### Car advertising in Europe

Jos Dings, Director, T&E

28 June 2007



#### T&E membership

Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK

49 Members – 21 Countries





#### Context

Even informed consumers don't always do the right thing

Information is NO substitute for regulation





News se Your new

want it BBC News 24 BBC Last Updated: Tuesday, 20 February 2007, 10:56 GMT NEWS 🗐 Printable version Australia pulls plug on old bulbs CLIMATE C News Front Page World Australia has announced plans to ban incandescent light bulbs and replace them IPCC ASSES with more energy efficient China buil Africa + Climate cł Americas fluorescent bulbs. + Climate ci Asia-Pacific The environment minister said ▶ Billions fai Europe the move could cut the ► Mapping C Middle East Ban the bulb? Australia plans to country's greenhouse gas switch to fluorescent light by 2010 + Stark pict emissions by 4 million tonnes by South Asia + Through tl "It's a little thing but it's a massive change," Malcolm Turnbull IIK GLOBAL PO England 2012. ▶ Politicians Northern Ireland The decision will make Australia the first country to ban the + Nairobi cli Scotland light bulbs, although the idea has also been proposed in the EU/UK POL Wales said. + UK emissi Business ►EU agrees Politics US state of California. Health Education Fluorescent first Science/Nature

Technology

# CO2 debate: car industry blames the consumer...

"The European car industry considers consumer demand for fuel efficiency to be the missing link in current efforts to reduce  $CO_2$ ."

ACEA website



# ...and is repeating that message...

"The industry's efforts have been hindered...by the persistent lack of consumer demand for fuel-efficiency."

ACEA press release 26/01/07



### ...again and again.

*"Highly CO<sub>2</sub>-efficient cars, brought into the market in line with the 1998 Commitment, have met with very low demand."* 

Speech by ACEA president, 15/05/07



## Consumer information and car ads need to change.



Ford India ad campaign

Launched: June 2007

(Crushing icebergs and terrorising polar bears?)





# CO<sub>2</sub> information in car ads



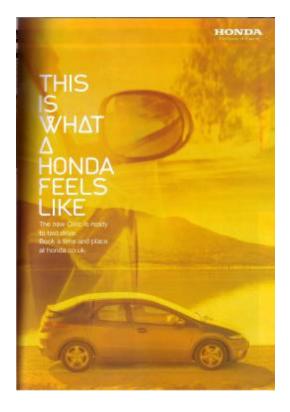
## Many ads break the rules



- Ford Ranger ad
- BBC Top Gear Magazine
- June 2007
- No CO<sub>2</sub> or fuel efficiency info



# Many ads break the rules



- Honda Civic ad
- 'Car' magazine
- April 2006
- No CO<sub>2</sub> or fuel efficiency info



### Same across Europe



#### Netherlands

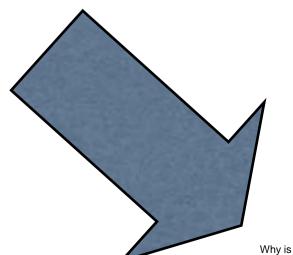






### When you see a car ad

- The CO2 information is supposed to be this big
- The EU CO2 labelling directive says: "This information should, as a minimum, be easy to read and no less prominent than the main part of the information provided in the promotional literature"





Despierta. Nuevo Fiat Grande Punto Racing Diesel *Mandella* 16v

90cv por 90€ al mes.

Los dos primeros años, sin entrada. Más 72 cuotas de 2156. TAE: 7,96%. Plan Prever incluido.

unto Racing. Aprovecha la oportunidad de sentir la deportividad de sus motores Diesel , faldones y spoiler trasero. Además, disfrutarás de la última tecnología Blue&Me<sup>™</sup> de Microsoft, con Bluetooth<sup>®</sup> para conectar tu móvil, con mandos de audio en el volante y radio CD. Vive toda la deportividad ng y la confianza del mayor reconocimiento en seguridad con 5 estrellas Euro NCAP. www.fiat.es



1.3 16v 90cv. P.V.P. 12.934€. (IVA, Transporte e Impuesto de Matriculación, Plan Prever y descuento promocional incluidos). Sin Entrada. Comisión de azo: 96 meses. 24 cuotas de 90€. 72 cuotas de 215€. Precio total a plazos 17.963,35€. Oferta válida hasta 31/05/2007 en Península y Baleares. Financiación 5,9. Emisiones de CO2 (g/km) de 122 a 154. RBE Nº 1942 / 07.

Ejemplo de financiación para Grande Punto R estudio y apertura al contado (2,5%) 323,35€. ofrecida por Tarcredit EFC S.A. Consumo mixt

puerto

con el nu

## Consumers aren't getting the information from car companies

- 97% of ads in Sweden failed to give adequate CO2 information (Swedish Road Administration, 2004)
- Especially in ads: widespread problems of no, or incomplete information or printed in too small letters (ADAC for EC, 2004)



### The directive ....

"... all promotional literature (...) should contain data on the relevant fuel consumption and  $CO_2$  emissions (...)"

"promotional literature' means **all printed matter** used in the marketing, advertising and promotion of vehicles to the general public. It includes (...) posters ..."



