

2013 European replacement tyre market stabilises after a rough start

Brussels, 16 January 2014 – The European Tyre and Rubber manufacturers association published today figures concerning its members' sales in 2013. After a 2012 which registered a substantial contraction of the market (with a double digit drop in sales for all the segments) and a very slow beginning of the year, 2013 showed timid signs of recovery that were consolidated towards the end of the year.

Despite the market having stabilised, not all segments have enjoyed the same level of recovery.

(source: europool ETRMA)

	2012	2013	Variation %
	194.618	192.699	-1%
00 0	8.231	8.849	+8%
0	1.652	1.675	+1%
5	7.611	7.737	+2%

The Consumer's tyre segment is the one that had the worst performance and registered a -1% decrease in sales, compared to the already negative previous year. When analysing country data, this descending slope is confirmed by Germany – the biggest European Market – and by Poland. However, signs of recovery were evident in other major markets such as France, Italy, the UK and Spain.

With regard to the truck and bus segment, the increase in sales has been more evident with a +8% growth compared to the previous year. "2012 had been a particularly bad year for this

segment which lost 19% compared to 2011. The departure level was therefore very low and a return to growth was strongly hoped for" said Mrs Cinaralp, Secretary General of ETRMA.

Trade data in these two segments confirms a domination of imports from China, which remain as high as 40% of total imports for consumer tyres and are increasing significantly in the truck segment. In general, imports are growing in all categories and especially in the truck segment, where they constitute about 20% of the total European market.

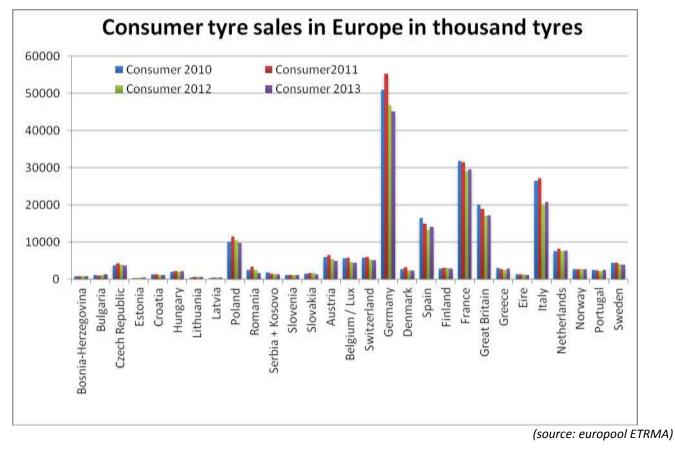
The Agricultural and motorcycle markets showed a somewhat stable performance compared to 2012 with a 1% and 2% growth, respectively. This stability only confirms the very low sales of 2012 and a full recovery is yet to be made for these two segments.

"2013 was clearly not a year of boom on the tyre market, but sales data show a consolidation of the market and a return to growth after such a negative 2012. It is our hope that this trend will be confirmed by 2014, for which we could expect 2 to 3% growth".

For further information, please contact Mrs Cinaralp, Secretary General

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 360,000 people in the EU and supports another 800000 jobs in related sectors. ETRMA members' turnover in 2012 is estimated ta \notin 46 b, of which up to 5% continues to be invested in R&D, annually.



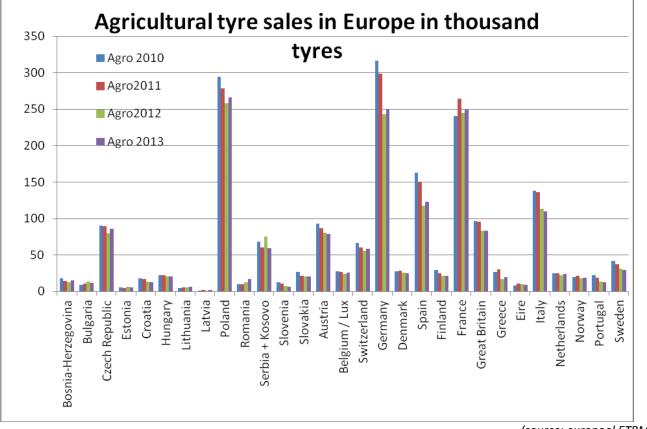


ANNEX: COUNTRY DATA

Truck & bus tyre sales in Eurpe in thousand tyres 1800 Truck 2010 1600 truck2011 1400 truck2012 1200 1000 Truck2013 800 600 400 200 0 Estonia Croatia Finland France Greece Latvia Romania Spain Bosnia-Herzegovina Poland Serbia + Kosovo Slovakia Eire Italy Netherlands Norway Bulgaria Czech Republic Hungary -ithuania Slovenia Austria Switzerland Great Britain Sweden Belgium / Lux Germany Denmark Portugal

(source: europool ETRMA)





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