



EUCAR

EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR AUTOMOTIVE R&D

**Clean and Energy Efficient Vehicles:
EUCAR Statement to Commission
Hearing**

Simon Godwin, 11th March 2010

EUCAR

EUCAR Members

The 12 Major European Automotive Manufacturers



“Strengthen the Competitiveness of European Automotive Manufacturers through Strategic Collaborative R&D”

This will be done by the activities:

- Identifying, formulating and prioritising the common R&D needs;**
- Interacting with the European Commission, national bodies and other key stakeholders in order to represent, promote and communicate these R&D needs;**
- Initiating, supporting and monitoring impact studies, projects and programmes;**

Research ideas enable future technologies

- EUCAR's members work on many clean efficient propulsion technologies for passenger and goods vehicles
 - Advanced internal combustion engines
 - Electric hybrid vehicles
 - Alternative fuels and biofuels
 - Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles
 - Battery electric vehicles
- Associated technologies contribute substantially to efficiency
 - Advanced materials and structures
 - Intelligent transport systems integrated with the vehicle and autonomous driving concepts
 - Efficient interfaces between different transport vehicles and modes
 - Improved logistics
- New ideas are arising in all these technological areas

Ideas need time to become viable products

- ❑ For the foreseeable future (well beyond 2020), the internal combustion engine will remain the dominant propulsion system
 - Research into ICEs, new propulsion systems and associated technologies is therefore necessary
- ❑ Time is needed to bring new ideas to exploitation stage
 - Today's research can result in market launch by around 2020
 - Market penetration of competitive new technologies could then be expected by 2030
- ❑ Affordability, competitiveness and safety are parallel priorities
 - Efficient manufacturing techniques are also being researched
 - Passive, active and cooperative safety systems have implications for the vehicle efficiency – research also continues in these topics
- ❑ The nature of research is to investigate possibilities
 - Define objectives (e.g. environmental, safety, economic)
 - Remain technically neutral to allow ideas to flourish
 - Some ideas may not make it – inherent risk of investment in technology

Research requires resources

- ❑ The automotive industry is the largest EU investor in R&D
 - €26bn per year investment
 - Highly competitive industry
- ❑ Research is enhanced through collaboration in pre-competitive domain allowing wider exploitation of results
 - EU Framework Programme including European Green Car Initiative
 - National research programmes
 - Public funding helps to mitigate the risk
 - Administrative burdens in EU research funding must be reduced
- ❑ Societal demands on road vehicles necessitate support
 - Ideas are needed to meet economic, societal and environmental demands
 - EU policy should ensure a high level of support and funding for automotive research
 - Set road transport as a priority theme in the Eighth Research Framework Programme