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Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains
Automotive and Mobility Industries
Head of Unit

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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE – MOTOR VEHICLES OF 21 APRIL 2016

Subject: Point 5 of the agenda: Implementation of Directive 2006/40/EC on Mobile Air-Conditioning (MAC) – information by the Commission

I am writing to you regarding the application of Directive 2006/40/EC on mobile air-conditioning (MAC Directive).

I recall the TCMV Members that, from 1 January 2017, the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases with a GWP higher than 150 will be banned in all new vehicles put on the EU market. From that date on, new vehicles with MAC systems using these gases cannot be registered, sold, or enter into service in the EU. This is the 3rd and last phase of the gradual ban on the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases with a high GWP, and namely refrigerant R134a, in MAC systems in M1 and N1 vehicles.

Given the past difficulties in the enforcement of the MAC Directive, I would invite the Member States to give special attention to this new phase and ensure that the Directive is correctly implemented from 1 January 2017.

I would also like to recall that the end of series clauses of Framework Directive 2007/46/EC establish criteria for the approval of end of series vehicles by the different Member States. Annex XII to the Framework Directive establishes end of series limits as follow:

"The maximum number of complete and completed vehicles put into service in each Member State under the procedure 'End-of-Series' shall be restricted in one of the following ways to be chosen by the Member State:

- the maximum number of vehicles of one or more types may, in the case of category M1, not exceed 10 % and in the case of all other categories not exceed 30 % of the vehicles of all types concerned put into service in that Member State during the previous year. Should 10 %, respectively 30 %, be less than 100 vehicles, then the Member State may allow the putting into service of a maximum of 100 vehicles,*
- vehicles of any one type shall be restricted to those for which a valid certificate of conformity was issued on or after the date of manufacture and which remained valid for at least three months after its date of issue but subsequently lost its validity because of coming into force of a regulatory act."*

Joanna Szychowska