

Pact for Skills essential to support the transformation and innovation of the automotive ecosystem

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The European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers' Association welcomes the signature of the Pact for Skills. In this context the European Commission has also announced the first European skills partnerships in key industrial ecosystems, including automotive.

ETRMA, together with the DRIVES* and ALBATTs** partners and key EU automotive regions, has been working towards the establishment of this initiative, through an Automotive Skills Alliance under the Pact for Skills.

The tyre and rubber industry supports the joint proposal for a recovery strategy to deliver and implement a sectorial up/reskilling framework for the automotive value chain, maximising industry competitiveness, job retention and new job opportunities and paving the way to a dedicated partnership for the automotive ecosystem within the Pact for Skills.

Our sector is facing unprecedented structural changes with respect to the key drivers of change: digitalization, greener transport, circular economy, connectivity and mobility as a service and data access.

"The current crisis is speeding up the transformation of the sector and a quick adaptation of the labour force as well as relevant investments in up/re skilling are essential to ensure jobs and future competitiveness of the tyre and rubber industry" commented **Ms Cinaralp** ETRMA's Secretary General in welcoming the kick off of the Pact for Skills initiative.

"The skills needed by our industry are already influenced by all these changes and will be even more impacted in the future – particularly in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis. The strength of the Pact for Skills initiative resides both in its short term capacity to help up- and re-skilling industry's workforce as well as in supporting, in the medium-long term, the shift towards a cleaner and digital mobility".

ETRMA underlines how the partnership in the automotive sector also builds on inclusivity and openness for all other existing or future stakeholders, initiatives or projects to jointly cooperate under one European umbrella. The ambition of this new Automotive Skills Alliance is to enable **up/re-skilling of 5% of workforce each year to tackle the industrial transition in the automotive ecosystem** and recover the impacts of Covid-19 crisis.

* 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.

**Alliance for Batteries Technology, Training and Skills

For further information please refer to the [Summary on the Skills Partnership for the Automotive Ecosystem](#).
For any questions, please contact communication@etrma.org.

The European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers Association (ETRMA) represents 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 Members¹. We have a strong manufacturing and research presence within the EU and candidate countries, with 93 tyre-producing plants and 17 R&D centres.

¹ ETRMA's membership include the following tyre manufacturers: APOLLO VREDESTEIN, BRIDGESTONE EUROPE, BRISA, COOPER TIRES, CONTINENTAL, GOODYEAR, HANKOOK, MARANGONI, MICHELIN, NOKIAN TYRES, PIRELLI, PROMETEON, SUMITOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES 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.