

PRESS RELEASE

Environmental benefits and guaranteed savings

In 2010, 115 million liters of oil and 237 million Euros were saved thanks to tyre retreading

Tyre retreading is a remarkable energy-saving provision. In 2010, thanks to it, 114.6 million of liters of oil and 32,733 tons of raw materials were saved, while 33,200 tons of used tyres were diverted from the waste stream. In fact, retreading allows reuse of those tyre casings that, under inspection, prove to be still in perfect conditions. Tyres are restored to life by replacing the worn out tread through extremely reliable and advanced techniques.

Italy's 2010 ecological and economic balance sheet for tyre retreading

	Measure unit	Amount
Used tyres diverted from the environment	Tons	33,200
Energy savings (oil and similar products)	Million liters	114.6
Raw material savings	Tons	32,733
Cost savings for final users	Million/€	237

Source: Airp

After accurately inspecting the casing and removing the worn out tread, a new tread is applied through a hot or cold vulcanizing method that renews the tyre in an absolutely safe way. The process is performed in compliance with UNECE Regulations 108 for car passenger tyres and 109 for truck tyres, namely the European provisions regulating tyre retreading.

In the past few years, the widespread disposable culture has lessened the importance of passenger tyre retreading. That, however, is not the case with industrial trucks, whose tyres are retreaded many times, and the leading tyre manufacturers invest in and advertise the retreadability of their products. Moreover, even aircraft tyres are retreaded several times, thus proving that retreading is indeed safe.

Retreading offers great environmental benefits, so much so that it is widely employed in all economically advanced countries, first of all the United States. The Italian Parliament, for its part, established in its 2002 *Finanziaria* law that public fleets must reserve 20% of their spare tyre purchases to retreads. Anyway, this amount is widely outnumbered by private industrial vehicles and by many public transport fleets. Environmental issues are undoubtedly very important, but, given the current economic situation, financial concerns have become overridingly more important than in past years, and tyre retreading offers a substantial contribution even from this viewpoint. In 2010, for example, retreaded tyres helped save 237 million Euros.

Bologna, December 21, 2011