

PRESS RELEASE

25 January 2016

ACFO AND ICFM TO WORK MORE CLOSELY TO PROMOTE BENEFITS OF PROFESSIONAL FLEET MANAGEMENT

Two of the UK's leading fleet industry organisations are to forge closer links to promote the benefits of professional fleet management and the importance of training and education, coupled with the implementation of best practice.

ACFO and the Institute of Car Fleet Management (ICFM) will have representation on each other's boards, share membership initiatives and join forces to collectively promote the benefits of each organisation and their respective conferences, seminars and other events.

The development builds on an initial tie-up announced almost six years ago when the two not-for-profit organisations agreed to work in association with one another on areas of mutual benefit and promote their respective organisations to their membership bases.

Well-known industry personality Nigel Trotman will represent both organisations on their respective boards to provide co-ordination. Mr Trotman, who worked in the fleet industry for more than 20 years before retiring last year, is already a board member of the ICFM and is secretary of the Midlands Region of ACFO and sits on the organisation's National Council. He will attend ACFO board meetings in a non-voting capacity.

ACFO chairman John Pryor said: "ACFO represents the interests of fleet operators in the UK promoting their views to government, motor manufacturers and industry suppliers. It also promotes operating best practice and tackles key issues through regular conferences and seminars.

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Clock Barn, Little Baldon, Oxford, OX44 9PU | 01865 342 102
info@acfo.org | www.acfo.org

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“The ICFM is dedicated to providing fleet managers, administrators, fleet service providers and those whose job responsibilities include fleet with the highest standard of education and training programmes which foster and promote best practice in all aspects of vehicle fleet management.

“Fleet management is becoming ever-more complex as it is no longer simply about managing cars or vans, but about managing employee mobility. As a result employees with a wide range of job titles and operating in a cross-section of employment sectors - HR, finance and procurement for example as well as fleet - require greater knowledge and experience to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and value for money is achieved within their respective organisations.

“Jointly promoting the mutual benefits of both organisations will, ACFO believes, increase professionalism across the fleet management industry and widen the membership base.”

ICFM chairman Paul Hollick said: “The initiative to forge closer links with ACFO is a logical and progressive move and one that is completely in harmony with the objectives that I outlined in my keynote address at our conference in October last year.

“We are in a sense ‘two halves of the same equation’ and the decision to work more closely together, will further promote best practice and raised standards within the industry - something we are particularly passionate about at the ICFM.

“The collaboration with ACFO now provides an additional dimension that will truly enhance our membership proposition and further promote added value and efficiency for their fleet operations.

“My colleagues on the ICFM board and I are delighted to have secured this partnership with ACFO and excited by the opportunities and benefits that it will inevitably produce.”

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Mr Trotman, who transformed the Whitbread fleet into an award-winning operation over a 15-year period before joining Lloyds TSB Autolease and latterly Alphabet as a strategic fleet consultant, said: "I have always felt that the two organisations should work more closely together. Each organisation can assist the other and help the industry and I hope that is something which I can contribute to in this new role."

As a result of the closer tie-up measures initially taking place will include:

- The promotion and sharing of membership initiatives
- Each organisation promoting the other on their respective websites
- Each organisation to have stand representation at the other's events and source potential speakers
- ICFM and ACFO to jointly consider the launch of new training courses.

Notes for Editors

About ACFO

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.

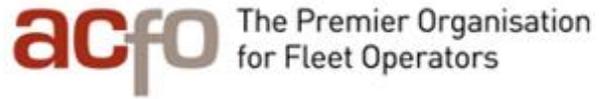
Members are represented within ACFO by a named delegate, often but not exclusively, the fleet or transport manager of the member organisation. There is, however, a very wide range of job titles involved, reflecting the different styles of fleet operation. ACFO provides both a national representation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

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

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About ICFM

The Institute of Car Fleet Management (ICFM) is the UK's only independent not-for-profit organisation dedicated to furthering the education, recognising the achievements and advancing the profession of car and light commercial fleet management.

Established in 1992, the Institute connects people involved in car and light commercial fleet management, promotes excellence in fleet management practices and delivers the industry sector's premier education programmes. Externally accredited vocational qualifications include the Introductory Certificate, the Certificate and the Diploma in Car Fleet Management.

ICFM was the winner of the first *Fleet News* Training Award in 2010.

For further press information on ICFM, contact Peter Eldridge, director on office 01462 744914, mobile: 07557 808100 or e-mail: peter@icfm.com. Web: www.icfm.com

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