Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 1/2023

EU energy ministers reach political agreement on establishing a market correction mechanism for gas prices

On 19 December, EU energy ministers reached a political agreement on a proposal for a Council regulation establishing a market correction mechanism to cap gas prices. The regulation is a temporary emergency measure that aims to limit episodes of excessive gas prices that do not reflect world market prices. The market correction mechanism will be automatically activated if the following 'market correction event' occurs: (1) The month-ahead price on the Title Transfer Facility (TTF) exceeds 180€/MWh for three working days; and (2) The month-ahead TTF price is 35€ higher than a reference price for LNG on global markets for the same three working days. The mechanism will apply as of 15 February 2023: https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/19/council-agrees-on-temporary-mechanism-to-limit-excessive-gas-prices/

US treasury confirms that EU companies can benefit from the Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit scheme under the US Inflation Reduction Act

On 29 December, the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS (US tax agency) released additional information on certain clean vehicle provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act. This new guidance reaffirms that EU companies can benefit from the Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit scheme under the US Inflation Reduction Act. Commercial Clean Vehicle Credits will be available to EU companies without requiring changes to established or foreseen business models of EU producers. Further work is ongoing in the EU-US Inflation Reduction Act Task Force to find solutions to European concerns, for example by treating the EU the same way as all US FTA partners: https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy1179

Swedish Presidency of EU Council plans to focus on different parts of ‘Fit for 55’ package during its mandate

The Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU, which took over from the Czech Republic on 1 January of this year, will give priority to the various parts of the ‘Fit for 55’ package and the revision of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) during its term. Work will thus focus on the continuation of inter-institutional negotiations on issues such as the deployment of alternative fuel infrastructures (AFIR). The Presidency of the EU Council also intends to push forward the negotiations on TEN-T as the Member States had adopted their positions on 5 December 2022 at a meeting of the ‘Transport’ Council. See the Presidency programme: https://swedish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/media/nlihve0l/the-swedish-presidency-programme.pdf

European Single Market is turning 30

In 2023, the European Union celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Single Market, cornerstone of European integration. Established on 1 January 1993, the European Single Market now allows the free movement of good, services, people and capital across the Member States. In December 2022, during the kick-off of the series of events to mark the 30th anniversary of the Single Market, the Commission presented an analytical paper on the state of the Single Market 30 years after its establishment: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_7897

The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.