
PRESS RELEASE

Final decision within 6 months

EU imposes temporary duties on BTR tire imports from China

The European Commission has established temporary antidumping duties on new and retreaded BTR tires imported from China. This is stated in EU Regulation 2018/683 of 4 May 2018, which was published in the EU Journal yesterday. The established duties apply for a six-month period and vary, according to brand, from € 52.85 (min) to € 82.17 (max) per tire. In November, the European Commission will decide whether to impose permanent antidumping duties. This information courtesy of Airp, the Italian Tyre Retreaders Association.

Airp President Stefano Carloni comments: "Publishing this regulation is a historic event for us retreaders, who have long lamented unfair competition created by dumped imports. On the one hand, we finally see countervailing duties providing a level playing field for fair competition. On the other hand, it must be stressed that the accurate investigation conducted by the Commission clearly shows that protracted dumping practices have caused serious damage to the European retread industry".

The current temporary antidumping duties have, in fact, been imposed following an extensive investigation by the European Commission, launched on 11 August 2017, which showed unequivocal evidence of dumping practices (*dumping is the sale of a product for export at less than its normal value in the market where it is produced*) with regard to tire imports from China. In particular, the regulation reads, "It showed a weighted average undercutting margin of between 21% and 31% by the imports of the product concerned from the country concerned on the Union market". This situation, in turn, has directly led to a decline in market shares and profitability held by tire manufacturers and retreaders within the European Union. "*The effects of the anti-dumping measures on the Union producers would be positive*", states the regulation. "*The restoration of fair competition and of a level playing field, in the absence of dumped imports, would benefit the healthy development of the overall Union tyre market*".

The products that are subject to the duties not only undercut retreaded tires, but are also unsuitable for retreading, thus damaging the environment", concludes Stefano Carloni.

"We therefore hope that these antidumping duties will become permanent, in the light of recent European regulations fostering circular economy, which is now a dominating business trend in all European countries, and in which tire retreading has been playing an essential role for over sixty years".

Bologna, May 8, 2018