

Performance labelling of tyres will be mandatory

Brussels, 22 April 2009 - The European Parliament adopted today a legislative proposal on the future "labelling of tyres with respect to fuel efficiency and other essential parameters". The aim is to provide consumers with information on the rolling resistance and wet grip performance as well as the external noise level of all tyres placed on the European market- from November 2012.

Fazilet Cinaralp, Secretary General of ETRMA (European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturer's Association) said: " The Tyre industry favours measures that would inform consumers in a clear, transparent and uniform way on key parameters related to safety as well as to environmental performances of tyres. We welcome the approach taken by the European Parliament in today's vote to realise this goal through an efficient and balanced set of requirements which allows a consumer friendly information provision. "

The proposal has also been changed from a directive to a regulation, in order not to suffer from potential differences and delays in national implementation. We also appreciate the attention the Parliament has given to ensure that a robust enforcement system of the labelling scheme is foreseen at national level. Finally, we note the consistent approach the European Parliament has followed for the implementation of the legislation. As it has been the case in the most recent tyre related legislations (restrictions of PAHs in tyres¹, global safety regulation²), the EP also in this case, agrees that the reference for implementation of the tyre labelling rules would be the production date.

The tyre industry looks forward to working together with the EU institutions in the next steps of the decision making process to arrive at a final text which informs the consumers in the best possible way and with the most efficient tools.

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The European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers' Association tyre Corporate members are Bridgestone Europe, Cooper Tires, Continental, Goodyear Dunlop Tires Europe, Hankook Tire Europe, Marangoni, Michelin, Mitas, Nokian Tyres, Pirelli Tyre, Trelleborg Wheel Systems and Vredestein.

¹ European Directive 2005/69/EC

² Proposal of Regulation 2008/316, recently adopted by EP as 1st Reading Agreement