

Bringing forward-looking skills to the rubber and tyre industry via a Pact for Skills is key to accompany transformation in the automotive ecosystem

Brussels, 15 October 2020

The European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers' Association proposes, in cooperation with the DRIVES and ALLBATTs partners, a strategy for the implementation of the European Commission Pact for Skills, for the Automotive ecosystem.

In underlying the commitment of the Association to the project, **Ms Cinaralp ETRMA's Secretary General** commented saying that: *"From digitalization, to greener transport and circular economy, passing through mobility as a service and data access, the tyre and rubber industry is undergoing a core transformation. These drivers of change have a strong influence on the kind of skills that the industry needs and that are key to accompany its transformation. The COVID-19 crisis made this process all the more urgent and up/re-skilling our workforce will be essential to support the recovery and the competitiveness of the industry".*

The work of DRIVES*, of which ETRMA is a steering board member, helped tremendously in this challenge by defining the new skills and job roles needed to prompt the future of automotive value chain, connecting and bringing together industry and training providers as well as the most appropriate formats to deliver them across the EU.

To continue and further develop this work, ETRMA joins the other partners in calling the European Commission to set up a dedicated skills pact for the automotive ecosystem.

ETRMA welcomes and supports the steps taken by European Commissioners Thierry Breton (internal Market) and Nicolas Schmit (Jobs and Social Rights) concerning the development of such a Pact in the form of a private-public partnership to support the automotive value chain in retaining and developing the jobs, skills and competences.

This will help to multiply the effects of the already consistent investments made today by ETRMA Members to support its workforce and get it ready for the industry of tomorrow.

* The Development and Research on Innovative Vocational Educational Skills project (DRIVES) is funded by the Erasmus+ Sector Skills Alliances Programme and, started in 2018, will finish in December 2021.

For any questions, please contact communication@etrma.org

About ETRMA

The European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers Association (ETRMA) represent nearly 4.400 companies in the EU, directly employing about 370.000 people. The global sales of ETRMA's corporate members represent 70% of total global sales and 7 out of 10 world leaders in the sector are ETRMA Members. We have a strong manufacturing and research presence within the EU and candidate countries, with 86 tyre-producing plants and 16 R&D centres.