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THE VOICE OF EUROPE'S INDEPENDENT FUEL SUPPLIERS

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**Subject: Implementation of Article 7 of the Directive on Alternative Fuel Infrastructure**

Article 7 of the Directive on Alternative Fuel Infrastructure (DAFI) <sup>(1)</sup> requires the member states to implement measures to help improve the information given to consumers when faced with a choice of fuels for their vehicle. This will address all fuel and energy types such as petrol, diesel, gaseous and liquefied (methane) gas, LPG, hydrogen and electricity.

To help enable the requirements of Article 7, a new CEN standard (EN 16942) has been completed which provides common fuel "identifiers" that will be placed on new vehicles and all fuel pumps so that when a customer arrives at a filling station and opens the fuel filler cap on his vehicle, they will see a common fuel identifier on the vehicle and also on the fuel pump. The identifier on the car and printed in the owners' manual will inform the customer which fuels are compatible for use in their vehicle.

EN 16942 was adopted by CEN on 12 October 2016 and the standards bodies of the CEN members should now bring EN 16942 into their own national standard within 6 months of that date. The member states of the EU should have transposed DAFI into their own national laws by 18 November 2016 and those laws should now be updated to refer to the new standard for the fuel identifiers. In the most recent meeting of the Commission's Sustainable Transport Forum on 28 November 2016, the European Commission informed the member states of the EU that the new fuel identifiers in EN 16942 shall be applicable for all new vehicles and fuel pumps only after the expiry of a period of 24 months after their updating or adoption (meaning as of 12 October 2018). That was confirmed in a letter sent by the Commission (DG MOVE) to the member states dated 22 December 2016.

ACEA, ACEM, FuelsEurope and UPEI, representing respectively the European automobile and motorcycle manufacturers, European based refiners and fuel suppliers and independent fuel suppliers, welcome that the European Commission has made this clear to the member states (and EEA states to which DAFI also applies) and we ask that all EU member states (and EEA states) now plan their legislation transposing DAFI to take that clarification fully into account. Only in this way will industry be able to implement these new requirements across the internal market in a

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<sup>(1)</sup> Directive 2014/94/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, Official Journal of the European Union L307, 28/10.2014, p1.



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reasonably consistent and harmonised way and therefore ensure customers are properly informed. Any fragmented implementation of the new standard across the internal market will only result in customer confusion within member states and when they cross borders.

Therefore, ACEA, ACEM, FuelsEurope and UPEI will now plan the following actions:

- Prepare for the rollout of new vehicles and fuel pumps with the new fuel identifiers to meet the deadline of 12 October 2018. This will require some advanced implementation on new vehicles and on fuel pumps.
- Prepare a common communication so that all customers (i.e. new vehicle buyers and owners of existing vehicles that will be unaffected) will be fully aware of these new fuel identifiers, what they mean, when they will start to appear and where to go to find out further information.
- Prepare the necessary information for vehicle dealers so the information is also available at dealerships.

These new requirements will address road vehicles with conventional combustion engines and fuel cell road vehicles refilling with hydrogen. A labelling standard for the recharging of electric vehicles at recharging points is in preparation by CEN TC301.

We would also welcome the participation in this initiative of European organisations representing the interests of consumers and drivers.

Yours sincerely,

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