



Press Release  
Brussels, 19 March 2013

## **ELEVEN ORGANISATIONS from across industries and transport modes join forces today to drive forward the electrification of surface transport**

**Alstom, AVERE, CER, ETRA, EURELECTRIC, EUROBAT, Going Electric, Nissan, Polis, UITP, and UNIFE join forces today by creating a Platform for the Electrification of Surface Transport.**

Today, 19 March 2013, the Platform for the Electrification of Surface Transport is holding its maiden event at the Hotel Renaissance in Brussels, starting at 18.30.

**MEP Gesine Meissner** (ALDE, Germany) will give the opening remarks, followed by introductory presentations by **Hans ten Berge**, Secretary General of EURELECTRIC and by **Libor Lochman**, Executive Director of CER. This will be followed by a panel discussion with **Daniela Rosca**, Head of Unit C1 (Clean Transport and Sustainable Urban Mobility), DG MOVE; **Olivier Paturet**, General Manager, Zero Emissions Strategy, Nissan Europe; **Alain Berger**, Vice-President for European Affairs and Head of Brussels office, Alstom; **Alain Flausch**, General Secretary, International Association of Public Transport (UITP), and **Joost van Gils**, Vice-Director Economic Development and Mobility, Province of North Brabant, the Netherlands, representing Polis. The discussion will be moderated by **Professor Joeri van Mierlo**, Vice-President of AVERE.

The Platform for the Electrification of Surface Transport sees electrification as a key way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport and to reduce the dependence of the European Union on imported oil. In their common statement published today, the eleven organisations call upon public authorities to support the further electrification of surface transport on the basis of a multi-modal approach. The joint statement is attached and also available at [www.cer.be](http://www.cer.be).

**MEP Gesine Meissner** states: *“The vision of the Platform is to aim for fully electrified door-to-door multimodal transport solutions. This is an exciting prospect for European citizens and businesses, with significant growth and employment prospects.”*

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The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together 80 European railway undertakings and infrastructure companies. CER represents the interests of its members towards the European institutions as well as other policy makers and transport actors. CER's main focus is promoting the strengthening of rail as essential to the creation of a sustainable transport system which is efficient, effective and environmentally sound. For more information, see [www.cer.be](http://www.cer.be)