



[home](#) [news & events](#) [media releases](#)

news & events

14 April 2008

fleet buyers on track to go green

A unique event got on track in Melbourne today when fleet managers from across the nation were given an opportunity to test-drive 31 low emission vehicles (LEV).

The Drive Day and Forum at Sandown International Raceway was organised by the LEV Automotive Partnership, a joint initiative of Future Climate Australia, RACV and EPA Victoria.

About 80 fleet managers from local, state and federal governments, private companies, fleet-leasing businesses and hire-car operators were invited to attend the Australian-first event.

All 31 LEV vehicles representing 12 manufacturers — including the new Peugeot 308 HDi that recently earned two fuel economy world records — are imported as no locally made vehicle currently meets LEV criteria.

Future Climate Australia Executive Director, Henry O'Clery, said today's event had been prompted by soaring fuel costs combined with new requirements for companies to log and pay for their greenhouse gas emissions.

He said new vehicle sales nationwide in 2007 had exceeded 1 million for the first time, with almost half of these being purchased for fleet use.

"What is disturbing is that only 13 per cent of these fleet vehicles qualify as low emission vehicles under LEV Automotive Partnership criteria," Mr O'Clery said.

"We acknowledge that fleet buyers' hands are tied due to local vehicle manufacturers lagging behind European and Asian counterparts in terms of LEV production.

"However, today's Drive Day and Forum will demonstrate to all fleet managers the availability of performance-matching LEV technology that we believe local manufacturers should be progressively incorporating in Australian-made vehicles.

"We want to highlight that a significant opportunity is being missed by fleet managers in the potential reduction of vehicle emissions as the climate change challenge gathers speed."

Manufacturers represented at today's Drive Day were Audi, Holden, Honda, Hyundai, Lexus, Mitsubishi, Peugeot, Renault, Saab, Skoda, Toyota and Volkswagen.

RACV e-newsletter



Stay up-to-date with the latest news, info and offers with RACV's e-newsletter, Inroads. Get all the information direct to

your inbox.

[Subscribe to inroads](#)

Mr O'Clery said the LEV Automotive Partnership's launch project — greenwheels.com.au, which enables consumers to assess greenhouse emissions of all new passenger cars sold in Australia — had received more than 22,500 hits in its first month.

Copyright © 2007 RACV. All rights reserved. | [Privacy Policy](#)

RACV offers its members a range of services including [car insurance](#), [home insurance](#), [roadside assistance](#), information about [travel](#), [road safety](#) information and independent [car reviews](#).