

## EU ISSUES UPDATE

APRIL 2016



### OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIALOGUE

#### **European Parliament Committee discusses the proposal to amend the Firearms Directive**

The European Parliament's Internal Market Committee members have discussed a report drafted by UK MEP Vicky Ford on the proposal to amend the Firearms Directive (see March EU issues update). Her report includes a number of amendments which should resolve the historic vehicle movement's concerns that the European Commission's draft proposal would prevent the ownership of historic military vehicles which have deactivated weapons attached to or as a part of the vehicle.

**FIVA action:** FIVA's Legislation Commission has asked ANFs to contact their MEPs who are members of the EP Internal Market Committee to encourage them to support the relevant amendments when the Committee votes on the matter in June.

#### **European Commission consultation on Guidelines for low emission Zones**

On 11 April, the European Commission held second meeting with interested parties to discuss the work of its consultants which are making recommendations to help it draft best practice guidance for Member States and local authorities wanting to implement Low Emission Zones (and other vehicle access restrictions). FIVA has been involved in this process from its inception and has used this second opportunity to again press for the guidance to include an explicit recommendation that historic vehicles be exempted from Low Emission Zones. The rationale is that historic vehicles are different to all other vehicles because of their age, high maintenance and low use patterns and because of their cultural value (as explained by the FIVA definition of a historic vehicle). FIVA has been highlighting the exemptions which have already been applied in some Member States as best practice. This work is increasingly important as there is a high probability that there will be a growth in the number of LEZs in Europe over coming years is high.

**FIVA action:** FIVA will continue dialogue with the Commission on this matter. ANFs can ask FIVA's Legislation Commission for a copy of the FIVA LEZ toolkit in case of new proposed LEZs.

#### **FIVA supports industry action for continued use of Chromium Trioxide**

FIVA has been in dialogue with a consortium of Chromium Trioxide producers and formulators who are making an application to the European Chemicals Agency to allow the continued use of Chromium Trioxide (for the purpose of chrome plating) under the REACH regulations. FIVA has agreed to overtly support the application because if it is successful, it will help ensure that chrome plating services will continue to be able to be provided by garages who buy their Chromium Trioxide from a consortium member (who cover 95%+ of the market). In parallel,

FIVA is continuing to work with the European Commission to ensure that a practicable simplified application procedure is developed to allow the continued use of substances covered by the REACH Regulation used for legacy parts (which include historic vehicles) or which are used in very small volumes (See March EU issues update).

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The FIVA Legislation Commission members are: Tidde Bresters (Chairman), Claude Delagneau, Wolfgang Eckel, Peter Edqvist, Carla Fiocchi, Lars Genild, Adalberto Gueli, Peeter Henning, Johann König, Stanislav Minářík, Bob Owen, Christos Petridis and Andrew Turner of EPPA works with the Committee.