

PRESS RELEASE

Automotive summit at the German Chancellery: integrate eFuels into CO₂ fleet regulation to safeguard competitiveness

Berlin, 9 October 2025: At today's automotive summit at the Chancellery, Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz and leaders of the automotive industry discussed ways out of the sector's current crisis. The eFuel Alliance welcomes the dialogue and calls for CO₂-neutral fuels to be anchored in the CO₂ fleet regulations for passenger cars as well as light and heavy-duty vehicles.

"The automotive summit sends the right signal by making the transformation requirements visible and allowing additional solutions," says Ralf Diemer, CEO of the eFuel Alliance. "What is needed now is a legislative initiative that recognises eFuels as a solution for new vehicles, with a CO₂ correction factor and a new vehicle class. The necessary technical and regulatory foundations are in place. Now we need decisive action."

Current law sets binding five-year reduction steps for CO₂ emissions for new cars, vans and heavy-duty vehicles. At present, only battery-electric vehicles are permitted for target compliance. A technology-neutral CO₂ fleet regulation would strengthen the competitiveness of Germany's automotive industry and enable climate action where electrification reaches its limits.

"We must enable investment in eFuels now. This will also benefit aviation and maritime transport. Broad market access via road transport is the key to scale and falling costs," Diemer underlines.

Three measures must be reflected in CO₂ fleet regulations to catalyse the eFuels market:

- First, introduce a "Carbon Correction Factor" that credits the renewable share in the fuel mix, giving manufacturers and renewable fuel producers practical room to manoeuvre.
- Second, establish a new vehicle class restricted to the use of CO₂-neutral fuels.
- Third, adopt a life-cycle perspective, acknowledging that emissions are not confined to the tailpipe and enabling a fair assessment of all powertrains against climate objectives.

>>>The eFuel Alliance e.V.<<<

The eFuel Alliance is an interest group committed to promoting political and social acceptance of eFuels and to securing their regulatory approval. We represent more than 170 companies, associations and consumer organizations along the eFuel production value chain. We stand for fair competition and equal competitive condition for all relevant emission reduction solutions. We are firmly committed to further climate change mitigation and seek recognition for the significant part eFuels can play in sustainability and climate protection. Our aim is to create the conditions for the industrial production and widespread use of CO₂-neutral fuels from renewable sources of energy.

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