



Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles
International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers

PRESS RELEASE

PATRICK BLAIN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS (OICA)

Paris, France, February 23, 2011 – The International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA), representing the global automobile industry, has unanimously elected Patrick Blain, Chairman and CEO of the CCFA, as its new president. OICA is the automobile industry's accredited representative to the United Nations, and in particular to the bodies in charge of technical regulations.

The election of Patrick Blain follows the resignation of Dave McCurdy from his position as President and CEO of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers in the United States; Mr. McCurdy till then also was OICA President. Underlining the structuring role of OICA, Patrick Blain declared: "It is a great honor for me to chair this historic organization which demonstrated its dynamism by integrating the industries of emerging countries. One of my priorities will be to continue and to promote the projects undertaken to reduce CO₂ emissions. Around the world, the automobile industry has undertaken tremendous technical efforts and is investing billions of Euros every year to reduce the CO₂ emissions produced by its vehicles. The ongoing difficult economic situation did not curb these efforts, quite on the contrary. Automobile manufacturers have clearly embarked on a new path, focusing on fuel efficient and low CO₂ emission vehicles", said Patrick Blain. "However, the progress made by the automobile manufacturers is only one – though essential – element of an intelligent, coherent and pragmatic integrated approach".

It does not make much sense to focus only on new and costly technologies, if at the same time the other aspects involved are not taken into account – such as the road infrastructure, traffic management, the quality of the fuel and its distribution, the necessary infrastructure for alternative energies, but also the driver behavior. According to Patrick Blain, “the automobile is linked to the evolution of society. Like food, mobility is a legitimate demand from people all over the world, with an increasing demand in emerging countries. The focus should therefore be geared towards sustainable mobility, in order to meet societal and economic demands, while at the same time reducing as much as possible their potential negative effects”.

Before joining the CCFA (French Automobile Manufacturers' Association), Patrick Blain, 58, was CEO of the French automotive industry platform (PFA - *Plateforme de la Filière Automobile*), since May 2009. A graduate from the French engineering school Ecole des Mines de Paris, he also earned a master's degree in Economic Sciences (Paris) and a Master of Sciences Industrial Engineering (Stanford). He spent most of his career at Renault (from 1977), where he held various managing positions (Mexico, Italy, Europe). From 2005 to 2009, he was Executive Vice-President, Sales and Marketing, and Light Commercial Vehicles, Leader of the Europe Region Management Committee, and a member of the Group Executive Committee and of the Renault-Nissan's Alliance Board of Directors.

OICA: *Founded in 1919 in Paris, the International Organization of Motor Vehicle manufacturers is made up of 40 members representing key players in the automobile industry around the world. It supports a comprehensive global and economic approach regarding the reduction of CO₂ emissions and provides expertise in global policymaking forums. OICA's other missions include coordinating the harmonization of vehicle regulations, collecting and consolidating international statistics, providing information on the industry's accomplishments, visions and priorities, and coordinating international motor vehicle exhibitions.*

For further information:

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