

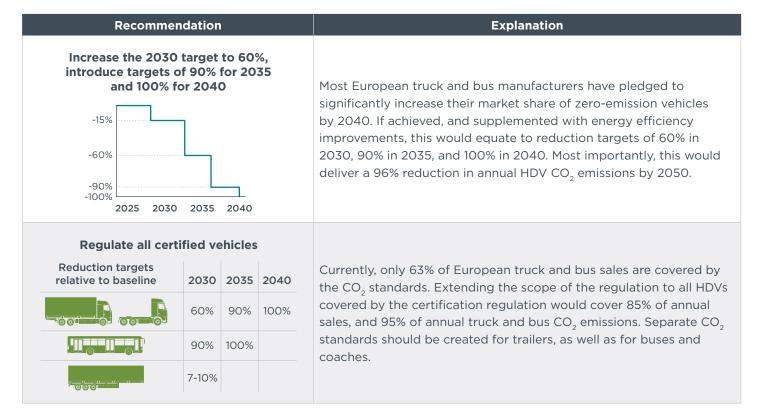


**NOVEMBER 2022** 

# The seven amendments needed to align Europe's heavy-duty vehicle CO<sub>2</sub> standards with the European Climate Law

Europe's heavy-duty vehicle  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  standards will achieve little climate benefit in their current form. Most trucks are required to reduce their emissions by 15% by 2025 and 30% by 2030, relative to 2019. Freight activity is projected to rise by 44% by 2050, greatly diminishing the total  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  reductions from the sector. With trucks and buses accounting for a quarter of Europe's  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  emissions from road transport, complying with climate neutrality will not be possible in the absence of stricter standards.

The European Commission will review the  ${\rm CO_2}$  standards by the end of 2022 and will propose amendments which are intended to align the truck and bus sector with Europe's long-term climate commitments. This fact sheet outlines recommendations for the most significant elements of the standards to achieve the decarbonization required in the European Climate Law.



# Differentiate the ZLEV factor based on a vehicle's MPW and zero-emission range ZErange factor MPW factor ZLEV factor Calculated emissions to determine compliance

### Explanation

Manufacturers can reduce their compliance target by producing zero- and low-emission vehicles (ZLEVs) through a mechanism known as a ZLEV factor. By 2030, manufacturers with a share of ZLEVs between 2% and 5% can reduce their target by a maximum of 3%. Most manufacturers already plan to sell 50%–70% zero emission vehicle by 2030, meaning the ZLEV factor provides little incentive for manufacturers to invest in zero-emission technology.

The ZLEV factor should be phased out after 2030. In the meantime, the mechanism can be improved by weighting the incentives based on the vehicle's zero-emission range and mileage and payload weighting factor.

# Do not introduce a fuels crediting system



Fuels crediting, whereby a manufacturer could reduce their  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  target by paying a fuels supplier to produce more renewable fuels, should not be allowed in the  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  standards. Sustainable e-fuels are prohibitively expensive, and biofuels are linked to issues of sustainability and availability. Fuel credits are also at risk of being double counted due to fuel suppliers' pre-existing obligations under the Renewable Energy Directive.

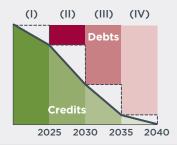
## Introduce engine standards for vocational vehicles





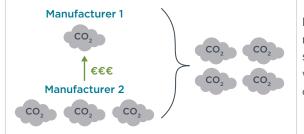
The scope of the  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  standards should be extended to vocational vehicles through the implementation of engine standards requiring an emissions reduction through engine specific technologies. There would be little administrative burden, and the benefits may trickle across to other truck and bus segments which use the same engine model.

# Extend the banking and borrowing system past 2030, but only if the stringency of the standards is increased



The  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  standards include flexibilities for manufacturers to comply with their  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  emission targets through a credit and debt system, allowing them to accrue credits by over complying with their target early, and using these credit to offset any future debts. The credit and debt mechanism should only be extended past 2030 if the stringency of the 2030 target is significantly increased. Otherwise, a surplus of credits risks distorting the market.

### Allow for manufacturers to trade their credits



Manufacturers should be allowed to trade their credits to other manufacturers if the stringency of the targets are increased. Doing so would open a source of revenue for smaller manufacturers who focus solely on zero-emission deployment, increasing competitiveness in the market.

### **PUBLICATION DETAILS**

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