

12th May 2006

Press Information ▪ Press Information

EMF CONFERENCE

Elewijt (Brussels) 16th and 17th May 2006

THE FUTURE CHALLENGES FOR THE EUROPEAN CAR INDUSTRY **Securing growth, innovation and employment in the European car industry**

The EMF took part in the Cars 21 High-level Group with a view to ensuring that three objectives of equal value would be taken into consideration: ***Innovation – Growth – Employment.***

The main outcome of the CARS 21 process is a 10-year Roadmap setting out recommendations for a competitive regulatory framework for the European automotive industry.

In the EMF view the Cars 21 report failed to provide a comprehensive industrial strategy for the automotive industry taking into account in particular the structural changes taking place in the 25 EU Member States and their social consequences. It also failed to adequately address the question of human resources since it did not pay sufficient attention to the Lisbon Strategy and to the fact that it is widely acknowledged that a skilled and motivated workforce is a key factor to ensure the competitiveness of the European automotive industry.

It is against this background that some 140 participants will meet at the EMF Automotive Conference to come up with proposals to secure growth, innovation and employment in a strong Europe-based industry. Conference topics will especially focus on:

- restructuring, relocation and employment
- the relationship between OEMs and suppliers
- ensuring employability via life-long learning
- securing growth, innovation and employment in the European car industry.

Peter Scherrer, EMF General Secretary, and Siegfried Roth (IG Metall), Chairman of the EMF Sector Committee Automotive will have talks with the press at the close of the conference at the Elewijt Center (www.elewijtcenter.be).

PRESS 9/2006

For further information, please contact:

Editor, Peter Scherrer, EMF General Secretary

Isabelle Barthès, EMF Senior Advisor on the Automotive Sector