

## Fuelling global road freight

[Getting into Gear](#), a report commissioned by Shell suggests Hydrogen will be the key energy source for global road freight. The study questioned 158 executives in the road freight sector in 22 different countries. Of those asked, 70% ranked decarbonisation as a top-three concern for their business.

Many interviewees said they expect hydrogen to be commercially viable in 5 to 10 years.

“We believe that once produced at scale, hydrogen will likely be the more cost-effective and viable pathway to net-zero emissions for heavy-duty and long-route medium-duty vehicles, and electric mobility will do the same for light-duty and short-route medium-duty vehicles,” Carlos Maurer, EVP of sectors and decarbonisation at Shell, said in a statement.

The report says biofuels should be commercialised quickly around existing infrastructure, but ultimately “not where they could disrupt the deployment of zero-emission solutions.”

All this calls into question the long-term prospects for biofuels. In 2011, the IEA forecast that biofuels could make up [27 percent](#) of global transportation fuels by 2050. The reality now, however, is that biofuels are more likely to play their largest role in the short term, while the longer-term chase for zero-carbon fuels has moved past them.