

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The European leasing market stabilised in the first semester of 2010

Brussels, 18 October 2010 – Leaseurope, the trade association representing the European leasing and automotive rental industry, has released European leasing market figures for the first semester of 2010.

In the first half of 2010, total new leasing volumes granted in Europe reached nearly €94 billion and the portfolio of leased assets was valued at €633 billion¹. Following 2009, which was characterised by the sharpest downturn of the European leasing market, new leasing volumes decreased slightly, by 1.3%, in the first six months of 2010 compared to the same period a year ago.

New equipment and vehicle leasing volumes fell by 2.3% in the first half of 2010 compared to the same period of 2009, while real estate started to pick up, gaining 6.2%.

Piero Biagi (BCC Lease, Italy), Chair of Leaseurope's Statistics & Marketing Committee, commented that "while the overall market experienced a small decline in the first half of 2010, we are far off from the double digit decreases experienced in 2009. This is encouraging and real estate leasing in particular is starting to improve. I think the market has stabilised at European level and that real recovery of the leasing industry will probably be more visible in the second half of the year."

Commenting on the latest figures, Rüdiger von Fölkersamb, Leaseurope's Chair, said that "I strongly support the overall opinion expressed by the delegates of the Leaseurope's Annual Convention in early October and I believe that in 2010 the European leasing industry will grant new leasing volumes above or at least in line with 2009 levels, remaining an attractive business proposition for its shareholders over the coming years."

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¹ Leaseurope members reporting in the 2010 Biannual Statistical Enquiry: AT: Verband Österreichischer Leasing-Gesellschaften – VÖL; BE: Association Belge des Entreprises de Leasing; BG: Bulgarian Association for Leasing – BAL; CZ: Czech Leasing and Finance Association – CLFA; DE: Bundesverband Deutscher Leasing-Unternehmen e.V.; DK: Finans og Leasing; EE: Estonian Leasing Association; ES: Asociación Española de Leasing – AEL; FI: FKL; FR: Association française des Sociétés Financières – ASF; GR: Association of Greek Leasing Companies; HU: Hungarian Leasing Association; IT: Associazione Italiana Leasing - ASSILEA and ANIASA; LV: Association of Latvian Commercial Banks - Leasing and Factoring Committee; NL: Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen – NVL; NO: Finansieringsselskapenes Forening; PL: Polish Leasing Association; PT: Associação Portuguesa de Leasing e Factoring – ALF; RO: Leasing and Non-Banking Financial Services Association; SE: AFINA - Associations of Swedish Finance Houses; SI: Leasing Committee of the Banking Association of Slovenia; SK: Association of Leasing Companies of the Slovak Republic; UA: Ukrainian Union of Lessors; UK: Finance and Leasing Association – FLA.

Media Contacts

For further information, please contact:

Anne Valette
Head of Communications
+32 2 778 05 65
a.valette@leaseurope.org

Jurgita Bucyte
Adviser, Statistics and Economic Affairs
+32 2 778 05 63
j.bucyte@leaseurope.org

About Leaseurope

As a Federation, Leaseurope brings together 45 associations throughout Europe representing either the leasing, long term and/or short term automotive rental industries. The scope of products covered by Leaseurope's members ranges from hire purchase and finance leases to operating leases of all asset types (automotive, equipment and real estate) and also includes the rental of cars, vans and trucks. More information on Leaseurope and its members can be found at www.leaseurope.org.

1. European Leasing Market - First Semester 2010

Mio €		Total New Production (Mio€)		% Change
		H1 2009	H1 2010	Adjusted for exchange rate impact
AT	Verband Österreichischer Leasing-Gesellschaften - VÖL	2.600,0	2.628,0	1,08%
BE	Association Belge des Entreprises de Leasing	1.928,2	1.899,1	-1,51%
BG	Bulgarian Association for Leasing - BAL	359,3	193,6	-46,11%
CZ	Czech Leasing and Finance Association - CLFA	865,9	720,6	-21,10%
DE	Bundesverband Deutscher Leasing-Unternehmen e.V.	19.018,0	18.512,0	-2,66%
DK	Finans og Leasing	2.426,3	2.214,0	-8,84%
EE	Estonian Leasing Association	208,2	201,6	-3,16%
ES	Asociacion Española de Leasing - AEL	3.524,9	3.997,7	13,41%
FI	FKL	1.593,0	1.604,0	0,69%
FR	Association française des Sociétés Financières - ASF	13.093,0	13.706,0	4,68%
GR	Association of Greek Leasing Companies	811,0	615,0	-24,17%
HU	Hungarian Leasing Association	782,7	527,5	-36,85%
IT	Associazione Italiana Leasing - ASSILEA and ANIASA	13.858,5	14.435,2	4,16%
LV	Association of Latvian Commercial Banks - Leasing and Factoring Committee	117,5	104,5	-10,84%
NL	Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen - NVL	2.592,0	1.654,0	-36,19%
NO	Finansieringsselskapenes Forening	1.632,4	1.922,4	5,99%
PL	Polish Leasing Association	2.432,6	2.853,1	4,88%
PT	Associação Portuguesa de Leasing, Factoring e Renting - ALF	2.252,0	2.375,0	5,46%
RO	Leasing and Non-Banking Financial Services Association	776,7	543,7	-29,99%
SE	AFINA - Associations of Swedish Finance Houses	4.111,0	4.785,3	4,91%
SI	Leasing Committee of the Banking Association of Slovenia	771,8	630,4	-18,33%
SK	Association of Leasing Companies of the Slovak Republic	777,2	716,4	-7,82%
UA	Ukrainian Union of Lessors	137,0	135,7	2,38%
UK	Finance and Leasing Association - FLA	16.873,9	16.877,1	-2,65%
TOTAL		93.543,0	93.851,8	-1,26%

2. Biannual Exchange Rates

ISO2	Country	2010	2009
AT	Austria	1	1
BE	Belgium	1	1
BG	Bulgaria	1,9558	1,9558
CZ	Czech Republic	25,7295	27,14
DE	Germany	1	1
DK	Denmark	7,4421	7,44925
EE	Estonia	15,6466	15,6466
ES	Spain	1	1
FI	Finland	1	1
FR	France	1	1
GR	Greece	1	1
HU	Hungary	271,685	289,95
IT	Italy	1	1
LV	Latvia	0,70825	0,7063
NL	Netherlands	1	1
NO	Norway	8,00565	8,89515
PL	Poland	4,002	4,47555
PT	Portugal	1	1
SE	Sweden	9,78885	10,8608
SI	Slovenia	1	1
SK	Slovakia	1	1
UA	Ukraine	10,58441717	10,2383
UK	United Kingdom	0,869995	0,893805

Notes:

These rates are a biannual average and are taken from Eurostat (extraction date for H1 2010 exchange rates is 22 September 2010)

Exchange rates for Ukraine are taken from the National Bank of Ukraine (extraction date for H1 2010 exchange rate is 12 October 2010)

Rates in the table are provided in the following way: 1 Eur = x Local Currency, for instance 1 Eur = 0,869995 GBP in H1 2010

Romanian Leasing and Non-Banking Financial Services Association reports in Euros