

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

European Leasing Market Returns to Growth in 2013

Brussels, 14 March 2014 – Leaseurope, the trade association representing the European leasing and automotive rental industries, has released the results of its preliminary¹ survey of the European leasing market for 2013.

The survey indicates that new leasing business in Europe increased by 1.9% in 2013². These figures are encouraging and confirm the findings of our other surveys such as the Leaseurope Index for Q4 2013 and the Business Confidence Survey of December 2013.

The vehicle leasing segment continued to support the overall market and grew by 5.2% compared to 2012. New leasing volumes for equipment were more subdued and fell by 1.0%. Nevertheless, this represents a slight improvement over performance in 2012, where equipment volumes dropped by just over 2%. Real estate leasing experienced a decline of nearly 13%, with poor performance observed across many European markets.

In spite of the rather positive European picture, there are still some significant divergences in growth at national level. It is, however, encouraging to note that the situation in Southern European leasing markets seem to have stabilised (Spain, Portugal), with some of the larger mature markets, especially the UK, being the key drivers behind overall growth.

Commenting on the figures, Leaseurope's Adviser in Statistics and Economic Affairs, Jurgita Bucyte said "All in all, we can see that the European leasing market is on the rise, notably in some of the more vulnerable economies, where leasing volumes show signs of recovery and are rebounding from the low levels of past years. In comparison to the results of our survey on European leasing activities in the first half of 2013, the preliminary annual figures show that there was a considerable improvement in new volumes within the second half of the year, particularly with respect to equipment leasing (which decreased by 7.1% in H1 2013 compared to H1 2012). Given the growth of European investment projected for 2014³, in particular investment in equipment, the outlook this year seems quite positive for our industry."

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¹ Leaseurope will publish final, comprehensive figures for 2013 once its full Annual survey of Member Associations is complete in the coming months.

² Growth rates are based on a homogenous sample of 29 Member Associations reporting in Leaseurope's 2013 Preliminary Survey and are adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations.

³ European Commission's European Economic Forecast, Winter 2014

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About Leaseurope

As a Federation, Leaseurope brings together 44 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. For more information, please visit our website at www.leaseurope.org.

The Member Associations taking part in the 2013 Preliminary Statistical Survey are:

Verband Österreichischer Leasing-Gesellschaften (AT), Association Belge des Entreprises de Leasing (BE), 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 – AER (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), Associazione Italiana Leasing (IT), Association of Lithuanian Banks – Leasing Committee (LT), Association Professionnelle des Sociétés de Financement (MA), Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen (NL), Financieringsselskaperes Forening (NO), Polish Leasing Association (PL), Associação Portuguesa de Leasing, Factoring e Renting (PT), Romanian Leasing and Non-Banking Financial Services Association (RO), Association of Leasing Companies in Serbia (RS), Associations of Swedish Finance Houses – AFINA (SE), Leasing Committee of the Banking Association of Slovenia (SI), Association of Leasing Companies of the Slovak Republic (SK), Auto Leasing and Rental Companies Association – Tokkder (TR), Ukrainian Union of Lessors (UA) and Finance and Leasing Association (UK).