

PRESS RELEASE

Every year 227 million tyres in the EU must be disposed of

Recyclable tyres: a big snake, four times as long as a round-the-world trip

227 million scrap tyres are generated every year within the EU: if placed side by side, they form a very big snake which is four times as long as a round-the-world trip. This huge amount of used tyres – highlights Airp Observatory – can represent an environmental problem. The best way to solve it, as stated in Italian Legislative Decree No. 152/2006, is retreading tyres or, in case they cannot be retreaded, disposing of them in compliance with Ministerial Decree No. 82 of April 11, 2011. The main goal of this decree is to optimize tyre recovery, prevent waste and protect the environment. The decree clearly defines all the aspects involved in the successful management of end-of-life tyres.

As previously mentioned, in addition to what is laid down in the 2011 Decree, the best solution is using retreaded tyres, which are especially employed in the Italian road freight sector and, on a larger scale, in other advanced economies.

Retreading allows reusing 70% of a tyre, replacing only the worn tread. By doing so, a tyre's life cycle is remarkably extended and its disposal into the environment is delayed. Given the huge amount of elts generated every year, retreading tyres provides an important opportunity to reduce the environmental impact of their disposal. And it does not impact safety, because retreads are just as reliable as new tyres. Furthermore, using retreaded tyres allows saving money, and therefore is an important solution to help freight companies survive these hard economic times.

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