

ETRMA - Press Release

European General Road Safety Regulation

Tyre Pressure Monitoring System - TPMS

2 April 2019

ETRMA welcomes the endorsement of the new General Safety Regulation compromise agreement of 25 March by EU co-legislators.

Today, the European Parliament IMCO Committee endorsed the proposal for revising the General Safety Regulation on 2 April 2019. This regulation updates existing rules on vehicle safety by introducing new important elements into EU legislation, such as the tyre pressure monitoring system (TPMS) for light and heavy commercial vehicles, trailers and busses.

ETRMA Secretary General, Fazilet Cinaralp said: *“This is an important move towards safer roads and lower energy consumption. The tyre pressure monitoring system permits tyres to perform much closer to their optimum in real time making our roads safer and our vehicles more energy efficient. TPMS has been mandatory in the EU for passenger cars since 2014 and the inclusion of commercial vehicles is an important step forward.”*

TYRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEMS

A tyre pressure monitoring system is a unique tool that informs the vehicle drivers of tyre under-inflation. The correct choice of warning threshold helps to keep the inflation pressure at the required level for optimal performance and reduced fuel consumption, CO₂ emissions and general pollutant emissions.

However, TPMS does not exonerate the driver from doing tyres' inflation pressure checks because it only warns the driver if the inflation pressure is below the level required to carry the *axle* load of the vehicle according to tyre industry standards. Drivers driving with maximum cargo loads or exceptional loads must therefore ensure the tyre pressure is adjusted to the higher load capacity.

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GAINS

Being the only point of contact between the vehicle and the road, a primary performance of tyres is safety. European tyre producers have always emphasised the importance of purchasing the best performing tyres for different operating conditions and proper tyre maintenance.

Mrs. Cinaralp added: *“Driving with tyres at the right pressure is of paramount importance for vehicle safety, since only properly inflated tyres hold the load, adhere to the road, consume less fuel, produce less noise, ensure the best braking distance and lengthen tyre lifespan.”*

According to market surveys¹, heavy-duty vehicles drive 40-65% of their distance travelled on underinflated tyres and 10-25% on tyres underinflated by more than 10%. Another independent analysis² shows that the savings in CO₂ emissions of light- and heavy-duty vehicles, when tyre inflation pressure is at the required level, are close to those of passenger cars. Consequently, there is as great of an incentive to also fit light- and heavy-duty vehicles with a TPMS.

Mrs. Cinaralp concluded: *“TPMS responds to the important societal demands for safe and sustainable solutions in the transport sector and we are very pleased that this technology can support both objectives.”*

¹ <http://publications.tno.nl/publication/34616529/59WoEN/TNO-2014-R11423.pdf>

² https://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/clima/files/transport/vehicles/heavy/docs/tno_2013_final_report_en.pdf

For any questions, please contact the ETRMA Secretariat at info@etrma.org.

ETRMA, European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers' Association, represents more than 6.000 companies in EU28, employing 360.000 individuals and supports another 800.000 jobs in related sectors. The product range of its members is extensive from tyres to pharmaceutical, baby care, construction and automotive rubber goods and many more applications. ETRMA members' turnover in 2016 is estimated at € 73 b, of which up to 5% continues to be invested in R&D, annually. ETRMA's membership include the following tyre manufacturers: APOLLO VREDESTEIN, BRIDGESTONE EUROPE, BRISA, COOPER TIRES, CONTINENTAL, GOODYEAR DUNLOP TIRES EUROPE, HANKOOK, MARANGONI, MICHELIN, NOKIAN TYRES, PIRELLI, PROMETEON, SUMITOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES AND TRELLEBORG WHEEL SYSTEMS. Furthermore, members include Associations across Europe: Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the UK.