

LEZs in EUROPE

Press release by Sadler consultants

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Press Release

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Cleaning Europe's Air

A complete, multilingual, one-stop-source of information on Low Emission Zones (LEZs) in Europe

**There is now a single website which gives you all the information you need on Low
Emission Zones in one place - and in your language!**

www.lowemissionzones.eu .

Why LEZs?

Air pollution kills an estimated 310 000 people a year in Europe. The European Union has set legally defined air quality standards to protect our health. Many cities and towns in most countries in Europe fail to meet these standards. Increasing numbers of cities and towns operate or are preparing "Low Emission Zones", or "Environment Zones" among other measures, to help meet the standards. There are currently over 160 LEZs in 11 countries in Europe, including cities like Berlin, Amsterdam, London, Milan, but also many smaller towns like Mühlacker (Germany), Como (Italy) or Norwich (UK) - and the A12 motorway in Tyrol (Austria). LEZs are areas or roads to which entry is restricted for vehicles with more polluting engines.

Who needs this site?

Anyone who drives around Europe, including hauliers, tourists, lorry and coach operators. It provides all the information needed to navigate around Europe's LEZs - including where to can drive with which vehicles. With one button the website is in your language and the information is in one or two clicks from the homepage. Your questions on LEZs are answered in a regularly updated website, with no adverts or cost to users. Questions like: Where exactly are these zones? Can our vehicles drive into them? What emission standard is my vehicle? Do I have to register before I drive in? How can my vehicle comply with the standards? What air quality impact do LEZs have?

The EU is supporting this website with part-funding for 3 years from the 8th December 2009 as part of its implementation of the EU Action Plan on Urban Mobility. Please write about this website, use it, recommend it, link to it and spread information about it. Further information for news articles or stakeholders, contact Lucy Sadler at Sadler Consultants Ltd, contacts below.

Notes to editors:

- * Air pollution kills more people than road accidents. The human health damage from air pollution is estimated to cost Europe between EUR427 and EUR790 billion per year (reference: EU Cafe program)
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/archives/cafe/general/keydocs.htm> , also for the air quality deaths).
- * More information on the EU air quality limit values can be found on <http://lowemissionzones.eu/what-are-lezs--othermenu-32?start=10> and also <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/legis.htm> .
- * Air quality limit values are not expected to be met by most countries in the EU. Many countries are applying for time extensions for these Limit Values, but not many countries meet the extension requirements (see http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/quality/legislation/time_extensions.htm).
- * LEZs are often one of the most effective local measures to improve air quality to achieve cleaner, and healthier, air. They are implemented as part of a package of measures, tackling different sources. LEZs are one of the measures that must be considered when countries apply for extensions the EU air quality limit values
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:152:0001:0044:EN:PDF>
- * LEZ are also known as Environment Zones, Green Zones, Umweltzonen, Milieuzones, Lavutslippssone, Miljozone or Miljözon.
- * More information on the EU ´s Action Plan for Urban Mobility can be found from http://ec.europa.eu/transport/urban/urban_mobility/action_plan_en.htm
- * This project is funded by DG MOVE ´s Clean Urban Transport Unit, see http://ec.europa.eu/transport/urban/index_en.htm
- * More information on the EU Sustainable Energy Week (can be found here <http://www.eusew.eu/index.cfm>) and DG MOVE ´s Conference on Urban Mobility (here http://www.eusew.eu/page.cfm?page=event_content&sby=3&sval=0&sd=40259&id=479

This European LEZ website is run on behalf of the LEEZEN Network of LEZ cities and ministries who want to ensure that drivers can easily find the information they need on LEZs, which now receives EU Commission support with part-funding. LEEZEN (Low Emission and Environment Zone in Europe Network) also supports LEZ authorities with exchanging information and experience between LEZ authorities. The remaining funding for LEEZEN is from Network members and Sadler Consultants Ltd.

Aspects of the website include:

- * All details for all LEZs, including maps, dates and vehicle emissions standards, vehicles affected, maps of the LEZ, links to further information and city websites, road signs, enforcement, hours of operation.
- * Translation into 29 European languages, including all the EU official languages
- * Fully interactive frontpage map to help navigate the LEZs, as well as menus by country and city
- * Overall table showing all LEZs with dates, emissions standards, vehicles affected, sorted by country or by start date, to help give an overview and help plan vehicle fleets
- * Information on how to comply with LEZs, including which retrofits are available where
- * Background on LEZs and air quality
- * FAQs

* Useful weblinks

* Numbers of LEZ per country in operation:

- Austria2
- Czech Republic1
- Denmark5
- Germany43
- Hungary1
- Italy84*
- Norway3
- Sweden 5
- The Netherlands11 in operation
- The UK3

There are around 84 LEZ agglomerations in Italy, covering a much higher number of municipalities.

Attachments: C:\Documents and Settings\Sadler\My Documents\Lucy\Consultancy\01 Projects\019 LEZ cities network\EU aspects\press releases\Press_release LEEZEN to send.pdf

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