

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**New Chair for Leaseurope Automotive Steering Group**

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**BRUSSELS – 20 March 2013** – Leaseurope, the voice of the leasing and automotive rental industry at European level, is pleased to announce the appointment of John Lewis (UK) as the new Chair of its Automotive Steering Group (ASG) effective as of 6 March 2013 as per the decision of its Board of Directors.

The ASG is responsible for, *inter alia*, developing arguments and positions on EU regulatory and legislative issues in the automotive sector. It is supported in its work by sector specific Working Groups, namely the Car Rental Working Group, the Car Leasing Working Group and the Truck Rental Working Group. It is also assisted by the Environmental, Security and Block Exemption Regulation Follow-up Task Forces.

“The ASG has a crucial role in explaining to policy makers the important role our industry plays in reducing emissions as well as in driving and supporting flexible mobility, not to mention its importance for the European economy. Our industry must respond quickly and effectively as well as adapt to an increasing number of regulatory challenges. The ASG is ideally placed to help us in this regard. I look forward to chairing the ASG and further contributing to its work” said John Lewis today on the occasion of the first meeting of the ASG under his chairmanship.

John Lewis is Chief Executive of the Leaseurope UK member association, the British Vehicle Rental & Leasing Association (BVRLA), which he joined in 2000.

As part of his wider passion for promoting the sustainable use of road transport, John participates in a number of related organisations. He is a member of the UK Government’s Motorists’ Forum and Road Haulage Forum advisory groups and contributes to its Red Tape Challenge as a fleet sector ‘champion’. John also sits on the board of the Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership (LowCVP). He has also chaired the Leaseurope Car Rental Working Group for Leaseurope from April 2009 to March 2013. With nearly 30 years of experience in the automotive industry, John has held a number of senior positions in the contract hire and fleet management sector working with both cars and commercial vehicles.

He is taking over from Vincent Rupied (FR) who has been successfully chairing the ASG since October 2007. “I would like to thank Vincent for his continuous support and remarkable work in chairing the ASG these past years. Leaseurope is most grateful for his commitment and true European mindset” said Max Moi, Leaseurope’s Chairman.

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## **Notes to the Editors**

### **About Leaseurope**

As a Federation, Leaseurope brings together 43 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. It is estimated that Leaseurope represents approximately 92% of the European leasing market. More information on Leaseurope and its members can be found at [www.leaseurope.org](http://www.leaseurope.org).