

Tyres & Accessories

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Newsletter for September 16, 2004

Pirelli Records First Half Improvement

Pirelli & Co SpA recorded a group net income of 131 million euros in the first half ended 30 June 2004. The figure is particularly impressive when it is compared with same time the previous year. In the first six months of 2003 the company had a net income of –21 million euros. In 2004 the group expects a significant improvement in results in all activity sectors, both at operating and net level.

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RAC Puts Pressure on Garages

The RAC is putting pressure on garages to provide free tyre pressure gauges in order to help prevent accidents. According to the RAC, only one in three motorists check their tyres before a long journey, despite the obvious safety risks associated with wrongly inflated tyres.

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Bridgestone: We Don't Have It

German online service, F1Total is reporting that Bridgestone has declared its innocence in the recently tyre 'theft' fiasco. The company made its comments in response to accusations that Jenson Button's blown Michelin could have ended up in Bridgestone's possession. Bridgestone spokesman, Adrian Atkinson, said there was nothing in the accusations and that the Japanese tyre supplier had no parts of Button's tyre. Observers expect that it is just a matter of time before the whole issue blows over.



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Biggest Online Dealer Takes On Investors

Europe's biggest online tyre dealer, the Hanover based Delticom AG, has signed an investment contract with a local bank and a local private equity firm. The deal is the company's second investment contract. Four years ago the online tyre dealer took on an investor, the company writes in its press release. With this new deal Delticom is seeking to allow for further international expansion and the build-up of a global network, explain the company's two chairmen Andreas Prüfer and Rainer Binder. "With regards to a possible floating of our shares we are well prepared," they say. Delticom has not published the size of the new investment contract or any figures relating to the ownership situation of the company. This year Delticom expects to achieve a turnover of £44.5 million.

SmarTire to Supply Aston Martin

SmarTire Systems Inc has signed a deal to supply tyre pressure monitoring systems for Aston Martin, the company said yesterday. Details of the contract have not been released. "We are extremely proud and delighted to be expanding our supply relationship with such a progressive company as Aston Martin that has placed the highest priority on advanced vehicle technology," SmarTire vice-president John Taylor-Wilson said. Aston Martin first selected SmarTire's system in November 2000 for use in its V-12 Vanquish.

Myanmar Government Lifts Rubber Export Ban

Myanmar has resumed the export of rubber following an announcement by the government that took effect on 1 September. In a statement released by the country's trade directorate on 27 August, the government said that domestic production had risen since the ban was put in place at the beginning of the year. According to the statement demand is being met.

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US Authority Proposes TPMS System

The US government's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has officially proposed that all new vehicles carry a TPMS. The announcement comes after the NHTSA sent the draft rule to the Office of Management and Budget on 1 July.

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Goodyear to Invest \$30 million in Fayetteville

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co has confirmed that it is planning to plough \$30 million into its Kelly-Springfield plant in Fayetteville, North Carolina. . [More...](#)

TMD Friction appoints new CFO

TMD friction has announced the appointment of John Hudson as its new chief financial officer (CFO). Mr Hudson replaces Peter Cheung who had worked for TMD Friction products for the last three and a half years.

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