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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Challenged but ready.**

#### **ECG - Vehicle Logistics providers well prepared for a difficult future**



*ECG President, Wolfgang Göbel, Mosolf*

While the challenges ahead are enormous, vehicle logistics providers in Europe feel well equipped to meet them. This was one of the central messages of the recent ECG Annual Conference held on 17/18<sup>th</sup> October in Berlin. ECG - The Association of European Vehicle Logistics gave it the heading – “Fly Me to the Moon – Tomorrow’s Industry Today”.

Falling sales figures for cars in China and Europe, trade conflicts between the EU and the US as well as between the US and China, and debates on environment and climate protection are just some of the problems facing the car industry and, as a result, vehicle logistics providers today. Tomorrow’s challenges are also just around the corner.

ECG president Wolfgang Göbel, Chief Sales Officer of the German company Mosolf, cited, amongst others, online car sales reducing the number of car sellers, changing mobility preferences, sharing cars instead of buying them and the electrification of road transport.

“Never before have changes come so rapidly and tomorrow they will happen even faster”, says Göbel. However, ECG members feel prepared. A long standing and highly productive working group on digitalisation and a recently created one on sustainability both help to prepare members for the future. Together with the car manufacturers (OEMs) the service providers have developed a standardized [forecasting tool](#) which helps to avoid inefficiencies on both sides. “But most important for raising awareness amongst our members is our annual conference”, underlines Göbel. In Berlin ECG members and other delegates followed presentations on the market situation and on future developments in the automotive industry.

#### **Note to editors:**

ECG is the established platform for the automotive logistics sector bringing together logistics service providers, manufacturer logistics managers and suppliers to the sector. ECG aims to facilitate non-commercial collaboration between member companies and assist them in sharing best practices in many operational areas, especially the harmonisation of operational standards.

ECG Conference 2019 entitled “**Fly me to the moon – tomorrow’s industry today**” was held on 17/18<sup>th</sup> October at the Hotel Palace Berlin in Berlin, DE. Almost 300 delegates from the Automotive and Finished Vehicle Logistics industry gathered to discuss issues ranging from sustainability to advanced supply chain technologies. It remains the largest gathering of professionals from the finished vehicle logistics industry anywhere in Europe.

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#### **Background for Editors**

**ECG, the Association of European Vehicle Logistics, has been the voice of the Finished Vehicle Logistics industry in Europe since 1997. ECG represents the interests of over 100 member companies, from family owned SMEs to multi-nationals, and is the major champion of the European vehicle logistics sector. ECG represents all transport modes at EU level – road, rail, maritime and fluvial. ECG Members provide transport, distribution, storage, preparation and post-production services to manufacturers, importers, car rental companies and vehicle leasing operators in the 28 Member States of the European Union as well as Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and beyond. They own or operate more than 460 car-carrying ships, 13,600 purpose-built railway wagons, 19 river barges and more than 26,000 road transporters.**

**As a major employer, the finished vehicle logistics sector plays an important role in contributing to the economic success of the European Union. ECG members have an aggregate turnover of around €23bn and their economic impact on companies associated with the sector is estimated at €60bn. More than 145,000 Europeans are employed directly by the vehicle logistics industry and an additional 300,000 are indirectly employed in this sector.**