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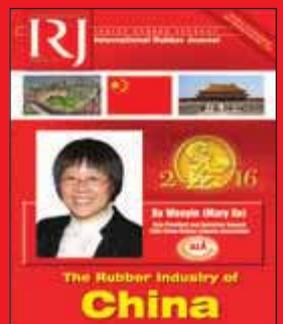
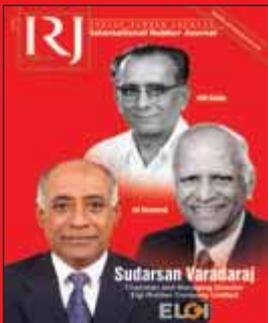
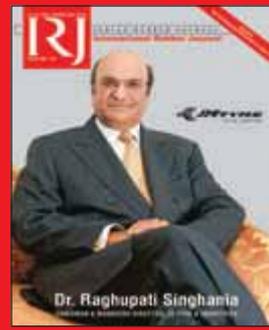
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Denis Low President

Malaysian Rubber Glove
Manufacturers Association (MARGMA)





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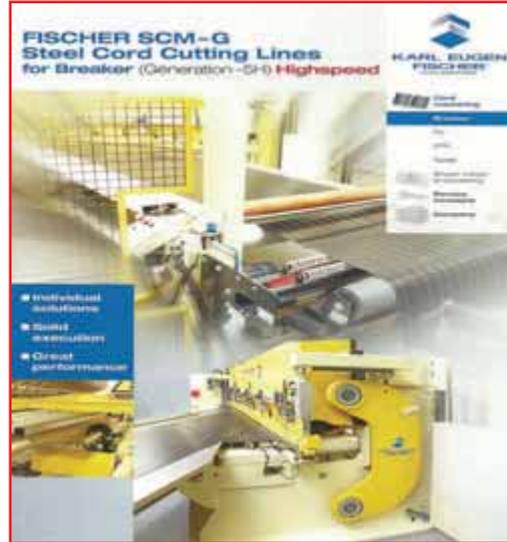
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INDIAN RUBBER JOURNAL
INTERNATIONAL RUBBER JOURNAL



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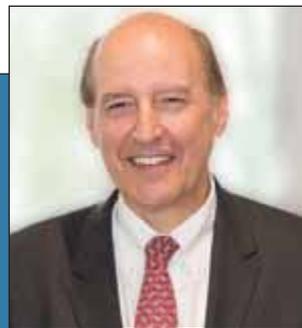
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GROWING TOGETHER

ARLANXEO invests to reinforce its market position in synthetic rubber



Jorge Nogueira, ARLANXEO CEO

ARLANXEO is strengthening its position as the world's leading manufacturer of synthetic rubber. Over the next three years, it will invest an EUR double-digit million to modernise its production sites in Triunfo, Brazil and La Wantzenau, France.

"With this investment programme, we are laying a foundation for the company's further profitable growth," said Jorge Nogueira, ARLANXEO CEO. "In this context, we are systematically implementing advanced technologies for growing high performance rubber grades in order to support the development of our customers in important regions over the long term," he explained further. The programme will be financed by ARLANXEO's own cash flow.

Upgrading of the Triunfo Facility in Brazil

In Brazil, ARLANXEO is investing in its facility in Triunfo, Rio Grande do Sul, to make the production of polybutadiene rubber (PBR) more flexible. Currently, emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber (E-SBR), which is mainly used in car and truck tires, is produced there. As a result of the upgrade, the company will also be able to produce the more advanced Nd-BR (neodymium butadiene rubber) and lithium butadiene rubber (Li-BR) for the tire and non-tire market in Triunfo in the second half of 2020. This follows the growing need of the local tire manufacturers for high-performance tires.

At the same time, ARLANXEO is relocating part of its existing E-SBR production in Triunfo to its facility in Duque de Caxias, Rio de Janeiro, where E-SBR is already produced. This should allow for better economics going forward. The works will take about two years to be concluded and will create approximately 500 jobs, during the construction.

"This investment highlights our commitment to Brazil and the long-term importance of the Brazilian market for our high-performance rubbers, especially in the tire segment," said Matthias Gotta, Head of ARLANXEO's Tire & Specialty Rubbers business unit (BU TSR). "We want to support our local customers with the innovative technologies that will make tires, and as a result, transportation safer, more environmentally friendly, and thus more sustainable," he added.

