

## PRESS RELEASE

### **BNP Paribas Lease Group launches Assistruck: a Europe-wide multi-brand assistance contract for commercial vehicles**

Paris, May 9, 2007 - BNP Paribas Lease Group (BPLG), the leading French and European financier of professional equipment through financial and operating leases, has launched Assistruck, an assistance contract for all commercial vehicles of over 3.5 tonnes, trailers and semi-trailers registered in France. Assistruck provides breakdown services for road transport companies day and night, whatever their brand or location in Europe.

In a context of just-in-time delivery and heightened European competition on the transport market, having a vehicle standing idle for more than a day can be very costly. "Beyond financing vehicles, we must accompany transport companies in their everyday fleet management," says Jean-Michel Mercier, who heads the Transport market at BNP Paribas Lease Group.

In partnership with Truck Assistance International Transports Assistance (TAI TA), BPLG is the first professional financial establishment to offer transport companies an assistance contract that guarantees a solution in all cases of breakdowns that immobilize the vehicle.

- **Technical assistance in the case of a breakdown** (repairs/towing) unlimited mileage.
- **Tyre assistance** (repairs/towing) without excess in the case of a blown or burst tyre.
- **Availability of a replacement vehicle** for ten days or in the case of non-availability a daily compensation of €200 when a vehicle is immobilized for repairs.
- **An unlimited number of interventions.**

Until now, vehicle breakdowns could be a burden for transport companies, with numerous manufacturer contracts, particular conditions for each insurance policy and accumulated expenses.

#### **BPLG's Assistruck applies to all commercial vehicles and covers all of Europe**

Thanks to the partnerships formed between TAI and its authorized local service providers.

The contract is based on a very reasonable monthly payment system, which incorporates the breakdown risk into the company accounts while at the same time ensuring maximum assistance.

Assistruck is offered in all the new operating and financial leases and can be requested from all BNP Paribas Lease Group offices.



## **BNP Paribas Lease Group (BPLG) background**

BNP Paribas Lease Group is a 100% BNP Paribas subsidiary specialized in financing investments made by companies and professionals. Its core business is financing professional equipment either acquired through the intermediary of its partner-manufacturers and importers or directly by the client company or professional. BPLG's remit is to offer customized financing solutions in the form of financial and operating leases and credit, as well as related services. BNP Paribas Lease Group has been in the business for over 50 years, and is the European and French market leader. BNP Paribas Lease Group offers manufacturers, importers and equipment vendors a comprehensive service to finance their sales, and with them builds local, national and international partnerships, ranging from simple recommendation agreements to setting up joint financial companies. For the BNP Paribas banking network, BPLG also handles the lease-financing of its customers' investments in capital goods and property. BNP Paribas Lease Group is present in 14 countries: Algeria, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and Ukraine.

For further information: [www.bplg.com](http://www.bplg.com)

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