

The Consumer Voice in Europe

Type approval and market surveillance:

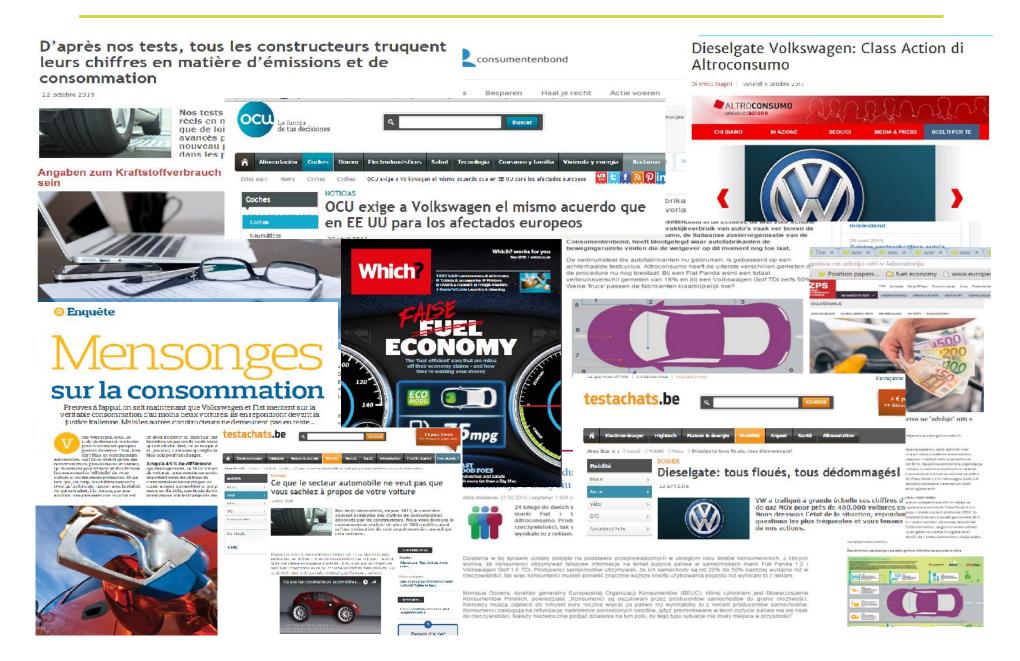
From the consumer perspective

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BEUC The European Our members across EU want real action!





BEUC The European Consumer Type approval legislation now needs fixing

BEUC's initial reaction:

- It is a big step in the right direction towards restoring consumer trust in the automotive sector:
- The proposal to conduct random conformity tests is much needed - should deter against cheating;
- The cosy relationship between car makers, national authorities and testing services across EU must be broken up.



BEUC The European Pre-market and post-market checks

- Establish a stronger system for pre-market (type approvals) and post-market (market surveillance measures) controls. Only a combination of checking new car models and testing cars on the road will ensure that consumer trust in the car sector can be reestablished.
- Allow for market surveillance measures to be taken. at the European and national level to ensure a more coherent market surveillance system across the EU and in turn allow consumers in all Members States to rely on the safety and conformity of the cars they buy.
- Define the minimum number of cars which have to be re-tested by Member State and/or EU authorities.



Clearer rules for public and private bodies

Clarify the obligations of the different public and private bodies involved in approving and checking a cars' compliance to avoid any conflict of interest. I.e:

- All private technical services which check car models must be completely independent from car manufacturers and parts suppliers;
- All cars must be tested in independent laboratories to avoid influence from manufacturers;
- Private technical services must not receive direct payment from manufacturers;
- Car makers must not choose the technical service.



BEUC The European Penalties for non-compliance

Penalties

Ensure that penalties will apply to all forms of noncompliance including where the fuel consumption performance for consumers widely departs from official test figures (or where the use of defeat devices lower a car's emissions and/or fuel consumption values for test purposes).

Transparency

Provide greater transparency in the type approval process to ensure greater accountability of EU and Member State authorities, car manufacturers and technical services.

- Difficult to access information under current regime.
- Put in place a more transparent recall process to ensure that owners of affected vehicles are kept better informed about corrective measures.



BEUC The European Organisation Air pollution is a consumer health concern

Motorists stand to suffer the most

As a result of the concentrating effect of being inside a vehicle, NO2 levels in some cars have been found to be 2.5 times higher inside the vehicle than outside.





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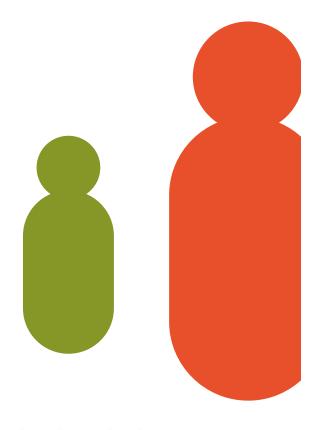
Please see our detailed position paper available on the BEUC website

www.beuc.eu

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