# ... and how it's implemented

*"We do not consider [the law] to cover material which is primarily graphical, where the only textual content is the model name and an advertising slogan."* 

UK DfT guidance note on CO2 information



#### The Internet



# New car buyers do their research on the Net

80% of consumers in France, Germany and the UK used the Internet during the car buying process, four times more than in the same survey in 2002.

CapGemini 2006



# New car buyers do their research on the Net

The Internet has become the primary source of research for the car-buying consumer. 'Just looking' visits to showrooms have been cut to one or two from as many as six traditionally.

Adrian Joseph, Head of the Automotive Practice





### UK has not extended the labelling law to the Internet.

## The EU recommended this in 2003. (2003/217/EC)



### Carmaker websites

- Majority of sites have no way of comparing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of full model range
- Several 'clicks' to find CO<sub>2</sub> information
- CO<sub>2</sub> buried in 'technical specifications', 'performance', 'technical datasheet'
- Not easy to find



#### Websites: good practice

	Special editions	AYGO   Yaris	Auris	Verso   Priu	s   Avensis	RAV4   I	and Cruiser.	Amazon   H	ilux   Hiace
2	Home								
(	Compare th	e range							
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### UK Green Claims Code

- DEFRA guidelines, approved by the CBI (SMMT is a member)
  - "Claims should always avoid the vague use of terms such as 'sustainable', 'green', 'non-polluting' and so on. Likewise, they should avoid linking vague descriptions, such as 'friendly' or 'kind', with words like 'earth', 'nature', 'environment', 'eco' and 'ozone'."





#### HIGH PERFORMANCE. LOW EMISSIONS. ZERO GUILT.

V8-LIKE POWER WITH CLASS-LEADING CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS. THE RX 400h. LEXUS HYBRID DRIVE - PUSHING BOUNDARIES. LEXUS POOLE Patrick House, West Quay Road Tel 01202 667575

www.lexus.co.uk/poole



Model shown RX 400h with metallic pairs \$36953 OTR. RX range prices start from \$32,023 to \$45,818 OTR. Prices correct at time of going to press and include VAT, delivery charges, number plates, full tark of bal, one year's road kind loance and lind registration fee. RX 400h fuel economy figures: extra-urban 37,2mpg (7,6L/100km), urban 31,0mpg (9,1L/100km) combined 34,9mpg (8,1L/100km). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 192g/km.

#### The ASA banned this (in UK).

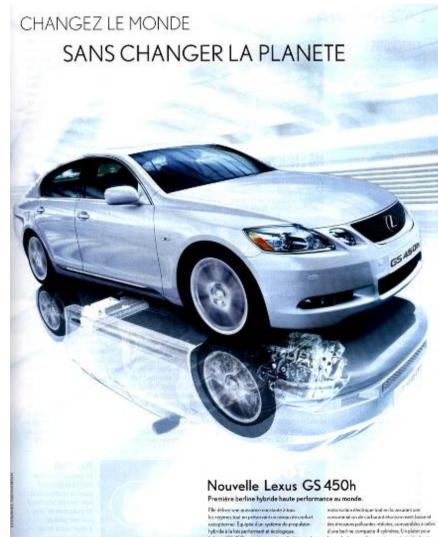


#### Hop over the Channel!

"Change the world, without changing the planet."

186g CO<sub>2</sub>/km





ww.lexus.tr

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le conducteur, un plus grand respect prior la planet



"Saab created BioPower technology for drivers who want it all: turbocharged performance plus the satisfaction of helping the environment."

Go Green and release the power of nature





>200g CO<sub>2</sub>/km





Welcome to Renault Cars UK

Home Renault cars Renault vans Renault fleet Used Cars Owner services About Renault

"Ecological"

#### Nature imagery



Clio Extreme 1.2 16V 3DR £149 per month NO deposit

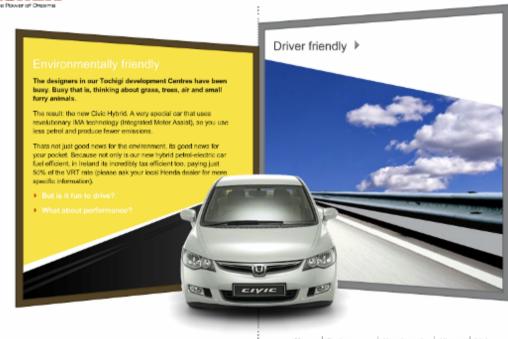
Find out more  $\rightarrow$ Book a test drive  $\rightarrow$ 



HONDA

#### "Environmentally friendly"

#### Honda Ireland website



Home Performance How it works History Links



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# Voluntary codes aren't working



### EU action?

- EU has asked carmakers to come forward with a voluntary code for car advertising by 7 August 2007.
- The EU CO<sub>2</sub> labelling directive is up for review



#### Better CO2 / fuel labelling

- Much better implementation and enforcement of current law
- A-G colour codes, linked to taxation
- Extend scope to internet, TV, radio, cinema, digital carriers
- Visibility: min. 25% of space for CO<sub>2</sub> / fuel info
- extra or saved lifetime fuel costs and car taxes - compared with average D-label



#### Responsible advertising

- Green claims should be specific no 'environmentally friendly' 'green' 'sustainable' to describe cars
- no ads for cars that emit more than 50% over fleet average, and for off-roaders in urban areas
- no associations of cars with nature, wildlife



#### But remember the context

Even informed consumers don't always do the right thing

Information is NO substitute for regulation.



