

# Ambitious EU policy needed to decarbonise road freight transport

## Joint declaration by key players of the trucking ecosystem

Stakeholders across the trucking ecosystem express their belief in, and readiness for, a transition to a zero-emission trucking future. Zero-emission trucks are not some distant, futuristic dream. They are increasingly a reality on our roads today. Some of the largest and most innovative truck makers' zero-emission vehicles are being put into use on routes ranging from city distribution to heavy long-distance transport, without harmful tailpipe emissions.

Key players of the trucking industry have come together with the electric vehicle recharging sector to signal to policymakers across Europe: we are ready to jointly fully decarbonise the road transport sector. Truck manufacturers are ready to mass produce zero-emission trucks to make them the backbone of road freight transport in Europe. Hauliers and shippers, are willing to buy, lease and operate these vehicles. And electric vehicle recharging operators have started to invest and roll out the necessary recharging network.

That future is now and we want to accelerate. But we cannot do it alone – we need this scaled-up industry ambition supported by the right policy and economic frameworks to support all players through firm and coherent engagement from EU policy makers and Member States now.

Alongside an ambitious review of the heavy-duty vehicle CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards which must align with the European Green Deal and map a trajectory to go fully zero-emission during the 2030s,

we also need an ambitious, quick and broad roll-out of the necessary recharging and refuelling infrastructure at national level and across Europe. That includes also efficient expansion and upgrade of grid capacity as well as renewable electricity production for private and public locations, including at logistic hubs or freight terminals and in urban nodes. In addition, a supportive policy framework is needed to help make the operation of zero-emission vehicles the better choice for transport operators. This includes financial support to mitigate the higher upfront purchasing cost of electric trucks and policy measures to incentivize an accelerated fleet renewal, the operation of zero-emission vehicles and the fast roll-out of the infrastructure.

Our goal is to make these vehicles visible, affordable and accessible to all hauliers and shippers across Europe. We call on the European Commission and its 27 member states to show leadership and implement the necessary policies to accelerate this transition, on the supply, demand and infrastructure side.

Truck makers are starting to make zero-emission trucks available. Hauliers and shippers are starting to buy them on larger scale. Infrastructure players are beginning to invest in truck-suitable recharging stations. Now is the time for the European Union and national governments to put in place the enabling policies to accelerate the market uptake of zero-emission vehicles and to remove barriers holding back the transition.

