



Commission proposes flexibility to help manufacturers comply with 2025 CO₂ emission targets for new cars and vans

Brussels, 1 April 2025

Today, the European Commission proposed a [targeted amendment to the Regulation setting CO₂ emission performance standards for new cars and vans](#). The amendment introduces a **flexibility** measure with their CO₂ targets between 2025 and 2027.

This proposal was announced as part of the [Commission's Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector](#), adopted on 5 March 2025. This followed the [Strategic Dialogue on the Future of the Automotive Industry](#) launched by President **von der Leyen** on 30 January 2025 and involving an open public consultation and multiple discussions and engagement with industry leaders, social partners and stakeholders to address the most pressing challenges facing the sector.

President of the European Commission, Ursula **von der Leyen**, said: *"Our highly innovative automotive industry is decarbonising to contribute to the fight against climate change, but also to maintain its competitive edge on the world markets. With today's initiative, we grant more flexibility to this key sector, and at the same time we stay the course of our climate goals. Together, we want to prove that decarbonisation and competitiveness can go hand in hand."*

The proposed flexibility measure allows manufacturers' compliance with the CO₂ targets for 2025, 2026 and 2027 to be assessed over the entire three-year period averaging their performance, rather than annually. This approach allows manufacturers to **balance any excessive annual emissions by outperforming the target in the remaining year(s)**.

This additional flexibility will help **safeguard the industry's capacity to invest in the clean transition**, while **maintaining the 2025 target** and keeping the industry **on track** for the next round of **emissions reductions**. The EU wide targets intend to make the EU's transport system more sustainable and put road transport on a firm path to zero-emission mobility in 2050.

The Commission calls on the co-legislators to **reach an agreement on this amendment without delay** to ensure predictability and certainty for the automotive industry and investors.

For More Information

[Targeted amendment to the CO₂ emission performance standards for new cars and vans](#)

[CO₂ emission performance standards for cars and vans](#)

[Press release - Commission boosts European automotive Industry's global competitiveness](#)

[Communication: Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector](#)

[CO₂ standards for cars and vans – policy page](#)

IP/25/854

Quote(s):

"Our highly innovative automotive industry is decarbonising to contribute to the fight against climate change, but also to maintain its competitive edge on the world markets. With today's initiative, we grant more flexibility to this key sector, and at the same time we stay the course of our climate goals. Together, we want to prove that decarbonisation and competitiveness can go hand in hand."

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission - 01/04/2025

"Since the launch of the Automotive Strategic Dialogue at the end of January, we have worked closely with the industry on the road to the sector's clean transition. Today's additional compliance flexibility shows that we have listened, understood the concerns, and are taking action to address them, while maintaining our zero-emission targets. Predictability in the sector is crucial for long-term investments."

Wopke Hoekstra, Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth - 01/04/2025

"Europe is committed to supporting the automotive sector in its transition and today's compliance flexibility will help ensure the industry can invest, while keeping the overall ambition of the CO2 emission targets. We will continue to work closely together with the industry on the Action Plan presented last month, to keep Europe's carmakers, suppliers and related service sectors innovative, competitive, and firmly anchored in Europe."

Apostolos Tzitzikostas, Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism - 01/04/2025

Press contacts:

[Anna-Kaisa ITKONEN](#) (+32 2 29 57501)

[Ana CRESPO PARRONDO](#) (+32 2 29 81325)

General public inquiries: [Europe Direct](#) by phone [00 800 67 89 10 11](#) or by [email](#)