





First quarter 2016: Signs of a positive start for the European tyre industry

Brussels, 14 April 2016 – The European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers' Association published today tyre replacements sales of its Members for the first quarter of 2016.

In '000 units*	1 th Q 2015	1 th Q 2016	Variation %
	51.965	53.285	3%
	2.156	2.273	5%
	436	406	-7%
	3.297	3.441	4%

As shown in the table below, the beginning of the year displays a good level of activity on the EU market, leading the industry to forecast a certain stability in the sales trends for the rest of 2016.

This positive beginning is despite the very mild winter, which lead to low winter tyres sales.

The performance of **agricultural tyre sales** remains negative. The shrinking of the agricultural tyre market was also confirmed by a slowing down of imports. The notable exception is India, whose exports to the EU increased by +1%, despite the general decrease of EU imports (-19%).

(source: europool ETRMA)

* Discrepancies with data previously published is due to periodic data corrections.

More generally, the pressure from imports remained high in 2015:

- The overall EU imports of **truck and bus tyres** increased by +10%. China remains the main exporter to the EU, with an increment of +12%.
- With regard to **consumer tyres**, their imports in the EU also increased by +6% and those from China did by +9%.

Chinese exports to Europe have been consistently growing in recent years (see charts in Annex). "This is despite a decrease of Chinese exports of 4%*" said Ms Cinaralp, Secretary General of ETRMA "This confirms the high exposure of the European tyre market to competition from third countries, whilst other parts of the world are putting in place protective measures".

