



20.10. 2005

A UNIQUE VEHICLE RECYCLING CAMPAIGN STARTED

Emission-rich vehicles removed from traffic due to safety and environmental reasons

Finnish Car Recycling Ltd and Stena Metalli started a national car recycling campaign on 20.10.2005. The idea of the campaign is that until the end of December the car owner receives a voucher when delivering a car to the take-back point authorized by Finnish Car Recycling Ltd. The voucher is worth of 500 euros for purchasing a new car and 200 euros for purchasing a used car at car stores that participate in the campaign. The take-back points and car stores participating in the campaign can be found on the following Internet site: www.kierratysarvoa.fi.

Mr. Jan-Martin Börman, the vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of Finnish Car Recycling Ltd, reminded in his opening speech that there are still about 700 000 emission-rich passenger cars and vans on the Finnish roads. Removing these vehicles from traffic would promote traffic safety and significantly reduce exhaust gas emissions.

“I am very concerned that today only about 10 % of end-of-life vehicles in Finland are recycled so that a certificate of destruction can be issued to indicate environmentally-friendly recycling of the vehicle. One can wonder, what will happen to motor oil and about half of a million litres of other fluids of end-of-life vehicles”, Börman said.

Through the “Value from recycling”-campaign, Finnish Car Recycling Ltd and Stena Metalli aim at increasing the knowledge of consumers of the recycling system and in this way promote the recycling of end-of-life vehicles through the legal system. The campaign is unique in our country. For the first time, the last owner of a vehicle will be given a monetary benefit for recycling a car. The benefit given to the customer is totally financed by the automobile sector.

Deleting from register only by the certificate of destruction

According to the Minister of the Environment Jan-Erik Enestam, the possibility allowed by the registration legislation to delete a vehicle from register also without the certificate of destruction has caused problems. The Minister stated that “the goal is to find a solution between the actors in the sector, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Transport and Communications for amending the legislation on the vehicle register so that as many end-of-life vehicles as possible would be deleted from the register only by the certificate of destruction”.

Enestam added that “it is important to reduce the load on environment at every phase of vehicle’s life cycle. The new recycling campaign will promote the guidance of end-of-life vehicles to take-back points which take care of the end of the life cycle. Equally important is to pay attention to environmentally-friendly way of motoring also in other phases of the life cycle”.

The oldest cars in the EU are used in Finland, as the scrapping age of vehicles is slightly over 18 years, stated professor Antti Saarialho. “It would be reasonable to recycle cars at a significantly earlier phase than today. It would be favourable, if the tax authorities dared to creatively use their possibilities to guide development through, for example, vehicle taxation based on environmental issues”, Saarialho continued.



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Finnish Car Recycling Ltd operates as a so called producer group, which on behalf of the car importers coordinates the collection, treatment and recycling of end-of-life vehicles according to the requirements laid down in the EU Directive on End of Life Vehicles. Finnish Car Recycling Ltd is owned by The Association of Automobile Importers in Finland.

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