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PRESS RELEASE

EMS Forum welcomes announcement Dutch government to allow EMS vehicles

The EMS Forum has welcomed the announcement by the Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Environment Melanie Schultz Van Haegen to allow trucks up to 25 meters long and 60 tonnes in weight to operate across the Dutch road network¹.

This decision confirms that the EMS is already providing very real, viable and vital logistics solutions and reducing the environmental impact of moving the same freight by alternative viable methods and systems. The Netherlands now follows suit with Sweden and Finland, which have already allowed these innovative vehicles on their roads.

After two positive trial phases, the Dutch governments started in 2007 an experience phase with longer and heavier vehicles in the Netherlands. The result of this last experience phase have been positive in terms of the reduction of road transport kilometres and road safety which has led to the decision to introduce the permission to use EMS trucks into regular national legislation

With this the Dutch Minister calls on the European Commission and other Member States to review their position on EMS in order to allow the cross-border transport of EMS vehicles.

The EMS allows operators to use long combinations when feasible and short combinations when required. They already operate under certain circumstances and conditions, in several Member States and they offer industry a much needed efficiency and a greener alternative to many other current logistics solutions.

The Organisations saying yes to EMS represent shippers, freight forwarders, transport operators and vehicle manufacturers that are convinced that the modular concept is the right response from the road sector in order to decouple transport from its negative impact on the environment and to improve transport and logistics efficiency. An overview of these supporting organizations and companies can be found at the EMS website:

http://www.modularsystem.eu/en/organisations_saying_yes_to_ems/

¹) <http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/ministeries/ienm/nieuws/2011/05/19/nederland-avast-vooruit-met-extra-lange-vrachtwagens.html>