

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0657/04  
by Chris Davies (ELDR)  
to the Commission

Subject: Misfuelling of motor vehicles

Is the Commission aware that hundreds of thousands of drivers across the EU each year inadvertently fill their vehicles with the wrong fuel, either petrol or diesel?

In the UK alone it is reported that some 120 000 misfuelling incidents take place at filling stations each year, resulting in costly service bills, damage to vehicles, and potential environmental pollution.

Possible solutions include altering the shape of fuel tanks and pipe nozzles to ensure that petrol and diesel systems are entirely separated, clearer markings, and use of audio warnings.

As vehicle manufacturers and fuel suppliers work on an EU-wide basis, will the Commission take the initiative to bring together interested parties to consider proposals for long-term solutions to the problem, and will the Commission consider legislative measures if voluntary agreement cannot be secured?