

PRESS RELEASE

While the tire regulation framework is going through changes
The contribution given by retreads to road haulage budget planning turns out to be very important.

“Saving money through retreads is very important to control transport-related costs strained by increasing fuel prices. And controlling transport-related costs is essential in order to curb inflation”. This remark was made by Airp (the Italian Retread Manufacturers Association) Chairman Stefano Carloni on opening the “Road haulage and retreaded tires” meeting at the Transpotec Expo in Milan.

Stefano Carloni’s opening speech highlighted two main aspects of the tire regulation framework. The first regards EU making UNECE regulations 108 (cars) and 109 (trucks) on tire retreading mandatory in all EU countries.

This is a remarkable step that Airp had been long requesting to fill the gap between new and retreaded tires on product and certification test regulation for retreads. This gap became even more evident soon after UNECE regulations 108 and 109 were officially approved by the UNECE Secretariat and most Italian retreaders began to apply them voluntarily.

Making the regulations mandatory was also extremely necessary for road safety, since these provide the same endurance, reliability and durability tests required of new tires and they regulate the whole retreading process so as to guarantee product safety more than anything else. Retreading companies are thus required, among other things, to perform strict quality tests.

The second remarkable innovation pointed out by Stefano Carloni is the publication on the Official Gazette no.88 (of 14th April 2006) of the Environmental Consolidation Act (legislative decree 3/4/2006 no.152), which at section 228 regulates used tire recycling and sets the rule for “stopping disposal pileups through retreading”.

“This new regulation framework - stated the **Airp** Chairman – opens the door to new, interesting options for retreads, which become strategically important to control road haulage costs (and, of course, inflation) and to cut the potentially negative effects of dumping discards into the environment”.

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