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**Double-Digit Growth in European Leasing Market in First Half of 2016
Automotive Leasing Continues to be the Catalyst**

Brussels, 24 October 2016 – Leaseurope, the trade association representing the European leasing and automotive rental industries, has released European leasing market figures for the first semester of 2016.

The Biannual European Leasing Survey, based on information collected from Leaseurope's Member Associations on their national leasing markets¹, reveals that total leasing volumes in Europe were €156.9 billion in the first half of 2016, an increase of 13.2%² compared to the same period a year ago. Vehicle leasing performed particularly well, expanding by 16.9% with strong growth observed in the vast majority of national markets across Europe. Equipment leasing volumes also experienced a noteworthy increase of 9.2%, while new business volumes in real estate leasing contracted by 8.1%.

Commenting on the figures, Leaseurope's Senior Adviser in Statistics and Economic Affairs, Jurgita Bucyte said, "The formidable increase in new business volumes recorded in the first half of 2016 clearly indicates the confidence expressed in the leasing industry forecasts³ was merited. This growth has so far outpaced equipment investment, which also saw a positive start to the year and is expected to rise by 4.3% in the EU for 2016 as a whole⁴. Challenges may lie ahead amidst general warnings about a macroeconomic slowdown, particularly in trade and investment⁵. Nevertheless, leasing industry professionals anticipate new business volumes to sustain their robust performance over the remainder of 2016⁶."

For further information, please consult available results in the 2016 Biannual Statistical Survey [here](#).

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¹ Figures presented here are based on the results of the Federation's 2016 Biannual Statistical Enquiry of the 34 members in 29 countries reporting leasing data. The activities represented by short term car rental members are not covered by this enquiry. Please see below for a full list of Leaseurope Member Associations taking part in the 2016 Biannual Survey.

² Growth rates are adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations

³ According to the results of the Leaseurope/Invigors Business Confidence Survey December 2015

⁴ European Commission Spring Economic Forecast, 2016

⁵ OECD [Economic Outlook](#), September 2016

⁶ According to the results of the Leaseurope/Invigors Business Confidence Survey June 2016

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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. More information on Leaseurope at 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.

The Member Associations taking part in the 2016 Biannual Statistical Survey are: Verband Österreichischer Leasing-Gesellschaften (AT), Association Belge des Entreprises de Leasing (BE), Fédération Belge des Loueurs de Véhicules (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), Hungarian Leasing Association (HU), Associazione Italiana Leasing (IT), Association of Lithuanian Banks (LT), Latvian Lessors Association (LV), Association Professionnelle des Sociétés de Financement (MA), Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen (NL), Finansieringsselskaperens 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), Associations of Swedish Finance Houses (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 (TR), Turkish Association of Financial Institutions (TR), Ukrainian Union of Lessors (UA), Finance and Leasing Association (UK)