

## News Release

### Figures show car industry failing on climate change commitment

11/05/05, Brussels - For immediate release – Today's Financial Times reports that European car manufacturers reduced CO2 emissions from new cars last year at only half the rate needed to meet their voluntary commitment with the European Commission.

According to the FT report, "Provisional figures for CO2 emissions from new cars show the European industry produced an average efficiency of 160 grams per kilometre last year, down only 1.8% on the previous year. To meet the target of 140g/km by 2008 the carmakers need an annual rate of improvement of 3.3%".

Ivan Hodac, secretary general of the European Association of Automobile Manufacturers (ACEA) is quoted in the article, "The road ahead is difficult. But there is absolutely no reason to conclude today that we will not reach the target".

Jos Dings, Director of T&E said, "Since the agreement was made in 1998, the car industry has been putting most of its effort into marketing bigger, heavier, more powerful cars – this strategy is incompatible with the Commission's stated target of 120g / km and these new figures appear to prove that."

"Rather than living in denial about its failure, the industry should support calls for a legally binding, flexible and transparent system that gives real incentives for manufactures to achieve the 120 g/km target. This target is essential for Europe to meet its climate objectives and to reduce its EUR 100 billion per year dependency on oil imports."

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#### More information

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#### Additional notes for editors:

##### The Car Industry's Voluntary Agreement

In 1998, the European Commission and the European car industry represented by the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA) reached an agreement on the reduction of CO2 emissions from cars. In this agreement, ACEA's main commitments were:

- to achieve an average CO2 emissions figure of 140 g/km by 2008 for all new passenger cars sold in the EU classified as M1 in Council Directive 93/116/EEC
- to bring to the market individual car models with CO2 emissions of 120 g/km or less by 2000

The European Commission also concluded agreements on CO2 emissions from cars with the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) and the Korean Automobile Manufacturers Association (KAMA) for their sales in the EU. The only deviations are the time frame (2009) and the estimated target for 2003 (JAMA).

The report '*Reducing CO2 Emissions from New Cars: A progress report on the car industry's voluntary agreement and an assessment of the need for policy instruments*' can be downloaded from: [www.t-e.nu](http://www.t-e.nu)

#### **European Parliament Resolution 13/01/2005**

A resolution adopted by MEPs at their Strasbourg plenary session on 13/01/05 calls on the European Commission "urgently to put forward proposals for binding CO2 limits for new vehicles".

<http://www2.europarl.eu.int/omk/sipade2?PUBREF=-//EP//NONSGML+TA+20050113+SIT+DOC+WORD+V0//EN&LEVEL=3&NAV=X>

#### **European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E)**

T&E is Europe's principal environmental organisation campaigning specifically on transport. Members are drawn from NGOs in nearly every European country, all of whom promote a more environmentally sound approach to transport.

[www.t-e.nu](http://www.t-e.nu)