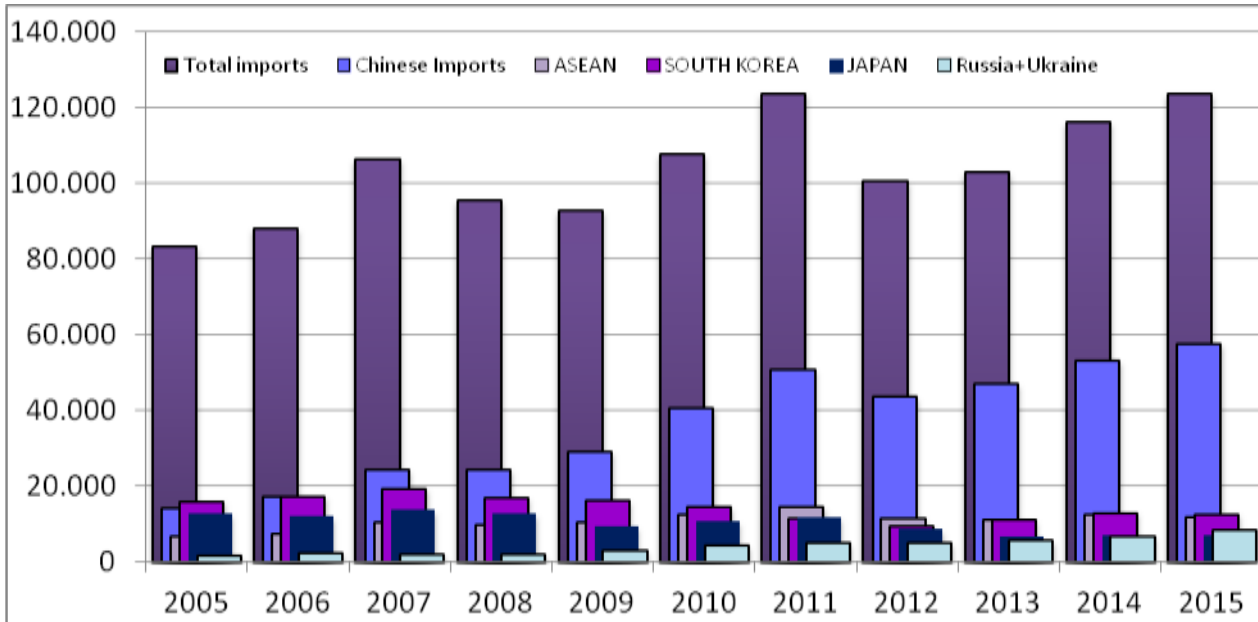
**Source Tire Business Magazine

For further information, please contact Mrs Cinaralp, Secretary General

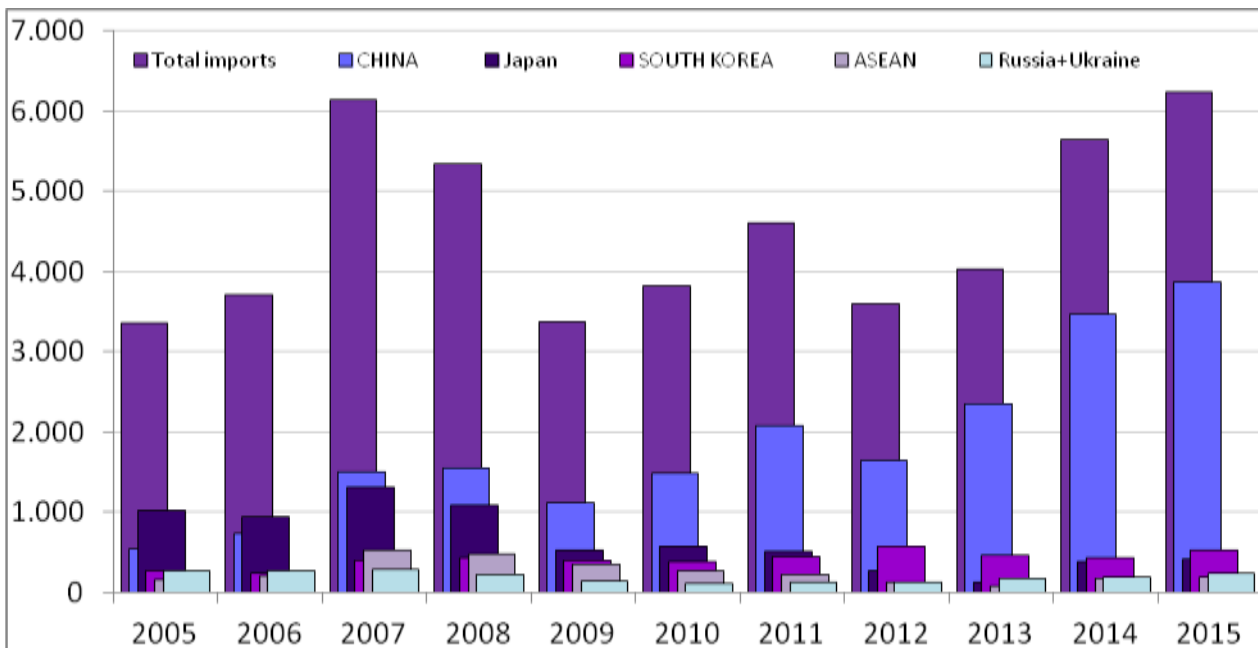
ETRMA's membership include the following tyre manufacturers: APOLLO VREDESTEIN, BRIDGESTONE EUROPE, BRISA, COOPER TIRES, CONTINENTAL, GOODYEAR DUNLOP TIRES EUROPE, HANKOOK, MARANGONI, MICHELIN, MITAS, NOKIAN TYRES, PIRELLI AND TRELLEBORG WHEEL SYSTEMS. Furthermore, members include Associations in the 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 to € 46 b, of which up to 5% continues to be invested in R&D, annually.

ANNEX - Import data

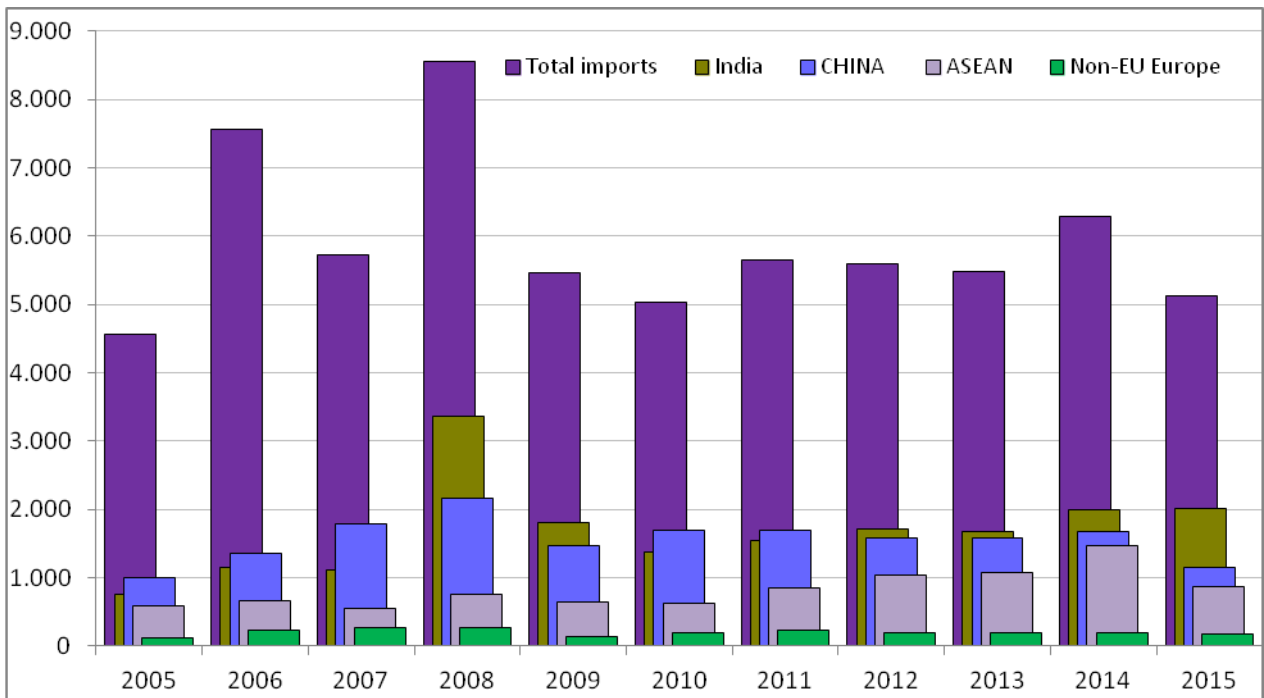
Consumer tyres in thousand units (Source Eurostat)



Truck and bus tyres in thousand units (Source Eurostat)



Agricultural tyres in thousand units (Source Eurostat)



Motorcycle tyres in thousand units (Source Eurostat)

