

## Entry into force of the Data Act A crucial digital foundation for Europe and Europeans

Statement

**SAFETY - SUSTAINABILITY - AFFORDABILITY**

**Michael Krampe (ADPA Board Member & Chairman of the Digitalisation Working Group), 12 September 2025** - At ADPA, we welcome the entry into force of the Data Act as a landmark achievement for Europe's digital economy. In the automotive aftermarket, where the rapid digitalisation of vehicles is transforming the way services are designed, delivered, and consumed, this legislation represents a decisive step towards ensuring fairer access to data. Without strong and predictable rules, the flow of vehicle-generated data risks being monopolised by vehicle manufacturers, creating barriers that stifle innovation and prevent consumers from fully benefiting from the competitive provision of digital mobility services. Some studies show that such a monopoly could cost €95 billion a year to European economy by 2050! The Data Act creates the foundations for a level playing field that will drive competition, innovation, and consumer choice.

It is crucial to underline that the Data Act must not be watered down in its implementation. The spirit of the law is to guarantee that all actors – large and small – can access and use data on fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory terms. In the automotive aftermarket, this principle is particularly vital, as independent service providers rely on access to real-time data to deliver repair, maintenance, and mobility services, ensuring the safety, the sustainability and the affordability of road mobility. Any attempt to weaken the provisions or delay their enforcement would undermine the very purpose of the regulation and risk entrenching anti-competitive practices.

At the same time, we must acknowledge that the Data Act alone will not be sufficient to address the specific challenges faced by our sector. Automotive data is not only about information but also about access to essential in-vehicle functions and resources that enable the provision of digital and connected services. The ability to communicate with the vehicle, to initiate actions, and to integrate new functionalities is fundamental for ensuring effective competition. Therefore, we call for complementary, sector-specific legislation that secures fair access to both vehicle data and functional resources, reflecting the technical and safety specificities of the automotive environment.

In this regard, the ongoing review of the Motor Vehicle Block Exemption Regulation (MVBER) offers an important opportunity to reinforce the principles of fair competition. The MVBER should provide clearer guidance on data access and digital services, ensuring that the same level of competition which has long applied to physical parts and repair information now extends to the digital dimension of vehicles. Without this evolution, the benefits of the Data Act risk being undermined by outdated competition rules that do not fully reflect the realities of connected mobility.

The Data Act marks the beginning of a new era in Europe's approach to digital fairness and competition. For the automotive aftermarket, its success will depend on strong enforcement, close monitoring of compliance, and the swift introduction of complementary measures under the MVBER and a dedicated sectoral framework. Only then can we guarantee that consumers, businesses, and society at large will reap the full benefits of a vibrant, innovative, and competitive mobility ecosystem. ADPA stands ready to work with regulators, policymakers, and all stakeholders to make this vision a reality.

### For more information

ADPA webpage on [digitalisation](#)

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ADPA, the European Automotive Data Publishers Association, aims to ensure fair access to automotive data and information needed for the repair and maintenance of the 280 millions vehicles on European roads, contributing to their continuous roadworthiness over their lifetime. Its members design and provide competitive, innovative and multibrand solutions to operators of the automotive aftermarket. Founded in 2016 and based in Brussels, ADPA is a Member of AFCAR, the Alliance for the Freedom of Car Repair in the European Union, and FAAS, the Forum for Automotive Aftermarket Sustainability.