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**European Leasing Market in 2017
Preliminary data shows sustained growth in new business volumes**

Brussels, 15 March 2018 – Leaseurope, the trade association representing the European leasing and automotive rental industries, has released the results of its preliminary survey of the European leasing market for 2017¹.

The preliminary data for 2017 shows that the leasing market recorded another year of growth, which is on a par with the high results observed in 2016. In 2017, total new business volumes increased by 9.6% compared to 2016. The outstanding portfolio also performed well, rising by 4.9% among the member associations reporting, albeit by varying degrees across asset classes, where outstanding contracts for equipment remained stable around the same level as previous year and real estate experienced a contraction.

New business volumes for vehicles expanded by 9.3% in 2017, continuing a trend of sustained growth seen over the last eight years. Equipment leasing enjoyed an increase of 12.9%, with geographical variations ranging from relatively stable levels to double-digit growth compared to last year. The real estate leasing market decreased by 3.8%.

Commenting on the figures, Leaseurope's Senior Adviser in Statistics and Economic Affairs, Jurgita Bucyte said "In some countries, equipment leasing now seems to be a major force of the overall market upturn in new business volumes in 2017, suggesting that the growth is more spread across asset categories compared to past years, shifting from the vehicle sector as the main market driver². The overall equipment leasing growth far outperformed European equipment investment that expanded by approximately 3.1% in 2017.³ This demonstrates the continued positive trend of increased use of leasing as a form of financing in Europe. Looking at the forecast for this and next year, the European economy is continuing its journey from stabilisation to expansion after the crisis.⁴ Therefore, the outlook for the European leasing industry and its role in sustaining the real economy seem favourable."

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¹ Leaseurope will publish final, comprehensive figures for 2017 once its full Annual survey of Member Associations is complete in the coming months.

² 2016 growth levels were the highest since pre-crisis year 2007.

³ European Commission, European Economic Forecast: Autumn 2017, accessed [here](#).

⁴ European Commission, European Economic Forecast: Winter 2018 (interim), accessed [here](#).

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About Leaseurope

As a Federation, Leaseurope brings together 45 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 94% of the European leasing market. For more information, please visit our website at www.leaseurope.org.

Find out more about the benefits of leasing and its contribution to the EU economy in a new [video clip](#) by Leaseurope.

The Member Associations taking part in the 2017 Preliminary Statistical 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), Asociación Española de Renting de Vehículos – AER (ES), 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 – Leasing Committee (LT), Nederlandse Vereniging van Leasemaatschappijen (NL), Finansieringsselskapenes Forening (NO), Polish Leasing Association (PL), Associação Portuguesa de Leasing, Factoring e Renting (PT), United Leasing Association – ULA (RU), Swedish Banker's Association (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), and Finance and Leasing Association (UK).