

## PRESS RELEASE

### Membership of Fair Standards Alliance gets early 2017 boost

**Brussels, 23 February 2017** – The Fair Standards Alliance (FSA) today welcomed four new members to its organisation taking the number of members to **twenty seven** showing that the alliance is seen by a broad spectrum of industry as having a leading role to play in helping form Europe’s economic future - especially in respect of the Internet of Things (IoT).

The new members include:

- Bullitt Group - a company that designs, manufactures, markets and sells mobile phones and consumer electronic products to cross-sector multinationals.
- BURY - a German based electronic manufacturer working closely with the German automobile sector.
- Gramm, Lins & Partner - a law firm which specialises in IP and patent consultation.
- Harman International - a global leader in connected car solutions, consumer and professional audio, and cloud, analytics and IoT software services.

*“I am delighted to welcome these companies from such diverse sectors but all with an equally important role to play in securing Europe’s economic future by ensuring fair licensing practices for Standard Essential Patents (SEPS). The FSA’s membership continues to expand and is testament to how our values and aims are central to the growth prospects of large and small European firms – especially those working in the tech sector”,* said Robert Pocknell, FSA Chairman.

FSA believes that the innovation ecosystem - especially in Europe - is threatened by unfair and unreasonable SEP licensing practices. Failure to honour the FRAND commitment that exists in most standardisation licensing creates barriers to market entry, threatens to stifle the full potential for economic growth across major industry sectors – such as the automotive sector - and ultimately curbs consumer choice.

#### **About FSA:**

Launched in November 2015 and based in Europe, the Alliance seeks to promote the licensing of standards-essential patents (SEPs) on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory (FRAND) terms.

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The FSA’s member companies - spend billions of euros annually on R&D and hold hundreds of thousands of patents between them. Our members include: AirTies, Bullitt, BURY, BMW, Cisco, Daimler, Dell, Fairphone, Google, Gramm, Lins & Partner, Harman, HP, Hyundai, Intel, ip.access, Juniper Networks, Lenovo, N&M Consultancy, RHA Legal, Sagemcom Broadband SAS, Sequans Communications, Sierra Wireless, Telit, Tesla, u-blox, Valeo Peiker and Volkswagen.

#### **For further information**

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