



Automotive and Transport Division News

Internal news



EuPC is delighted to announce that Mrs Ingrid Verschueren, legal director of EuPC, has been appointed as Automotive Division Manager.

PlasFuelSys

Mr Leveque, retired technical expert from Inergy Automotive, has been asked on behalf on PlasFuelSys to participate to MVEG sub-group: Euro 5 and to follow-up the issues.

PlasFuelSys is thinking about to launch a new expert group on bio-fuel. Members will discuss this within their company and will think about the content and mission definition.

ESD Working Group is involved in defining a common basis of electronic test procedures and conditions, where the SAE definition is not sufficient. The target is to provide a common basis for fuel system development. The final document will get approval in March 2007.

Regulatory News

ELV Directive Revision

The objectives of the ELV Directive (2000/53/EC) are to: 1) minimize impact of end of life vehicles on the environment – 2) promote the functioning of the internal market and to avoid distortions of competition in the field of ELV – 3) create a coherent framework approach that will favor recycling and recovery at national level. The definition of waste is the one of Directive 75/442/EC and which will **NOT BE CHANGED** during the revision. Annex II of **Directive on End-of-Life Vehicles** was amended by **Commission Decision 2002/525/EC** (published in the OJ on 29/06/2002) and it lists materials and components exempted from the ban on hazardous substances in the design of new vehicles. A stakeholder report was issued, which analyzed the Directive under a lens; the result that came out was that: 1) the Directive is fully transposed in the MS à BUT effective implementation is still a long term goal – 2) Definitions vary from MS to MS – 3) Waste Treatment methods are differently classified through the MS (→ rendering almost impossible to compare data → EC Decision 2005/293 → will help comparing data) – 3) There are high treatment costs – 4) there is no developed market for second

dary materials (exception for metals) – 5) In MS to much waste from ELV evades delivery in certified ATFs (authorized treatment facilities) and 6) 2015 targets are too high and unrealistic especially for reuse and recycling.

Cars 21 (All About Safety)

The Commission has launched a public consultation on the report of the CARS 21 High Level Group that provides a comprehensive analysis of the competitiveness of the European automotive industry. The report puts forward a number of recommendations in several key areas such as regulatory simplification, environmental protection, road safety, research and development, trade, taxation/fiscal incentives and intellectual property. Stakeholders are invited to comment on the content and recommendations of the report. The Commission is currently preparing a communication on the competitive automotive regulatory framework for the 21st century on the basis of the CARS 21 final report. It wishes to draw on the largest possible range of analyses and opinions.

CARS 21 (**Competitive Automotive Regulatory System for the 21st Century**) was launched by Commission Vice-President Günter Verheugen on 13th January 2005. The Group brought together the

key stakeholders in the automotive sector to conduct a comprehensive analysis into the competitiveness drivers of the European automotive industry. The objective was to make recommendations for the short, medium and the long term public policy and regulatory framework for the European automotive industry to enhance global competitiveness and employment while sustaining further progress in safety and environmental performance at a price affordable to the consumer. The Group held a series of meetings throughout 2005 and adopted its final report on 12th December 2005. The Commission is currently preparing a Communication to the European Parliament and Council on the competitive automotive regulatory framework for the 21st century. The Communication is expected to present the conclusions of CARS 21, put forward the Commission's interpretation of these conclusions and indicate a series of actions, which the Commission intends to take in order to improve the competitiveness of the European automotive industry.

REACH

The REACH rapporteur, MEP Guido Sacconi asked to postpone the vote in second reading in the EU Parliament. The compromise package between the two bodies of the European Union (namely, European Council and Parliament) is still to be found. Unofficial news, today affirm that the most probable date for the vote is December 2006. The Finnish Presidency still hopes and is working to get REACH in place before the end of its presidency, in order to avoid the conciliation procedure.

The curtain is still closed on what the compromise between Council and Parliament will look like. The major discussion relate to authorization and thus substitutions (For the Parliament: dangerous chemicals would only be authorised for use if there were no alternative, if the socio-economic benefits outweighed the risks and if the risk could be adequately controlled and authorization should be limited to five years – for the Council: some dangerous substances should con-

tinue to be used if their risks can be controlled, irrespective of whether alternatives exist), but also when to introduce polymers fully into REACH. The Environment Committee vote (October 2006) left a door open to save recycling under REACH with Amendment 59. This amendment is essential to safeguard the plastics recycling industry in Europe. If Europe claims to become a European Recycling Society by 2010 as stated in the thematic strategy on Prevention and Recycling of Waste it should create the conditions for plastics recyclers to operate and develop a sustainable business. There have been two triologue meetings (between the European Council, Parliament and Commission) and the "hot" topics under negotiation are: authorization, substitution and animal testing. What is effectively discussed in the trialogues is known only in general terms; the EU Institutions are very tight in the topics discussed in those meetings.

EuPC Upcoming events

5	December 2006	Trade Committee Meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
5	December 2006	Steering Committee Meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
7	December 2006	REACH Conference	EuPC offices, Brussels
17	January 2007	Senior Executives Forum	Sheraton, Brussels airport
14	February 2007	Regulated Substances Conference	EuPC offices, Brussels