

ETRMA Statistics Report 2012: the European Tyre and Rubber industry is slowly recovering from the crisis, but imports are gaining ground on the European market.

Brussels, 15 October 2012 – ETRMA published its Statistics 2012 Edition.

The main findings of the report include the following:

- After a sharp fall in 2008 and 2009, the GRG production trend of European main producer countries became positive again in 2010. In 2011 the progress slowed down and it remains still below the pre-crisis level – with the exception of Germany.
- The trade balance of GRG is still positive when measured in value, although the margin is considerably lower than in 2010.
- Tyre production in Europe increased in 2011, but it still has not reached pre-crisis level.
- The market share of EU-based producers is progressively being eroded by an increasing volume of imports, which are now twice the volume of exports.
- China remains the main tyre importer in the EU, whilst the EU mainly exports to the rest of Europe and NAFTA.
- Tyre Recovery remains high and sustainable in Europe.
- With regard to natural rubber, Europe is the second biggest consumer after China.
- In 2011, the EU demand of natural rubber from the tyre industry was 75%. The demand of synthetic rubber from the GRG industry was 54%.
- EU import tariffs for tyres and GRG are generally between 0 and 6.5%.
- The exports tariffs that EU products face in third countries have peaks as high as 40%.

More detailed information can be found in the full report attached and available on [ETRMA's website](#) in electronic format.

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About ETRMA

The current ETRMA tyre corporate members are: Apollo Vredestein, Bridgestone Europe, Cooper Tires, Continental, Goodyear Dunlop Tires Europe, Hankook, Marangoni, Michelin, Mitas, Nokian Tyres, Pirelli and Trelleborg Wheel Systems. The General Rubber Goods manufacturers are represented through national associations in Belgium (federplast), Finland (rmaf), France (snpc), Germany (wdk), Italy (fgp), the Netherlands (nvr) and Spain (consorcio). The industry provides direct employment for more than 374,000 people in the EU and supports another 800000 jobs in related sectors. ETRMA members' turnover in 2011 is estimated at €47 b, of which up to 5% is invested in R&D, annually.