

## **UN ECE framework**



11-10-2012

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## The Automobile Industry in Europe

#### Key figures

- ⇒ 18 major international companies
- ⇒ 12.6 million direct and indirect jobs
- ⇒€26 billion in R&D spending, largest private investor
- ⇒€28.6 billion of net trade contribution
- ⇒€427.4 billion of tax revenues (EU15)





## **Purpose**

# Understanding the importance of the UN ECE framework for the vehicle indistry in the context of international trade



## Moving towards globalisation

- The globalization of the motor vehicle industry is progressing at an extremely fast pace.
- With vehicles now being put on a world market, there is the clear necessity to meet the local customer demands, while at the same time standardizing as much as possible common concepts and technologies.
- Industry is currently actively involved in the worldwide legislative harmonization process, while at the same time ensuring that public needs are fully satisfied.



#### **Benefits of harmonisation**

- Worldwide harmonisation of legislative requirements will benefit all involved parties:
- the customers (increased choice at competitive prices),
- governments (more efficient use of resources)
- consumer protection (best regulatory practice).



#### **Globalisation needs Standardisation**

- Example: In the EU we moved to the concept of EC WVTA (EC Whole Vehicle Type Approval).
- Certified in one country the vehicle can be marketed in all EU Member states.
- The EC WVTA contains a set of 55 separate system approvals.
- A vehicle complying with all 55 separate system approvals receives a EC WVTA certificate



#### **Global Standardisation**

- In 1996 WP29 has been recognised as the body for international vehicle regulations developing next to the 1958
- Agreement the 1998 Agreement.
- WP29 was around 2000 renamed to "World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations".
- THE UN ECE system administered by WP29 contains around 130 separate pieces of legislation for systems.
- If every country in the world chooses its requirements from this set of technical requirements the aim of global standardisation is almost achieved.



### **EU** progress

- The EU replaced the majority of its separate directives with the corresponding UN Regulations
- The EU is urging other parties to join the 1958 and/or the 1998 Agreement



## **Vehicle Industry Aims**

- The vehicle industry is urging the authorities to refrain from developing its own new legislation.
- New legislation should from the start be adressed in WP29 in order to achieve global harmonisation.



## Thank you!



**European Automobile Manufacturers Association** www.acea.be