

PRESS RELEASE

## **“Everyone must have the right to charge”: LeasePlan and partners launch ‘Global ChargeUpNow Initiative’ demanding universal EV charging infrastructure**

**New York, 22 September 2020** – LeasePlan, together with smart charging partner PowerD, today launched ‘ChargeUpNow’, a global initiative calling on local and national policymakers to implement five specific policy recommendations to ensure a universal, affordable and sustainable charging infrastructure.

The new initiative comes ahead of Climate Week NYC and the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

ChargeUpNow’s five policy recommendations are:

- **Implement** a network of publicly available fast charging stations to reduce the speed of charging from hours to minutes and reduce burden on urban charging spaces
- **Remove** red tape and make it easier to obtain permits for private charging stations near residences and offices
- **Include** charging infrastructure in all newly constructed residential and commercial buildings
- **Increase** use of green energy by EVs through smart charging solutions that use zero-emission solar and wind power
- **Develop** public-private partnerships between business and local governments to facilitate fast charging infrastructure in commercial zones

To kick off the Global ChargeUpNow Initiative, a [petition](#) has been created on Change.org, advocating for the implementation of all five ChargeUpNow policy recommendations. The petition is targeted at international and national governments and can be accessed at [GlobalChargeUpNow.com](https://www.change.org/p/global-charge-up-now)

**Tex Gunning, CEO of LeasePlan, said:**

“Drivers are fed up with government inaction on EV charging infrastructure. This is a major roadblock holding back the mass adoption of EVs, which are crucial to fighting climate change and improving air quality in our towns and cities. That’s why we are launching our Global ChargeUpNow Initiative. Together, we want to give a clear and direct message to national and local policymakers about the urgent need for a universal, affordable and sustainable EV charging infrastructure. The solutions already exist – all that is missing is action from policymakers.”

**Sandra Roling, Head of EV100, said:**

“Easily available charging infrastructure is crucial for taking electro-mobility to scale. It is great to see our EV100 members not only making EVs a reality in their own operations, but engaging with their wider networks to drive change for everyone.”

**Pieter Willems, founder of PowerD, said:**

“Facilitating EV charging contributes to much more than just reducing the number of petrol-powered cars on the road. Electric vehicles can accelerate the share of renewable electricity in the overall energy production by storing the excess electricity from wind and solar power at moments when energy demand is low, and avoid taking in energy during peak times when electricity is sourced from fossil power plants. EVs can even deliver energy back to homes during the evenings, reducing the overall need for fossil energy. Governments should gear up with creating charging infrastructure to unlock the bigger potential of smart electric mobility.”

**Filippo Veglio, Managing Director for Outreach & Mobility, WBCSD, said:**

“A tailored and connected fast-charging infrastructure offers a clear path toward electric vehicle adoption at scale. To succeed in developing a seamless charging infrastructure that allows us to seize all the benefits of electric mobility, we need collaboration across sectors. The Global ChargeUpNow Initiative is a great opportunity for businesses to engage in a dialogue with policymakers, accelerate the clean energy transition and reduce emissions.”

– ENDS –

**Notes to editors**

- LeasePlan has committed itself to achieving net zero tailpipe emissions from its total fleet by 2030. LeasePlan is also a founding partner of Climate Group’s EV100 initiative, launched around the UN General Assembly in September 2017
- LeasePlan’s zero-emission mobility strategy is to achieve net zero tailpipe emissions across our entire global fleet by 2030
- Earlier this year, LeasePlan Energy, a smart charging solution, was launched in the Netherlands by PowerD. With LeasePlan Energy, EV drivers reduce their carbon footprint through smart charging, using a mobile app that integrates with their EV charging station and car battery. Based on custom algorithms, the app automatically chooses renewable energy sources when they are most abundant, passing the CO2 savings onto the customer. Read more here: [leaseplanenergy.com/en](http://leaseplanenergy.com/en)

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**About LeasePlan**

LeasePlan is a leader in two large and growing markets: Car-as-a-Service for new cars, through its LeasePlan business, and the high-quality three-to-four-year-old used car market, through its CarNext.com business. LeasePlan’s Car-as-a-Service business purchases, funds and manages new vehicles for its customers, providing a complete end-to-end service for a typical contract duration of three to four years. CarNext.com is a pan-European digital marketplace for high-quality used cars seamlessly delivering any car, anytime, anywhere and is supplied with vehicles from LeasePlan’s own fleet as well as third-party partners. LeasePlan has 1.9 million vehicles under management in over 30 countries. With over 50 years’ experience, LeasePlan’s mission is to provide what’s next in sustainable mobility so our customers can focus on what’s next for them. Find out more at [www.leaseplan.com/corporate](http://www.leaseplan.com/corporate).

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