

**ASSOCIATION  
OF EUROPEAN BUSINESSES**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Code of Conduct of AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee**

6 December 2013. The Automobile Manufacturers Committee is moving forward with the Code of Conduct.

Understanding the necessity of introducing certain amendments into the current business practices, the Members of the Automobile Manufacturers Committee have decided to elaborate the Code of Conduct. The Code touches upon key aspects of business relations between automobile manufacturers/distributors, on the one hand, and dealers/independent service stations, on the other. This document is a voluntary initiative of the AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee, it is available for any interested companies and is based on goodwill and a bona fide conduct of business.

The Automobile Manufacturers Committee believes the Code of Conduct will serve as a firm basis for entering a new stage of the passenger car market development and is the best compromise for its players.

*Joerg Schreiber, Chairman of the AEB Automobile Manufacturers Committee, says: "The decision to elaborate the Code of Conduct originated from an intention of the Committee members to take a timely step, in order to find an optimal solution of relevant market issues without waiting for dedicated government regulations. We are delighted to receive the support and understanding of our initiative on the part of state authorities."*

The Code of Conduct was approved by the majority of Automobile Manufacturers Committee members, agreed with the Federal Antimonopoly Service of Russia and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation.

The Automobile Manufacturers Committee notes that, prior to application of certain provisions of the Code of Conduct, certain amendments need to be introduced in the *Consumer Protection Law*, which refer to the concept of 'material defect', adequacy of the market players' responsibility, liability for acts by third parties etc. Failing this, such application may negatively affect not only the operation of distributors and car manufacturers localized in Russia, but also the profitability of hundreds of official dealerships. It may also lead both to a deterioration in customer satisfaction and the quality and safety of services/works.

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