IMCO Committee passes positive vote on non-road exhaust emissions regulation

BRUSSELS — The European Parliament’s IMCO Committee passed an important vote today, voting in favour of amending the proposed new exhaust emissions regulation (COM2014/581) to include an extension of the transition period by 6 months and an unlimited provision for replacement engines. CECE, representing the European construction equipment industry, actively supports both points. CECE calls on the Parliament’s ENVI Committee and the Member States to take the IMCO vote into account in their own informed decision making. Both amendments are key to enable the non-road machinery industry and its customers to transition to the latest stage in emissions legislation, which will be the strictest in the world.

BACKGROUND

The possibility to obtain a replacement engine is fundamental for machine owners and operators in the construction sector. Machine fleets represent high value capital investments that are used in time-critical applications. In most cases the need for a replacement engine occurs at short notice and a speedy delivery of a replacement engine is crucial to avoid machine downtime, delaying the work that needs to be done. High-value machines typically have a lifetime of far over ten years during which the investment in the machine is earned back and reserves are built up for replacing the machine at the end of its working life. Engine replacement is a crucial element in normal repair and maintenance practices and should remain possible throughout the lifetime of a machine, without limitations.

The extension of the transition period by 6 months will enable all manufacturers to comply with the challenging new requirements. The non-road mobile machinery market is characterised by enormous product diversity with thousands of machine applications and variations in equipment usage. Incorporating the latest emissions-reduction technologies in all product types before the new law enters into force is a significant challenge that will stretch engineering resources to the max. The 6 months additional transition time will help addressing the needs of the highly diverse non-road machinery sector, which is a key and innovative part of the European manufacturing industry.