Cutting emissions: Council adopts CO2 standards for trucks

Trucks on Europe's roads will be cleaner from 2025. The Council today adopted Europe's first-ever CO2 emission standards for trucks and other heavy-duty vehicles. Under the new rules, manufacturers will be required to cut carbon dioxide emissions from new trucks on average by 15% from 2025 and by 30% from 2030, compared with 2019 levels.

These new rules represent a crucial step towards the decarbonisation and modernisation of Europe’s road transport. This will benefit citizens, help us protect the environment and reach our climate goals, as well as support the long-term competitiveness of the transport sector.

Graţiela Leocadia Gavrilescu, Romanian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment

Those targets are binding, and truck manufacturers which do not comply will have to pay a financial penalty in the form of an excess emissions premium.

In addition, specific measures will ensure the availability of robust and reliable data. Data will be obtained through on-board devices which monitor the actual fuel and energy consumption of heavy-duty vehicles.

Background

The Commission presented the proposal on this new regulation on 17 May 2018. It sets CO2 emission performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles and thereby helps member states achieve their emission reduction targets agreed under the effort sharing regulation. The European Parliament agreed its position on 14 November 2018, and the Council agreed its position (general approach) on 20 December 2018. Negotiations between the co-legislators started on 8 January 2019 and ended in a provisional agreement on 19 February 2019, which was later confirmed by the ambassadors of the member states.

The formal adoption of the regulation by the Council today is the final step in the procedure. The regulation will enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the EU. It is binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all member states.

CO2 emissions from heavy-duty vehicles including lorries, buses and coaches, represent around 6% of total CO2 emissions in the EU and 27% of total road transport CO2 emissions. Already a year ago, in June 2018, the Council had adopted a regulation which provides the technical basis for the new rules by setting out in detail how CO2 emissions will need to be monitored and reported.

Press office - General Secretariat of the Council
Rue de la Loi 175 - B-1048 BRUSSELS - Tel.: +32 (0)2 281 6319
press@consilium.europa.eu - www.consilium.europa.eu/press