

Tyre Manufacturers' Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes of the meeting held 27th January 2021 by video-conference

Present					
Chris Baxter	<i>Hankook</i>	Vincent Bezard	<i>Cooper Tire Europe</i>	Rob Blurton	<i>Michelin</i>
Alistair Brown	<i>GiTi</i>	Steve Howat	<i>Continental</i>	Alan Meaker	<i>Toyo</i>
Steve Morris (Chair)	<i>Goodyear</i>	Gerry Murphy	<i>ITMA</i>	Gary Powell	<i>Bridgestone</i>
Nigel Winfield	<i>Pirelli</i>				
In attendance					
Graham Willson	<i>BTMA</i>				

1. Welcome and housekeeping matters

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Graham welcomed participants to the call.	Noted.

2. Compliance statement

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Graham highlighted the need to respect Competition law and the requirements of the TIF compliance statement.	Members agreed to abide by the requirements of the compliance statement.

3. Minutes of last meeting held 8th December 2020

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
Review of the minutes of the meeting held 8 th December 2020.	The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
None.	

5. Tyre age limit guidance

<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Decision</i>
DVSA guidance was discussed, in particular the issuance of advisory notices where the DOT code was not visible. Some members expressed concern, anticipating a large volume of notices. Concern was also raised regarding the implied preference for tyres to be mounted with the DOT code facing "outwards".	After extended discussion, it was agreed that the best course of action was to review the outcome of the present guidance in March in the light of a month's experience.
The question raised by DVSA regarding the possible re-branding of DOT codes was discussed.	Members were unanimous in their rebuttal of this possibility, indicating that no such action would be authorised by a manufacturer and that if undertaken it would result in the invalidation of the product warranty.
Guide to CV tyre management: hard copy and poster.	Members asked for more time to revert on the poster proposal. Agreement to defer decision on hard copy of the guide until after lockdown when face-to-face meetings, conferences, etc become possible once again.

Constituent Associations:

- British Tyre Manufacturers' Association
- Imported Tyre Manufacturers Association
- National Tyre Distributors Association
- Tyre Recovery Association

6. Tyre labelling implementation

Discussion	Decision
Graham gave an overview of the roll-out of the new labelling regulation. See annex.	Noted.

7. Guidance re van tyres – scoping exercise

Discussion	Decision
Graham summarised the motivations for the project identified at the December meeting. He also set out the two-strand approach previously identified: a lightweight check-sheet for owner-drivers and a more comprehensive guide for fleet operators.	Graham to research evidence re MOT failure and roadside inspections. Also, to propose draft outline documents. Members to feed back information re operational experience, customer complaints, etc.

8. Review of guidance re replacement tyres, load index, etc

Discussion	Decision
<p>Current guidance: correction to glossary of terms on BTMA website: Load index can be 2 or 3-digit.</p> <p>HL and XL markings: need for clear messaging. Consideration of draft ETRTO guidance.</p> <p>Customising, vehicle fitting / bodybuilders: Single Vehicle Type Approval, fitting low profile car tyres to vans, etc.</p>	<p>Graham to amend website.</p> <p>Address topic at March meeting in light of final ETRTO guidance.</p> <p>Guidance needed. Decision to leave user guidance re motorhomes and caravans to TyreSafe.</p>

9. Any other urgent business: none

Date and venue of next meetings: Van tyre guidance: 25th February 10:00 – 12:00 on Teams,
Full meeting: 23rd March 10:00 – 12:00 on Teams.

Annex



TYRE INDUSTRY FEDERATION

Roll-out of new tyre labelling regulation

- From 1st January N Ireland follows EU but GB is on separate, initially parallel path
 - Ministers are minded to maintain GB alignment with new regulation but timing is misaligned
- **1st Jan – 30th April 2021**
 - N Ireland continues to follow EU 1222/2009
 - In GB, Westminster version of EU 1222/2009 applies requires Union Jack on label but hard-won concession allows use of current label with EU emblem
- **1st May onwards**
 - New EU reg 2020/740 will apply in N Ireland
 - Westminster legislation to align GB with new regulation not expected before “late summer”
 - Problem of compliance during interregnum: Labels on tyres, Information on websites, etc, Information at point of sale
- **Actions**
 - Preparing N Ireland roll-out through joint DfT / Industry working party including iOS software houses
 - Pursuing legalisation by DfT *à la* factouse of new EU label in GB from 1st May until new GB legislation adopted

