

GEAR2030 launched

ETRMA urges European Commission to work to achieve a true fairness in European and global markets

Brussels, 28 January 2016 - ETRMA welcomes the Commission's decision to set up the High Level Group on the Competitiveness and Sustainable Growth of the Automotive Industry in the EU -GEAR2030- and looks forward to contributing constructively to identifying those policy and legislative interventions that are needed to indeed boost the competitiveness and growth of the automotive industry.

The European tyre industry being the most and the earliest regulated area within the automotive sector is surely able -and willing- to accept any new mobility challenges in the mid to long term, including the automated and connected vehicle challenge. However, the sector is very sensitive to solutions to the current issues "prior" to going forward. ETRMA calls upon the European Institutions to take care of its manufacturing assets and jobs. This would better enable the tyre sector to sustain its key role in the mobility sector in the future, as well as to remain a vital part of the European automotive value chain.

GEAR2030 should lead to make EU legislation workable in terms of market surveillance, in terms of connecting consumers with proven high quality products, and in terms of true EU mindset change towards resilience; and has asked the European Commission to use all the tools available to make the level playing field to become a true reality on the European market.

More details about GEAR2030 : http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8640&lang=en

More details about ETRMA: www.etrma.org

ETRMA's membership include the following tyre manufacturers: APOLLO VREDESTEIN, BRIDGESTONE EUROPE, BRISA, COOPER TIRES, CONTINENTAL, GOODYEAR DUNLOP TIRES EUROPE, HANKOOK, MARANGONI, MICHELIN, MITAS, NOKIAN TYRES, PIRELLI AND TRELLEBORG WHEEL SYSTEMS. Furthermore, members include Associations in the following countries: Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the UK. The industry provides direct employment for more than 350,000 people in the EU and supports another 800,000 jobs in related sectors. The sector's turnover is estimated at € 72 b, which, adding its value chain, accounts for nearly a percentage point of EU GDP. Up to 5% of this turnover continues to be invested in R&D, annually.