

Graphical Expression for Consumer Information on Fuel/Vehicle Compatibility

European Standard EN 16942

UPEI, the voice of Europe's independent fuel suppliers, welcomes the new EN 16942 European Standard that introduces harmonised graphic symbols for liquid and gaseous fuels to be displayed on vehicles (and manuals) and at dispensers and refueling points. This measure is designed to provide consumers with information on the compatibility of their vehicles with the growing number of fuels on the market. *"This is an excellent example of how, when policy makers and economic operators work together, we can bring practical and cost effective solutions"* commented UPEI President, Thierry De Meulder.

UPEI supports the standard EN 16942, which is due to be published by all CEN members by the end of April 2017. This standard has been developed following a request from the European Commission in 2015 and based on Article 7 of the Directive 2014/94/EU¹ on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure. The standard is to be applied for vehicles placed on the market for the first time. This, however, does not preclude the application of the standard also to vehicles already in circulation. The graphic symbols are to be displayed at dispensers and refueling points, on vehicles, in motor vehicle dealerships and in consumer manuals.

UPEI has contributed to the development of this standard, participating in the work of the European Standardisation Committee (CEN). The committee has worked to address the need to provide clear information to consumers on the compatibility of their vehicles with the different liquid and gaseous fuels on the market, the number of which is growing. In order to combat the risk of misfueling, clear and consistent information across Europe on fuel/vehicle compatibility is essential.

Implementation of this EU standard will now fall to Member States. UPEI calls for Member States to address the need for appropriate consumer information when introducing the measure, in order to ensure that its benefits are fully understood by the consumer.

In addition, article 7.3, Directive 2014/94/EU requires the development of a common methodology to compare relevant unit prices of fuels. This measure has also been included in the interest of the consumer in order to improve understanding on pricing of alternative

¹ [Directive 2014/94/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure](#)

fuels, which are sold in different units. UPEI is working with the European Commission and other stakeholders in order to develop a common methodology that can be implemented in a practical and cost-effective manner. **“We believe that the consumer has the right to clear and transparent information with regards to the pricing of different fuels, and recognize the role that the retail sector has to play in this respect. We are working to ensure that the chosen methodology does not create confusion with regards to existing price display systems or disproportionate costs to the independent retail sector”** explains Secretary General, Yvonne Stausbøll.

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UPEI represents European importers and wholesale/retail distributors of refined petroleum products and their alternatives, supplying Europe’s customers, independently of the major petroleum producers.

Independent suppliers, covering more than a third of Europe’s demand, play a crucial role in an evolving market by bringing competition which is vital to the economy. Their independence enables them to respond rapidly to changes in terms of market structure, products and services, contributing to security of supply on a local, regional and national level.

UPEI was created in 1962 with the aim of ensuring a level playing field for the supply of energy on the European market and safeguarding a competitive approach. The organisation brings together national associations and suppliers across Europe.

Today, **UPEI** also acts as an informed and responsible partner to Europe’s decision-makers on the risks and opportunities involved in the transition to a genuine European Energy Union.

