

Press Release

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EU strengthens CO2 emissions targets for new cars and vans

Yesterday, representatives of the European Parliament, Council and Commission agreed on stricter CO2 emission performance standards for new cars and vans: 55% CO2 emission reduction target for new cars and 50% for new vans by 2030 compared to 2021 levels and 100% CO2 emission reduction for both new cars and vans by 2035 putting an end to internal combustion engines by 2035.

Whereas at the end of June, the 27 Environment Ministers had already come to that agreement, it has now been ratified by all European institutions.

The agreement includes a review clause that will ensure that in 2026, the Commission assess the progress made towards achieving the 100% emission reduction targets and the need to review these targets taking into account technological developments, including with regard to plug-in hybrid technologies and the importance of a viable and socially equitable transition towards zero emissions.

CECRA looks forward to the outcome of the Commission's assessment report as well as the initiative of launching off the process towards a legislative proposal to create a fund to ensure a fair and smooth transition.

Automotive dealers and repairers will together with their manufacturers level up and reach the set targets.

However, CECRA is still in favour of technology diversity ensuring the most efficient and effective approach to cutting emissions prevails and to ensure a manageable transition.

Technology diversity includes full electrification, hybrid drivetrains and vehicles running on hydrogen, either in gas engines or fuel cells. All of these technologies are climate neutral if running on renewable energy, in the form of green electricity or renewable hydrogen and fuels.

CECRA also reiterates its request to all EU Member States to speed up the deployment of a widespread infrastructure of recharging stations as it goes without saying that the transition to zero-emission vehicles is only possible if those recharging stations are available!

At the end, the consumers will be the ones who will decide in buying zero-emission vehicles taking into account they have already to bear high inflation rates and energy prices which are putting enormous pressure on their spending power.

For more information

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The voice of European vehicle dealers and repairers

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Councils. CECRA represents on a European scale 336,720 motor trade and repair businesses. Together they employ 2.9 million people.

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