



The Association of European Vehicle Logistics

Brussels, 17.9.2015

## PRESS RELEASE

### **ECG welcomes special recognition given to car transporters by EP Resolution on Transport White Paper**

#### **Vital acceptance ahead of next Weights & Dimensions review**

For more than 15 years ECG has relentlessly called for a harmonisation of maximum loaded lengths of car transporters across Europe to at least 20.75m. Such harmonisation would mean a difference of up to 3 cars loaded, resulting in increased efficiency, less trucks on the roads, less costs for consumers and less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and in addition would resolve the current confusion of individual national rules – hence also reducing administrative burden for ECG member companies and their truck drivers.

ECG therefore strongly welcomes the European Parliament resolution of 9 September 2015 on ‘the implementation of the 2011 White Paper on Transport: taking stock and the way forward towards sustainable mobility’ and specifically [article 64, indent 11](#) which states “The European Parliament...calls for the Commission to start working without undue delay on the review of Directive (EU) 2015/719\* on maximum authorised weights and dimensions, so that, at the latest by 2020, a report can be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council which takes into consideration specific characteristics of certain market segments such as specialised car transporters used within the sector of finished vehicle logistics”.

ECG applauds this distinctive recognition given to car transporters and the clear political signal sent to the European Commission that market segments such as finished vehicle logistics are a unique and special case and eligible for the next review three years after the new Directive on weights and dimensions is transposed into national law (which may take up to two years).

ECG would like to thank in particular MEP Gesine Meissner (Germany, liberal ALDE) and her staff for their crucial support in achieving the inclusion of this essential review clause and also MEP Wim van de Camp (Netherlands, centre-right EPP), EPP Co-ordinator for the Transport Committee and Rapporteur of the Committee’s own-initiative report on the implementation of the 2011 White Paper. MEP van de Camp also acted as host to the 2015 ECG Dinner Debate last March, and thus obtained a front row view of the sector and its most immediate concerns.

With such strong support from the European Parliament, ECG will continue its long standing efforts to achieve the harmonisation of maximum loaded lengths of car transporters across Europe to at least 20.75m and looks forward to starting the review process as soon as possible.

*\*Replacing Directive 96/53/EC*

**Note to editors:**

This press release will also shortly be available in German and Italian.

For more information, please contact:

**Mike Sturgeon**

**Executive Director**

ECG – The Association of European Vehicle Logistics

+32 2 706 82 80

[info@ecgassociation.eu](mailto:info@ecgassociation.eu)

[www.ecgassociation.eu](http://www.ecgassociation.eu)

**Background for the Editors**

ECG, the Association of European Vehicle Logistics, has been the voice of the Finished Vehicle Logistics industry in Europe since 1997. ECG represents the interests of around 100 member companies, from family owned SMEs to multinationals, and is the major champion of the European vehicle logistics sector. ECG represents all transport modes at EU level – road, rail, maritime and fluvial. ECG Members provide transport, distribution, storage, preparation and post-production services to manufacturers, importers, car rental companies and vehicle leasing operators in the 28 Member States of the European Union as well as Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and beyond. They own or operate 420 car-carrying ships, 18,800 purpose-built railway wagons, 84 river barges and more than 23,300 road transporters.

As a major employer, the finished vehicle logistics sector plays an important role in contributing to the economic success of the European Union. ECG members have an aggregate turnover of around €22.2bn and their economic impact on companies associated with the sector is estimated at €55.5bn. More than 100,000 Europeans are employed directly by the vehicle logistics industry and an additional 240,000 are indirectly employed in this sector. (*Source: ECG Survey of Vehicle Logistics in Europe 2014/15*)