

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Latest Leaseurope Annual Results Show Strong Growth for Leasing in 2015

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**Brussels, 19 August 2016** – Leaseurope, the trade association representing the European leasing and automotive rental industries, has released the results of its Annual Statistical Survey of the European leasing market for 2015. The survey reveals that new leasing business in Europe reached €314.9 billion in 2015, increasing by 9.4%<sup>1</sup> compared to 2014. This continues a high growth trend started the previous year.

Recovery in leasing business was more widespread across Europe in 2015. This was most pronounced in the vehicle leasing segment, with the majority of national markets witnessing double digit increases, while results for equipment leasing show domestic growth differences persisting. New leasing volumes for passenger cars rose by 15.9% in 2015 compared to 2014, with slightly slower but still strong growth for commercial vehicles at 11.3%. The computers and business machines segment performed well on average, expanding by 10.9%; however, this was mainly due to some high increases in only few countries. New leasing volumes for machinery and industrial equipment grew moderately at 0.5%. In contrast, real estate leasing fell by 4.2% in 2015, witnessing a decline following some recovery the previous year.

Commenting on the figures, Leaseurope's Senior Adviser in Statistics and Economic Affairs, Jurgita Bucyte, said "The European leasing market maintained a strong performance in 2015, resulting in total annual new business volumes surpassing the €300 billion mark for the first time since 2008. This clearly shows that businesses increasingly turn to leasing to finance their investment. Additionally, leasing to private individuals is gaining share, a trend most pronounced in the automotive sector. However, the more modest results seen in other equipment categories seem to reflect a pause in capital investment in certain sectors given the muted economic activity. After several years of subdued levels, European investment grew by 3.4% in 2015<sup>2</sup> but is expected to flatten again in the short term".

Referring to the future outlook, Piero Biagi, Chair of Leaseurope's Statistics & Marketing Committee and Managing Director of BCC Lease, Italy, adds "In times of modest economic growth and concerns about future prospects, it is particularly encouraging to see that leasing is well placed to support business investment decisions. This is evidenced by our results for the first quarter of 2016, exhibiting further growth in new leasing volumes, as well as increasing portfolio levels. Moreover, lessors generally demonstrate a healthy position in their financial indicators. Despite the political uncertainty of recent months, threatening business and investor confidence, Leaseurope's research<sup>3</sup> shows there are grounds for optimism in further leasing growth.

Extracts from the 2015 Annual Statistical Survey are available [here](#).

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<sup>1</sup> Growth rates are based on a homogenous sample of 32 Member Associations reporting in Leaseurope's 2015 Annual Statistical Survey and are adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations

<sup>2</sup> European Commission's European Economic Forecast, Spring 2016

<sup>3</sup> Leaseurope Index Q1 2016, Leaseurope/Invigors Business Confidence Survey December 2015

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## About Leaseurope

As a Federation, Leaseurope brings together 47 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. Find out more at [www.leaseurope.org](http://www.leaseurope.org).

## About Leaseurope's Research Programme

Leaseurope's Research Programme enables the Federation to be a catalyst for leasing and automotive rental related research at European level. It is instrumental in ensuring that the leasing industry is provided with up-to-date and comprehensive market data, research studies and publications on the trends and developments of the leasing and automotive rental industry. This research expertise helps to reaffirm our position as an information hub and centre for market intelligence. More information on the Leaseurope Research Programme can be found [here](#).

Note to the editor for the 2015 Annual Survey:

The Member Associations taking part in the 2015 Annual Statistical Survey are: Verband Österreichischer Leasing-Gesellschaften (AT), Association Belge des Entreprises de Leasing (BE), Fédération Belge des Loueurs de Véhicules – RENTA (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), Asociación Española 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), Associazione Italiana Leasing (IT), ANIASA (IT), Association of Lithuanian Banks (LT), Latvian Lessors Association (LV), Association Professionnelle des Sociétés de Financement (MA), Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen (NL), Vereniging van Nederlandse Autoleasemaatschappijen (NL), Finansieringsselskapenes 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), United Leasing Association (RU), AFINA regrouping Finansbolagens Förening and Svenska Bankföreningen (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), Turkish Association of Financial Institutions - AFI/FKB (TR), Finance and Leasing Association (UK) and the British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association (UK).