Investment in La Wantzenau, France

In addition to the regular maintenance investments, ARLANXEO is modernising its production site in La Wantzenau, France, the world's largest nitrile butadiene rubber (NBR) facility.

"This investment lays the foundation for further targeted growth of our NBR specialty rubber grades as an important part of our rubber portfolio," says Christian Widdershoven, member of the Managing Board at ARLANXEO and Head of the High Performance Elastomers business unit. "This enables us to strengthen and secure our position as a leading global supplier of NBR rubbers for the long term," Widdershoven adds.

ARLANXEO expects global demand for high-quality NBR rubbers to increase in the coming years. The focus here is on growth in traditional business areas and new applications, some of

which have been developed with customers, but also the use of NBR as a raw material for the production of the company's Therban (HNBR) specialty products.

The NBR synthetic rubber produced by ARLANXEO in La Wantzenau is sold under the Perbunan®, Krynac®, and Baymod® N brands. It is used in the production of cables, seals, hoses, blankets, and soles for safety and athletic shoes, among other uses. The most important markets are the automotive industry, the construction sector, as well as oil and gas production and processing.



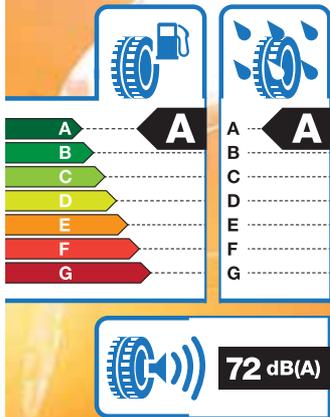
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India's monsoon is progressing satisfactorily and should be above normal when it departs end September. With this, India's target to reach a GDP growth rate of between 7.5 to 7.7% this year followed by 7.9% next year is achievable. The Rupee has again almost touched an all-time low of 70 against the US\$. This is bad news for India's exports and the foreign exchange situation due to total dependence on crude oil imports. India's foreign exchange assets are down from \$426 billion to \$405 billion in the last few months due to the Reserve Bank's efforts to prop up the Rupee. Fortunately, there is no impact so far of US sanctions on Indo & Iranian Trade (Crude Oil Imports).

Our Cover Story features Margma (Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association) and highlights the efforts that have gone on to making Malaysia the World's No. 1 glove manufacturer. This achievement is a fine example of a very active and efficient Association and its close co-operation with various Government institutions. The IRJ was the first overseas publication to participate in Margma's 1st exhibition and conference in 1999. We look forward to being there again in Kuala Lumpur from September 4-6.

Heartiest Congratulations to Dr. R.P. Singhania, Chairman & Managing Director of JK and President of Hasetri and to Dr. R. Mukhopadhyay, Director R&D & CEO of Hasetri on the forthcoming Silver Jubilee of Hasetri at the end of August. JK has set up a truly world-class 'Centre for Excellence' at Mysuru, which houses its Technology wing – 'JK Tyre Tech Centre' and R&D Wing. In 2014, it has also established a 'Centre of Excellence for Tyre &

Vehicle Mechanics & Dynamics in collaboration with IIT Madras.

India's global OTR tire major BKT continues to score big on the international scene by becoming a sponsor of Italian Football SERIE B Championship. BKT's publicity is matched by product quality and effective aggressive marketing.

LANXESS is in the news again with its plans to sell its 50% stake for Euro 1.4 billion in its joint venture ARLANXEO to Saudi Aramco. ARLANXEO is investing to modernize the production facilities in Brazil and France to strengthen its position as the world's leading synthetic rubber manufacturer. Congratulations to Neelanjan Banerjee for being the 1st Indian to take over as Managing Director of LANXESS India.

This issue contains two very interesting presentations on the developments of China's Rubber Industry and of the global rubber industry outlook by IRSG's Dr. Lekshmi Nair.

As we approach the last quarter of the year, one hopes that inspite of belligerent tweets from the hyper-active White House, peace will prevail between the US & North Korea, Iran and Turkey and whoever else is perceived as an "enemy" (frenemies like Canada, Mexico and the EU are not excluded).

