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Trilogue ReFuelEU Aviation

Decided: a renewable fuel quota for air traffic

Frankfurt, 26.4.2023 - For the first time, the European Union is setting binding quotas for renewable fuels (SAFs, Sustainable Aviation fuels) for aviation, thus promoting the market ramp-up. In the trilogue of the EU Parliament, Council and Commission on ReFuelEU Aviation, the negotiators agreed on more ambitious quotas than originally proposed by the EU Commission: For the year 2025, an SAF quota of 2 percent and for 2030 of 6 percent is stipulated. In 2030, synthetic aviation fuels are to be 1.2 percent, and then 2 percent in 2032. By 2050, the quotas are to increase to 70 percent SAF and 35 percent synthetic aviation fuels.

"We are pleased that the Parliament has prevailed with its proposal. This makes the first regulation on SAFs in aviation ambitious enough to set an example and stimulate the production ramp-up of synthetic aviation fuels," says Dr. Carola Kantz, deputy managing director of VDMA Power-to-X for Applications. "The European aviation sector, as an important pillar of Europe's economic strength and the transport sector, continues to grow and therefore also needs to quickly become more climate-friendly. The rapid switch from fossil fuels to sustainable fuels is essential for this."

How quickly this switch is actually made depends heavily on political will and the framework conditions. "The industry is in the starting blocks" says Peter Müller-Baum, Managing Director of VDMA Power-to-X for Applications. "Achievable quotas are an incentive for additional investments on the supply side of these fuels."

Do you have any further questions?

Peter Müller-Baum, Managing Director of VDMA Power-to-X for Applications will be happy to answer. Phone: +49 69 6603-1378, mueller-baum@vdma.org.

The VDMA represents 3,600 German and European mechanical and plant engineering companies. The industry stands for innovation, export orientation and SMEs. The companies employ around 3 million people in the EU-27, more than 1.2 million of them in Germany alone. This makes mechanical and plant engineering the largest employer among the capital goods industries, both in the EU-27 and in Germany. In the European Union, it represents a turnover volume of an estimated 860 billion euros. Around 80 percent of the machinery sold in the EU comes from a manufacturing plant in the domestic market.

VDMA Power-to-X for Applications is a cross-industry platform for exchange, communication, and cooperation in the P2X community. It involves all important stakeholders, from the development of manufacturing processes through the production of synthetic fuels and raw materials using power-to-X technologies to the end customer. With our activities, we promote a holistic and technology-open approach to the transformation of energy systems, and we raise public awareness of environmentally friendly energy use and mobility.