



FIVA

We Protect

We Preserve

We Promote

Position paper:

Alternative fuels for historic vehicles

February 2022

Background

The current focus upon actions to be implemented especially within the transport sector in order to reduce pollutant and CO₂ emissions of vehicles creates a pressure on all users of fossil fuel. There is a clear trend towards sustainable and fossil fuel free transportation everywhere but especially with a high focus on having emission free zones in the centre of the larger cities.

Impact on historic vehicles

Historic vehicles are an important part of our cultural heritage. Almost all historic vehicles are equipped and powered by fossil-fuelled internal combustion engines; the vehicles and their components should remain unchanged in order to explain, demonstrate and show the living history for future generations to come.

As a huge museum in motion the owners of historic vehicles gather and display their vehicles for the public mainly totally free of charge. Like historic instruments which are best demonstrated by having someone playing them, a historic vehicle is best demonstrated in motion. They take older people down memory lane and a trip in a historic vehicle makes you experience the history with all senses.

Unlike everyday vehicles they cannot just be exchanged or reworked simply because this will remove the history. The authentic preservation and the continued use of historic vehicles are dependent upon the availability of substances, spare parts and suitable fuels.

FIVA position

Given that we cannot exchange the vehicle powertrain, FIVA as an organisation is of course open to changes if these have a positive impact on our environment where we welcome and if possible support solutions with efuel where this can effectively work in historic vehicles and is available to historic vehicle owners.

Given the marginal impact historic vehicles have on the environment because of their low number compared to everyday vehicles and their significantly low annual mileage we would also urge and recommend decisionmakers to take their valued contribution to cultural heritage into consideration and where possible exempt historic vehicles from restrictions mainly introduced to lower emissions locally.

We also need to be sure that in the future historic vehicles have fuel for their internal combustion engines available either in traditional form or as efuels.