

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**2012 Preliminary Results of the European Leasing Market**

**Brussels, 21 March 2013** – Leaseurope, the trade association representing the European leasing and automotive rental industry, has released the results of its preliminary survey of the European leasing market for 2012.

The survey indicates that new leasing business in Europe decreased by 2.8% in 2012<sup>1</sup>, reaching a total value of new business for those countries reporting of €241 billion (compared to €244 billion in 2011). While the vehicle segment grew by 2.6% compared to 2011, new leasing volumes for equipment dropped by 3.1%. Real estate leasing experienced a decline of over 30% with a poor performance observed across the vast majority of European markets.

Commenting on the figures, Leaseurope’s Adviser in Statistics and Economic Affairs, Jurgita Bucyte, said that “the relatively weak economic environment was a drag on the European leasing market in 2012, especially in the second half of the year where European GDP levels were disappointing. It is encouraging though that, with the exception of real estate leasing, overall new business remained stable compared to the previous year and vehicle leasing in particular performed well.”

**European leasing volumes in 2012 (based on preliminary figures)**

	Equipment			Real estate	Total
	Equipment	Vehicles	Total equipment		
<b>New leasing volumes (bil€)</b>	86	139	225	16	<b>241</b>
<b>% change 2012/2011</b>	-3.1	2.6	0.3	-31.7	<b>-2.8</b>

**- END -**

<sup>1</sup> Growth rates are based on a homogenous sample of 30 Member Associations reporting in Leaseurope’s 2012 Preliminary Survey and are adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations. Leaseurope will publish final, comprehensive figures for 2012 once its full Annual survey of Member Associations is complete in the coming months.

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## 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 93% of the European leasing market.

The Member Associations taking part in the 2012 Preliminary Survey are:

Verband Österreichischer Leasing-Gesellschaften (AT), Bulgarian Association for Leasing (BG), Schweizerischer Leasingverband (CH), Czech Leasing and Finance Association (CZ), Bundesverband Deutscher Leasing (DE), Finans Og Leasing (DK), Estonian Leasing Association (EE), Asociación Española de Leasing y Renting (ES), Association Espanola de Renting de Vehículos (ES), Federation of Finnish Financial Services (FI), Association française des Sociétés Financières (FR), Fédération Nationale des Loueurs de Véhicules (FR), Association of Greek Leasing Companies (GR), Hungarian Leasing Association (HU), Associazione Italiana Leasing (IT), Association of Lithuanian Banks (LT), Fédération Luxembourgeoise des Loueurs de Véhicules (LU), Association of Latvian Commercial Banks (LV), Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen (NL), Vereniging van Nederlandse Autoleasemaatschappijen (NL), Finansieringsselskaperenes Forening (NO), Polish Leasing Association (PL), Associacao Portuguesa de Leasing e Factoring (PT), Romanian Leasing and Non-Banking Financial Services Association (RO), United Leasing Association of Russia (RU), Associations of Swedish Finance Houses (SE), Banking Association of Slovenia (SI), Association of Leasing Companies of the Slovak Republic (SK), Ukrainian Union of Lessors (UA), Finance and Leasing Association (UK).