

## The commerce sector signs up to the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign



**Brussels, 20 March 2007 - EuroCommerce officially joined the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign 2005-2008. The signing took place during EuroCommerce Board meeting in the presence of its President, Senator Feargal Quinn and Commission representative Mr Pedro Ballesteros Torres.**

"EuroCommerce is proud to join this campaign aiming at achieving the energy policy targets set by the EU within the fields of renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, clean transport and alternative fuels" stated Mr Xavier R. Durieu, Secretary General of EuroCommerce.

"The European Commission is convinced of the mutual benefits a framework of voluntary co-operation with EuroCommerce and its members can offer, both for the retail companies committed to sustainable development and society as a whole. We are confident that this new approach will create the necessary mood to undertake new joint initiatives and achieving the objective of a cleaner and more sustainable energy landscape in Europe" asserted Mr Pedro Ballesteros Torres.

Many retailers have already engaged in the fight against climate change on an individual basis and many more are to follow. EuroCommerce decision to join the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign lies in the sector's long tradition to serve the cause of sustainable development and act as a responsible actor in the debate.

Commerce represents 11% of the EU GDP and is also the closest link between industry and the 480 million consumers across Europe. Thanks to this privileged position, commerce can play a role in inducing consumers to make more energy efficient and environmental friendly purchasing decisions.

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