

## Presse Release



### **Outstanding first half of the year for the European leisure vehicle industry**

Motor caravan and caravan sales rose by nearly 12 percent during the period

Frankfurt, 26 August 2016

**The European Caravan Federation (ECF) has announced that sales of new caravans and motor caravans once again rose in Germany by a substantial margin in the first two quarters of the year. Between January and June of this year, sales of new leisure vehicles in Germany rose by a robust 11.7 percent to 107,773 units.**

The European leisure vehicle industry continued to register sales growth for the first half of the year. Apart from the top performing markets, namely Germany (an 18.3 percent sales increase), the UK (a 7.4 percent sales increase) and France (a 7.6 percent sales increase), markets where sales had previously been weak registered impressive growth in sales of new motor caravans and caravans. During the first six months of the year, Spain (up 34.2 percent), Sweden (up 23 percent) and Denmark (up 11.2 percent) all registered double-digit sales growth.

The European motor caravan market again grew substantially during the first half of the year. The robust demand for these vehicles resulted in an increase in the sales of new motor caravans amounting to 16.7 percent, to 63,578 newly registered units. As the driver of sales growth in Europe, sales in Germany rose by 23.6 percent.

Despite substantial sales declines in recent years, sales in Spain have rebounded this year, registering exceptional growth: relative to the first six months of 2015, sales in the Spanish motor caravan sector rose by more than half (up 52 percent) in the first half of this year.

The European caravan sector also registered growth in the first half of this year, with sales amounting to 44,195 units, up 5.1 percent over the same period in the prior year. Germany and the UK, which are by far the top performing caravan sales markets in Europe, both registered robust sales growth for the first half of this year, respectively up 10 and 3.7

percent relative to the same period last year. Building on the sales momentum of last year, caravan sales in The Netherlands continued to rise during the first six months of this year, whereby a growth rate of 4.7 percent was registered for the period in this market.

“We’re pleased that these outstanding double-digit sales increases for the first half of the year have been able to build on the success of last year,” said European Caravan Federation (ECF) General Secretary Hans-Karl Sternberg. “This evolution is reflective of the steady growth potential of the European leisure vehicle industry – and thus we are confident that this positive trend will continue,” he said.

*This press release contains some estimates and preliminary figures.*

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

[www.e-c-f.org](http://www.e-c-f.org) or [www.caravanning-info.de](http://www.caravanning-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 Hans-Karl Sternberg 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 in 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.