

Industry groups warn on new EU truck CO₂ rules risk to supply chains

Brussels, 1 February 2023 – Road transport, shippers and energy groups in Europe have called for carbon neutral fuels to be recognised as a long-term decarbonisation solution, alongside electrification and hydrogen, for a well-functioning and stable EU logistics sector.

In a [joint letter to EU Executive Vice President Franz Timmermans](#) today, IRU, the European Shippers' Council, and Fuels Europe – representing road transport operators, shippers and energy suppliers – have called for the full and equal recognition of liquid carbon neutral fuels for internal combustion engines, alongside electric and hydrogen fuel cells, in proposed EU heavy-duty vehicle (HDV) CO₂ regulations.

For a well-functioning and stable EU logistics sector, road transport operators and shippers must be able to decide which technology is best suited for different kinds of operations to achieve our common goal: carbon neutrality by 2050.

However, attaining this target depends on the technology options allowed by the upcoming legislation, impacting both vehicles and infrastructure.

FuelsEurope Director General John Cooper stated, “The success of the transition will very much depend on the technology options allowed by the upcoming legislation. There is no doubt that EU truck-makers development of electrification and hydrogen technologies will make great progress and can provide extensive substitution. Yet, the specificities of international road transport show that moving completely away from liquid fuels used in Europe’s logistics is highly likely to bring unnecessary risks for the sector.”

Carbon neutral fuels are also the most realistic option to decarbonise aviation, most maritime transport, and the existing fleet of road vehicles. The availability of sustainable biomass is more than sufficient to satisfy the demand in advanced biofuels for the three transport modes.

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About FuelsEurope

FuelsEurope represents with the EU institutions the interest companies manufacturing and distributing liquid fuels and products for mobility, energy & feedstocks for industrial value chains in the EU.

About IRU

IRU is the world road transport organisation and the voice of one million transport operators in the European Union, connecting societies with safe, efficient and green mobility and logistics.

About the European Shippers' Council

The European Shippers' Council was founded in 1963 to represent the logistic interests of manufacturers, retailers, and wholesalers, collectively referred to as shippers, in all modes of transport. ESC members are national shippers' councils, key European trade associations, and corporate members.