

19<sup>th</sup> March 2010

## Arval wins industry safety award

Arval, Europe's leading fleet and fuel management company, has been recognised at the prestigious Fleet News awards for its road safety performance winning the Fleet Safety award. Arval beat strong competition to the prize by demonstrating how its road safety activity is helping to reduce deaths, injuries and the overall risks facing drivers.

To do this, Arval showcased two key initiatives that support the company's long term commitment to improve the safety of its customers, business drivers and all other road users: The first was the Arval Road Safety Forum, an industry-leading working party that has been crucial in sharing ideas, good practises and spreading safety messages amongst corporate companies. The second was the Arval Road Safety Seminar which brings companies face to face with the often shattering consequences of an accident, using real victims and professionals from the emergency services to provide a powerful message.

The judges commented:

"Arval's initiatives are really making a difference to fleet operators. It is putting safety at the centre of fleet culture by providing an environment where companies can share best practice. It is refreshing to see a leasing company take an altruistic approach – it's not selling a service, it's giving something of value to fleets."

The awards were held at the Grosvenor House Hotel, and organised by Fleet News, the most prominent publication in the fleet industry. Arval Chief Executive Officer, Jean-Marc Torre, collected the Safety award at the black tie ceremony in front of more than a thousand key players from the fleet and automotive industries.

Both initiatives are the first-of-their-kind and form important elements of Arval's wider commitment to road safety. Underpinned by a Road Safety Charter and steered by a Road Safety Committee, road safety is an important part of Arval's overall Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approach. This has included Arval signing up to the EU Road Safety Charter and becoming a RoadSafe 'Business Champion'.

**Tracey Scarr, Fleet and Road Safety Manager for Arval comments:**

"The road safety practices that we continue to develop across our own fleet allow us to work with employees, customers, our industry and the local community to raise awareness of road safety. Driving is becoming safer but there is no room for complacency so we will continue sharing and implementing best practice as well as developing new initiatives to ensure that this subject remains high on the business agenda."

In 2009 Arval won four major industry awards spanning the areas of innovation, customer service, leading products and driver safety. With this latest victory, Arval is making good progress towards continuing that trend into 2010.

## **ENDS**

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## **Editor's Notes**

### **Arval**

Arval is the leading fleet and fuel management company in Europe, owned by BNP Paribas, one of the largest European banking groups, with substantial buying power and a commitment to quality through over 30 years fleet management experience. Arval is a people-led company, with specialist teams dedicated to businesses from start-ups to FTSE 100 companies. Arval is investing significantly in technology to improve fleet efficiency and has a comprehensive range of products covering contract hire, fleet management, fuel management, leasing, personal motoring schemes, accident management, breakdown recovery and short term hire.

### **BNP Paribas**

BNP Paribas ([www.bnpparibas.com](http://www.bnpparibas.com)) is the Eurozone's leading bank in terms of deposits, and one of the 10 most important banks in the world in terms of net banking income, equity capital and market value. Furthermore, it is one of the 6 strongest banks in the world according to Standard & Poor's. With a presence in 85 countries and more than 205,000 employees, 165,200 of which in Europe, BNP Paribas is a global-scale European leader in financial services. It holds key positions in its three activities: Retail banking, Investment Solutions and Corporate & Investment Banking. The Group benefits from its four domestic markets: Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg. BNP Paribas also has a significant presence in the United States and strong positions in Asia and the emerging markets.