



### **Another significant increase in newly registered leisure vehicles in Europe**

European caravanning industry enjoys best half-year result in more than ten years

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**The number of newly registered leisure vehicles in Europe continued to grow during the first six months of the year. The number of newly registered motor caravans and caravans grew by around seven percent to more than 126,000 units. That is the best result in more than 10 years. By the end of the year, this figure could exceed 200,000 vehicles for the first time since 2007.**

During the first six months of the year, 126,442 leisure vehicles were newly registered in Europe. This represents a marked increase of 6.9 percent over 2017. The European caravanning industry continued on the expansion course that started in 2014. A notable fact: Almost all national markets had made gains in the first half of the year. In this context, the Scandinavian countries did particularly well. At the same time, developments in the important southern European markets of Italy (+11.8 percent) and Spain (+18.3 percent) are also very positive. With 46,518 newly registered leisure vehicles (+10.7 percent), Germany remains by far the market with the most new registrations. France, which also made significant gains (+9.4 percent), replaced the United Kingdom as the second-largest market in Europe with 19,944 vehicles. In the UK, new registrations decreased slightly by 3.2 percent to 19,632 units. "The uncertainty surrounding the impact of the imminent Brexit appears to put a damper on British consumer confidence," explains Jost Krüger, General Secretary of the European Caravan Federation (ECF).

The positive result for the number of new registrations in Europe is due to the motor caravan segment, which increased in all countries with the exception of a small decline in Switzerland (-0.5 percent). The already strong growth in the motor caravan segment continues with a 12.9 percent increase in new registrations - already for the fifth year in a row. Northern and

southern Europe were particularly strong in the first two quarters. The three markets with the most registrations, namely Germany (30,997 vehicles), France (15,668 vehicles) and the United Kingdom (8,635 vehicles), also experienced significant growth.

European demand for caravans continues to be high. In the first six months of the year, the number of new registrations was just below the positive result of the previous year with 46,014 units (-2.2 percent). The leaders in this respect were the markets in Denmark (+5.4 percent) and Finland (+4.5 percent), along with Germany (+4.0 percent), which is by far the largest market with 15,521 newly registered caravans. In the United Kingdom (10,997 units), the number of newly registered caravans declined by 9.0 percent.

“Leaving the special case United Kingdom aside for the moment, the European caravanning industry is continuing the growth course of the past few years with a significant increase in the first half of the year,” says Krüger. “We expect to close the year with over 200,000 newly registered vehicles, which would be the best result in more than ten years. And we continue to see further growth potential for 2019,” concludes Krüger with optimism.

*Includes some preliminary numbers and estimates.*

**For further information about caravanning, please visit our web sites:**

[www.e-c-f.org](http://www.e-c-f.org) or [www.caravaning-info.de](http://www.caravaning-info.de).

### **The European Caravan Federation**

The European Caravan Federation (ECF), which is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland, is an umbrella organization that represents the interests of the national associations of the European leisure vehicle industry. François Feuillet and Jost Krüger are, respectively, president and general secretary of the ECF. Founded in 1964, the ECF is composed of 12 national organizations, each of which represents the interests of the manufacturing arm of the leisure vehicle industry in each of the EU member states. The ECF is the lobbying organization, Brussels, for the European leisure vehicle industry. In this capacity, the ECF lobbies EU legislators on political, economic, and technical matters that are of concern to ECF members. The ECF's head office is located in Zurich, Switzerland.