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PRESS RELEASE

EUROPE NEEDS TO MOVE UP A GEAR TO MAKE E-MOBILITY HAPPEN

BRUSSELS, 30 MARCH 2017

Electrification is widely considered as a viable strategy for reducing oil dependency and the environmental impact of road transportation but more needs to be done to make it a reality: such was the message of the recent European Electromobility Stakeholder Forum in Brussels.

Under the European Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive 2014, Member States were required to submit their plans for supporting charging infrastructure by the end of 2016 – only about half of them have done so. Member States and the transport sector as a whole need to act faster, not only because of the emergency to clean the air in cities when urban pollution causes 400,000 premature deaths in Europe, but also because it would support 1 million more European jobs than a future powered by oil by 2030.

“Electromobility cannot be considered as a separate chapter of urban mobility,” explained **Umberto Guida**, Director of the Research and Innovation, UITP (International Association of Public Transport). “Pollution and congestion are the most burning problems of cities today and we need to think globally to tackle them both otherwise we will get stuck in a silent and emission-free traffic jam. Increasing the share of public transport, which is already largely electrified thanks to light rail or metro, as well as relatively new electric buses, will ease congested streets and drastically reduce pollution”.

Managing this transition and accelerating the electric vehicles deployment was the main focus of the European Electromobility Stakeholder Forum, which returned to Brussels for its 5th edition from 22-23 March. Organised by flagship projects on electromobility, FREVUE, I-CVUE and ZeEUS (the Zero Emissions Urban Bus System project, co-ordinated by UITP) and supported by the European Commission, this annual event has brought together over 300 representatives from government, industry, academia, and other professionals from the transport sector.

The quiet revolution is on its way, but Europe needs to move up a gear to make it happen. This view could also be heard during the Electro-Mobility Platform event on 28 March at the European Parliament. Europe's key industry players and NGOs urged Member States to show more urgency and publish their plans for crucial e-mobility

infrastructure.

As **Nicolas Erb**, Chair of the Platform on Electro-mobility, noted: "Europe has a huge opportunity to win on so many fronts with e-mobility. For a start, we'll recover the €1 billion or so a day Europe currently spends on high-polluting oil; we'll hugely increase access to mobility; we'll create high-quality jobs and we'll save countless lives by cutting air pollution. Just look at railways, from trams to high-speed trains, which are already largely electrified and much more energy-efficient than other modes".

How to move forward? **Maja Bakran**, Deputy Director-General for Mobility and Transport (European Commission), offered a solution: "To increase the number of EVs in the European streets, we need to provide not only the vehicle itself, but the whole system. Working on interoperable solutions, easy accessible and available charging stations, but also adjusted legislation will trigger social acceptance".

Going forward, UITP will continue to support the deployment of electric buses through the ZeEUS Observatory Platform and by sharing the tools and guidelines developed as part of the ZeEUS project. UITP members are also involved in the [European standardisation process](#). Work is already in progress and industry members of UITP want to move fast to anticipate the 2019 deadline set by the European Commission for a standard charging interface for e-buses.

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About FREVUE

The FREVUE project focuses on urban electric freight delivery, demonstrating how cleaner and smarter logistics can not only make cities better and healthier, but also make business sense. By bringing together logistics and distribution network operators and eight major European city authorities, FREVUE is actively confronting the real life challenges in a range of different commercial, environmental and regulatory scenarios. The consequences of wide scale electromobility adoption and the impact on the electricity network, on business models and on urban policy need to be understood and managed, and the public health imperative to be communicated. Tanja Dalle-Muenchmeyer, FREVUE Coordinator at Cross River Partnership, said, "Since the 2016 edition of the Electromobility Stakeholder Forum, the FREVUE project results have proven that the current generation of electric vans and trucks is indeed well suited for many inner city delivery operations. Vehicle availability has improved and a number of OEMs have stated their market entry plans, which is very encouraging. However, key barriers still exist and the Forum is a great opportunity to join forces to address these."

Scope: Demonstrating in eight of Europe's largest cities that the current generation of electric freight vehicles operating last-mile freight movements in urban environments are a viable alternative to conventional diesel vehicles.

