



Fédération Française de Carrosserie
Industrie et Services



Press release

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The French Bodywork Federation FFC pays tribute to the Transport world and, in contrast to previous years, makes its 2020 Industry Personality of the Year award (*Homme de la Filière*) to three people: the presidents of the French Transport Federations FNTR, OTRE and TLF.

Every year for the past three years, FFC and its Chairman Patrick Cholton have presented an honorary award to an outstanding industry personality, symbolising their commitment to success in our industry.

The fourth edition of the Industry Personality of the Year (*Homme de la Filière*) has a quite singular resonance, at a turbulent time from both public health and economic perspectives.

Following Jean-Dominique Sénard, at the time CEO of Michelin, Dominique Fernier, Chief Executive of Transpolis, and Veronkia Wand-Danielsson, the Swedish Ambassador to France, this year's winners are recognised for their achievements in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Consequently, no fewer than three people – one woman and two men – are to receive the Industry Personality of the Year award for 2020, presented by the FFC.

Aline MESPLES, President of OTRE, **Jean Christophe PIC**, President of FNTR and **Éric HEMAR**, President of TLF, together epitomise the endeavours of the transport sector during the darkest hours of the epidemic.

While the government and media largely and justifiably shone a light on the courage and self-sacrifice of healthcare workers, the FFC would for its part like to single out the professionals who helped the country's wheels keep turning every day. Our Sector has a habit of recalling that whenever you touch an object, it was once carried by a lorry. And at the height of the crisis, drivers, transporters and logistics firms kept on working, unfailingly delivering goods to supermarkets, hospitals and essential retail services. Between March and June 2020, the transport sector's trade associations supported their members and defended their interests before the government authorities to obtain decent working conditions and allow them to conserve their mission of public utility. Today, they continue to fulfil their responsibilities by attempting to secure a government-led recovery plan for the transport sector which recognises trucks at their full value: that of an absolutely essential link in the chain that supplies goods to the population and professionals in all sectors. For all these reasons, FFC wishes to offer its congratulations and heartfelt thanks to all Transport professionals through these awards, which will be presented to the presidents of the three trade associations OTRE, FNTR and TLF, at the Industry Meetings (Rencontres de la Filière) on **17 November 2020** at the Matmut Stadium Gerland in Lyon.

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