycling waste materials from manufactured products and the agricultural sector to improve the quality of the environment and save money. Each project addresses a key issue such as reusing discarded automobile tyres, recovering key elements from batteries, producing green fertiliser from animal waste, and generating renewable clean energy from food and plant waste. The €40 million funds are included in the 2013 Environment call of the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) and will involve partners from 19 European countries.

(Source: European Commission)

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-944_en.htm?locale=en

Commission adjusts national limits on non-ETS emissions for 2013-2020

The European Commission has adjusted the annual limits on Member States' greenhouse gas emissions for 2013-2020 from sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS). The Commission Implementing Decision marks the final step in the implementation of the 2009 Effort Sharing Decision, which applies to sectors outside the EU ETS such as transport (except aviation), buildings, agriculture (excluding forestry) and waste. The

Implementing Decision adjusts the annual emission allocations (AEAs) that the Commission published in March 2013 for each Member State and year for the period 2013-2020. The adjustments have been made necessary by the extension of the scope of the EU ETS for 2013-2020 as well as unilateral changes in the activities and gases covered by the system in some Member States. In such circumstances, the Effort Sharing Decision requires adjustments to the AEAs through the addition or subtraction of the relevant number of tonnes of CO₂-equivalent. The adjustments have been prepared and verified in close consultation with Member States in the relevant working groups under the Climate Change Committee. The decision will enter into force on the third day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

(Source: European Commission)

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2013103101_en.htm



Week ahead

European Parliament - Brussels

TRAN: 4 November

Deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure

ENVI: 5 November

Vote: Modalities for reaching the 2020 target to reduce CO₂ emissions from new light commercial vehicles

ITRE: 5 November

Adoption of draft report: CARS 2020: towards a strong, competitive and sustainable European car industry

ENVI & ITRE: 7 November

A 2030 framework for climate and energy policies