Duration: 4.5 years, 03/2013 – 09/2017

Budget: 14 m € [8 m € EU Funding]

Coordinator: Cross River Partnership / Westminster City Council

Consortium: 32 partners representing the entire stakeholder spectrum

Website: www.frevue.eu

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About I-CVUE

The project aims to reduce CO2 emissions in urban environments by increasing the number of electric



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vehicles in large fleets in urban areas. The project is aiming to achieve this by mentoring large fleet operators across Europe, offering them free support to understand the business case for EVs through analysis of the total cost of ownership (TCO) and creating a framework that authorities can use to set up tailored fleet incentive programs to increase the uptake of electric vehicles according to the specific socio-economic conditions of the city, region or country. A web-tool has been developed to enable fleet decision makers understand the cost benefits of EVs and policy makers to evaluate the effectiveness of various incentives for their specific region. Katie Hoy, I-CVUE coordinator at the Energy Saving Trust says "Through I-CVUE we have come to realise more clearly the huge challenges fleet operators face when increasing the number of EVs in their fleets. These challenges extend to policy makers in all European cities. I-CVUE partners have been working with these groups to provide advice and support with the aim of facilitating a greater uptake of electric vehicles within their cities."

Scope: I-CVUE aims at increasing the number of EVs in large fleets in urban areas by mentoring fleet operators and making concrete recommendations for the replacements of current fleet vehicles by EVs.

Duration: 03/2014 – 03/2017

Budget: 1.6m € [1.2m € EU Funding]

Coordinator: Energy Saving Trust

Consortium: 10 partners

Website: <http://icvue.eu/>

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About ZeEUS

40 partners led by UITP are joining forces to extend the fully-electric solution to the core part of the urban bus network. ZeEUS demonstrates the feasibility of several electric solutions for high capacity buses in live operational scenarios across Europe. With around 70 series and pre-series vehicles taking part in the ZeEUS demonstrations, a meaningful evaluation of the real impact of the electric solution on the operations will be performed. Aiming at facilitating the market uptake of electric buses, this analysis will contribute to the development of tools to support decision makers on "if", "how" and "when" to introduce electric buses in cities' fleets. The ZeEUS Observatory closely follows the progress of bus system electrification in Europe. Through exchanges of experiences and knowledge, the Observatory provides a picture of the European electric bus market and contributes to its deployment strategies. Pauline Bruge, ZeEUS coordinator at UITP, said: "It is the future we are investing in with zero emission buses, thus contributing to the transport decarbonisation plans of European cities while supporting their space management policies. The Forum is the only arena where all the urban transport stakeholders can share their learning-by-doing steps and best practices. This highly-valuable event creates synergies across the different transport modes, leading the way towards thriving people and businesses in ever more competitive cities."

Scope: Testing electrification solutions at the heart of the urban bus system network through live urban demonstrations and facilitating the market uptake of electric buses in Europe.

Duration: 11/2013 – 04/2017 [42 months]

Budget: 22.5 m € [13.5 m € EU Funding]

Coordinator: UITP, the International Association of Public Transport

Consortium: 40 Partners representing the entire stakeholder spectrum

Website: www.zeeus.eu

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About Platform for Electro-Mobility

The Platform is a European alliance of over 20 producers, infrastructure managers, operators, transport users, cities and civil society organizations from across industries and transport modes. The Platform advocates the acceleration of electrification of all modes of transport, focusing on its numerous benefits, such as emission reduction, efficiency gains, support for technological innovation, jobs and growth through value creation in Europe as well as reducing Europe's energy dependence from fossil fuel imports. The vision of the Platform for Electro-mobility is a sustainable, multimodal transport system in which people and goods are predominantly moved across land in Europe using sustainable electricity."

Current Members of the Platform: ABB, Alstom, Avere, Bellona, CER, CHAdeMO Association, Change



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Partnership, European Cyclists Federation, ECOS, EIM, EURELECTRIC, Polis, Eurobat, EuroCities, European Copper Institute, The London Taxi Company, Renault-Nissan, Solar Power Europe, SEDC, Siemens, Tesla, Transport & Environment, UITP, Unife: The European Rail Industry and Wind Europe

Website: www.platformelectromobility.eu

Multimedia Content: How to make electro-mobility a reality? The Platform for Electro-Mobility answers this question in a recently published video: www.vimeo.com/209912375

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NOTE TO EDITORS

The International Association of Public Transport (UITP) is a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. We have 1,400 member companies giving access to 18,000 contacts from 96 countries. Our members are public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, research institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. Visit our website www.uitp.org. Follow us on Twitter: [@UITPpressoffice](https://twitter.com/UITPpressoffice)

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