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Alternative fuel vehicle registrations: +35.1% in fourth quarter; +39.7% in 2017

In the fourth quarter of 2017, demand for alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) in the EU continued to grow; results were 35.1% higher than in 2016. The 227,378 alternatively-powered cars registered during the last quarter of 2017 accounted for 6.7% of total passenger car sales, while electrically-chargeable vehicles (ECVs) made up for 1.9% of all cars sold across the EU.

Registrations of battery electric (54.8%) and hybrid electric cars (43.3%) accounted for the strongest growth. Demand for plug-in hybrid cars continued to grow (+15.0%). The EU market for LPG and NGV vehicles also ended the year strongly, with demand increasing by 27.3%.

Compared to one year ago AFV sales almost doubled in Spain (+90.8%), followed by Germany (+76.8%), the United Kingdom (+35.6%), France (+33.4%) and Italy (+30.7%) – the latter benefiting from recovering demand for LPG-fuelled cars, as in previous quarters.

Overall in 2017, 852,933 alternative fuel vehicles were registered in the European Union, up 39.7% compared to 2016. The uplift was mainly driven by the hybrid electric segment (+54.8%), followed electrically-chargeable vehicles (+39.0%) and other alternative fuels (+16.4%) that returned to growth after losing ground in 2016. Alternatively-powered cars accounted for 5.7% of the EU market in 2017, with electrically-chargeable vehicles constituting 1.4% of total passenger car sales last year.

Source: ACEA (European Automobile Manufacturers Association)

Read more: <http://www.acea.be/news/latest-updates>