

## **European Commission refers UK to the ECJ for failure to comply with EU rules on marked fuel**

(July 10, 2014)

Today the European Commission announced that it decided to refer the UK to the European Court of Justice for not properly applying the rules on fiscal marking of fuel. Under EU rules, fuel that can benefit from a reduced tax rate has to be marked by coloured dye. Fishing vessels are for example allowed to benefit from a lower taxed fuel, but private leisure boats must use fuel subject to a standard rate. According to the European Commission, UK law currently does not require fuel distributors to have 2 separate fuel tanks to distinguish between the lower taxed marked fuel and the fuel subject to the standard rate. As a consequence of this, private leisure boat owners are often in a situation where they can only purchase low taxed marked fuel. According to the European Commission this doesn't only mean that the owners of private leisure boats may not pay the right amount of tax, but it also puts them at risk of getting heavy penalties if they are checked by local authorities when travelling to another Member State.

[Click here](#) to be forwarded to the press release issued by the European Commission in this respect.

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-14-810\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-810_en.htm)