

## PRESS RELEASE

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#### New Board elected at Leaseurope along with Chair and two Vice-Chairs

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**Brussels, 4 December 2008** - Leaseurope, the trade body representing the leasing and automotive rental industries in Europe has elected Rüdiger von Fölkersamb (DE) as its new Chair. Messrs. Jukka Salonen (FI) and Stephane Soille (BE) have been elected Vice-Chairs.

The newly elected Board of Directors is now comprised of the following 12 persons appointed for a 2 year mandate:

#### Chair

- Rüdiger von Fölkersamb, Board member, Deutsche Leasing

#### Vice-chairs

- Jukka Salonen, Executive VP, Head of Specialised Fin. Services, Nordea
- Stephane Soille, General Manager CH/AT/BE/LU/CZ/NL, Avis Europe Group.

#### Other

#### Members

- John Bennett, MD, Bank of America Leasing - Global Vendor Finance Europe.
- Jean-Claude Boloux, General Manager, BRD – Sogelease (Romania)
- Lamberto Cioci, CEO, Banca Agrileasing
- Michel Denis, CEO, Fraikin Locatime
- Mieczysław Groszek, CEO, BRE Leasing
- Jean-Marc Mignerey, CEO, SG Equipment Finance
- Tomas Perez Ruiz, Chairman, Lico Leasing
- Vincent Rupied, International Director Corporate Relations, Arval
- Alain Vervaet, CEO, ING Lease Holding

The new Leaseurope Board held its first meeting at its Brussels headquarters on 4 December. On the occasion, John Bennett, outgoing Chair, said: "Over the past year, I have been working to strengthen the representative voice of Europe's leasing and automotive rental industries in Brussels and further afield. It is with great confidence that I hand over the Chairmanship to Rüdiger von Fölkersamb, who will continue to develop the Federation in this direction."

Rüdiger von Fölkersamb, incoming Chair, noted: "I am delighted to take over as Chair at a time that is crucial for Europe's leasing and automotive rental industries. It is my ambition to continue to promote these industries and to draw attention to their contribution to the European economy. Although Leaseurope's members are responsible for around 20% of all investment made in Europe, too often I feel that the leasing and automotive rental industries are not given the full credit they deserve."

Tanguy van de Werve, Leaseurope Director General, commented: "This is a real strength for Leaseurope to have a Board consisting of such senior practitioners. Their strategic guidance and the expertise they have all formally committed to make available to Leaseurope will prove invaluable when it comes to further raising the profile and credibility of the Federation. This is particularly important given the many regulatory challenges our industry faces, including *inter alia* lease accounting, taxation, block exemption review, truck rental market liberalisation, enforcement of cross-border fines and implementation of the Insurance Mediation Directive."

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### **About Leaseurope**

As a Federation, Leaseurope brings together associations throughout Europe that represent 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. In 2007, 340 billion euros of new leasing volumes were granted by the firms represented through Leaseurope's members (a 13% increase compared to 2006), contributing to financing just under 20% of European investment. Moreover, these firms are responsible for the leasing and rental of around 17 million vehicles throughout Europe.

### **Note to the editor**

Rüdiger von Fölkersamb, a German national, is currently a member of the Board of Deutsche Leasing. He has over 30 years of experience in key sectors of the leasing market. He is a member of the Management Board of the German Leasing Association BDL. In 2006, he became a member of Leaseurope Board.