

Press release

The Europ Assistance group has signed an exclusive partnership with DEKRA Industrial for the training and accreditation of its network in the field of electrical risks

After having mobilised its network of service providers to meet ecological challenges, the Europ Assistance group is today continuing its sustainable development strategy by offering training in electrical risks in order to qualify its network to perform breakdown repairs on electric vehicles.

The Europ Assistance group is joining forces with DEKRA Industrial (European leader in the training field) to provide training courses in electrical risks for its network of automotive service providers, in five European countries from January 2011 onwards.

This exclusive, pan-European partnership will enable the Europ Assistance group's network of breakdown repair providers to take stock of changes in their activities - particularly concerning the arrival of electric vehicles on the market - and consequently to be in a position to carry out work on this new generation of vehicles.

As part of this major initiative, which clearly underlines the determined stance adopted by the group in the new energies sector, the Europ Assistance group will be enabling those members of its network of service providers who wish this to have access to training specially designed for them. By joining forces with DEKRA Industrial, Europ Assistance is using the services of an organisation boasting recognised experience in the training and electrical risks accreditation field. As an example, its extensive presence in Europe enables DEKRA Industrial to offer the same level of services in all the countries concerned, while at the same time proposing a centralised management system with a single point of contact.

Based on European rules and adapted to specific local conditions, this training will be provided by professionals in the automotive industry, with a theoretical part (the basics of electricity, the composition of a battery and associated risks, etc.) and also a practical part dedicated to carrying out breakdown repairs on electric vehicles.

The training and electrical accreditation will be available in five European countries as from January 2011 (France, Italy, Spain, Germany and Belgium) and extended throughout Europe during 2011.

With this one-day training course which includes both theoretical and practical teaching, the breakdown repair officers will now be in a position to provide a specific response to the new consumption habits of drivers, and consequently to anticipate the risks related to work on electrical vehicles.

Tuesday 2nd November 2010

Those of the Europ Assistance group's service providers who undergo this training and receive the electrical accreditation will be given a kit comprising recommended equipment to carry out breakdown and other repairs on electric vehicles (gloves, protective goggles, etc).

As from December 2010, a dedicated website will also be made available for breakdown staff by Europ Assistance and DEKRA, enabling them to obtain the information they need and to sign up for training sessions.

With the creation of the "**Europ Assistance First Selected Green Network**" and accreditation in electrical risks from DEKRA, the Europ Assistance group is today supporting the dynamic innovation processes of its vehicle manufacturing partners by providing dedicated and secure services to support the new consumption patterns of drivers and in doing so positioning itself as a pioneer in this emerging sector.

About DEKRA Industrial France

As a major player in risk prevention in all business sectors in France, DEKRA Industrial France employs almost 3,500 people, has a network of 100 sites and serves more than 100,000 clients. In 2009, DEKRA Industrial France achieved a turnover of €250 million. As a subsidiary of the DEKRA group, the European leader in inspection and certification, DEKRA Industrial supports its clients the world over, in its four key business areas: technical and regulatory inspections, technical assistance, advice and assistance with contracting and training.

DEKRA Industrial was founded in 1883 with the goal of protecting workers from occupational accidents.

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