

Press Release

19 March 2019

FLEET DECISION-MAKERS URGED TO BOOK THEIR PLACES AT ACFO'S SPRING SEMINAR AS IT TACKLES BUSINESS-CRITICAL ISSUES

The speaker line-up for ACFO's 2019 spring seminar is now complete with a range of experts set to provide clarity on a string of issues confronting fleet decision-makers and vehicle, driver and journey management.

The future direction of company car benefit-in-kind taxation from April 2020; Brexit and travelling in the European Union following the UK's departure with or without a deal; fleet funding and the rise of personal contract hire; the continuing impact of the new Worldwide harmonised Light vehicles Test Procedure (WLTP) and the related Real Driving Emissions 2 (RDE2) standard; and the imminent implementation of Clean Air Zones across the UK are all on the agenda at the seminar.

What's more, with just over a week to go until the seminar, entitled 'Another Year of Evolution', on Wednesday, 27th March at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire, starting at 9.30am (registration opens at 8.30am), fleet decision-makers are being urged to book their places - email info@acfo.org or go to www.acfo.org.

The event is being sponsored by Jaguar Land Rover with support from Lex Autolease, the UK's largest contract hire and leasing company, and Reflex Vehicle Hire.

John Pryor, chairman of ACFO, the UK's premier fleet decision-makers' organisation, said: "I believe that the seminar is a unique event in terms of the range of business-critical topics that are being addressed by a wide range of expert speakers.

"ACFO was disappointed that Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond did not provide at least some detail on the future of company car benefit-in-kind tax in last week's Spring Statement, but we know the direction of travel and that will at least help fleet managers to start to plan.

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“In terms of vehicle taxation we also know that light commercial Vehicle Excise Duty is changing from April 2021 and our expert speakers will shed light on that issue and what steps fleet chiefs can take as they review their van replacement strategies.

“Brexit maybe the elephant in the room, but the Department for Transport has provided advice for businesses whose drivers are travelling abroad once the UK leaves the European Union with or without a deal. Expert speakers will provide insight on what fleets and drivers need to do.

“In almost 30 years as a fleet manager I cannot think of as many issues that fleet operators have had to tackle simultaneously. Add in to the mix Clean Air Zones, WLTP and RDE2 and a number of other issues and ACFO believes the seminar provides a unique occasion at which decision-makers can gain valuable insight and have all their questions answered. It is a seminar not to be missed.”

Seminar speakers and the issues they will tackle:

- Mike Moore, tax director at professional services firm Deloitte, who leads its national car and mobility consulting team, will deliver a financial fleet review including an insight into future taxation changes.
- Ashley Barnett, head of fleet consultancy, Lex Autolease, will provide an insight into vehicle leasing in 2019 and marketplace developments.
- Malcom Maycock, managing director of Licence Bureau; Oliver Waring, managing director of Reflex Vehicle Hire; Len Benson, associate director/motor manager at insurance broker Peter Lole & Co and an ACFO member; and Fiona Kail, national account manager, at business travel experts Clarity, will tackle a range of Brexit issues - driving licences, vehicle hire, insurance and Green Cards and travel respectively.
- Beth Davies, product manager - manufacturers, at automotive industry data provider CAP HPI, will deliver the latest insight into WLTP and RDE2 and how the vehicle emissions testing regime is impacting on new company car choice lists and vehicle supply.

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Chesterhouse, 68 Chestergate, Macclesfield SK11 6DY
info@acfo.org | 01625 664 509

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- Tim Anderson, senior transport advice manager, at the Energy Saving Trust, will provide guidance on actions that fleet decision-makers can take to ensure compliance with emerging Clean Air Zone regulations.
- Nora Leggett, head of member services at the British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association, will provide guidance and explain what has changed and why as the organisation gears up to launch its updated industry standard 'Fair Wear and Tear Guide: Cars'.

Additionally, there will be presentations from:

- Scott Dickens, sales director, Jaguar Land Rover UK, who will provide a business update including news on the manufacturer's latest model range and vehicle powertrain developments
- Paul Hollick, chairman of ICFM, the UK's only independent, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to furthering the education and advancement of car and light commercial vehicle fleet management, who will provide an update on the organisation's programme.

During the day there will also be opportunities for seminar delegates to quiz the guest speakers in question and answer sessions. Additionally, an exhibitor area will offer delegates an opportunity to network.

To book a place at the seminar email info@acfo.org or go to www.acfo.org.

- Journalists wishing to attend the seminar should email info@acfo.org.

Notes for Editors

ACFO Ltd is a non-profit making organisation. It is the largest UK body representing the interests of businesses which operate cars and vans as part of their normal commercial activities.

Members are represented within ACFO by a named delegate, often but not exclusively, the fleet or transport manager of the member organisation. There is, however, a very wide range of job titles involved, reflecting the different styles of fleet operation. ACFO provides a national representation platform, and regional webinar-based networking opportunities, to support its key objective of improving the discipline and craft of fleet management, and its status.

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Further information can be obtained from:

Ashley Martin at Ashley Martin Communications on 01733 390691, 07801 434338 or at ashley.martin32@btopenworld.com.

Alternatively, email info@acfo.org or go to www.acfo.org