M Noorani

Aida Malik



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Denis Low

President

Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association (MARGMA)

In an Interview with M. Noorani

Congratulations to you and your members – The Malaysian Glove Industry on another record-breaking year with a revenue of RM16.2 billion. What are the factors behind the consistent good performances of Malaysian Glove Industry?

In 2017, Malaysia had exported RM16.2 billion worth of medical examination & surgical gloves to 195 countries in the world. The estimated quantity is about 152 billion pieces or about 63 % of World-wide demand.

The key to Malaysian gloves dominating the world market place is simply a matter of efficiency, innovativeness in both products and processes and a constant reminder that we must be able to produce affordable gloves. This basic, yet very important medical device, is used in billions of pieces and it ought to be an affordable item in the greater equation of healthcare expenditure.

We have a great eco-system here and it is a self-sustaining industry where the primary and secondary material are available with the service and financial systems being in place like cogs in a machine moving in tandem to ensure that the best and most affordable product is being manufactured for the world.

Generally, the healthcare sector continues to grow with big growth numbers coming out from developing and emerging markets. Asia shows the greatest growth with 22 % and most of Africa, South America and the Middle-east shows strong double digits growth. Healthcare consciousness has become more



acute and many nations are spending more money in hospitals and general healthcare and more importantly, regulations and regulatory inspections have promoted the desire to be hygienic as a first step to preventive care.

There is no denying that many countries are getting richer and getting super wealthy too. It is often said that with wealth comes hygiene and with hygiene comes health.....

What is the Glove Industry's target for 2018 in terms of revenue and billion pieces of gloves to be exported ?

The target for 2018 is RM18.6 billion (up by 13 % from 2017) and the quantity is forecasted at 175 billion pieces (up by about 14 %)

The Malaysian Glove Industry is progressive, innovative and very forward looking. By which year do you expect to achieve your target of having just 1.5 people to produce a million pieces of gloves from the current 2.6 people ?

We are now at 2.5 or 2.7 people to produce a million pieces of gloves. Our aim is to achieve 1.5 pax per million pieces by 2020 or sooner. It is pertinent to note that automation is absolutely necessary, especially when workers are not easily available and economical. The beauty about Malaysian automation

is that it is more a home-grown engineering prowess with most of the technology and equipment being locally fabricated.

It would be interesting to know more about the Glove Industry's 4.0 initiatives and targets.

From as early as 2015, some of our industry members have already embarked onto similar Industry 4.0 initiatives. Over the years, more and more members have ventured into modified 4.0 systems best suited for their particular plants. As there is no fixed 4.0 system, for as long as our Members are geared towards the 4.0 initiatives, improving and modifying their processes to be in line with the 4.0 initiatives, it shall augur well. Our government is providing incentive and encouragement as well.

Having been present from the very first IRGCE in 1999, IRJ looks forward to another successful 9th IRGCE from September 4-6. How many exhibitors and visitors are expected ?

We have 201 exhibitors and they will occupy 513 booths. With just about 90 days to go, we only have 26 booths remaining, great numbers indeed. We are looking at about 10,000 visitors to the show, both locals and International.

You and your team deserve to be congratulated for your various CSR efforts. Does the government provide any tax incentives for this?

9TH INTERNATIONAL RUBBER GLOVE CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2018 (9TH IRGCE 2018) 4 – 6 SEPTEMBER 2018, KLCC

9th IRGCE

Conference

01 – Dr Eng Aik HWEE , Malaysia	: Theoretical Explanations on Some Unique Properties of Nitrile Latex and Film
02 – Adeline KUNG , Malaysia	: Styrene Modified Synthetic Polyisoprene Latex For Skin Friendly Latex Products
03 – Dr Dazylah DARJI , Malaysia	: Specialty Rubber Latex for Dipped Products Application
04 – Hiroyuki SUZUKI , Japan	: Water-Based Polyurethane Dispersions for Dipping Applications
05 – Roland SUECKER , Germany	: Innovative Additive Package For Latex Dipping Application
06 – Howard WOON , Malaysia	: High Performance Formers for Dipping Quality Gloves
07 – Dr Paul WIGHT , United Kingdom	: Transforming Medical Gloves via Active Antimicrobial Technology Using Bespoke Photo-Sensitiser Molecules
08 – Dr Thian Hong NG , Malaysia	: Nitrile Chemistry : Can Innovation Lead Us Into More Sustainable Environment?
09 – Ranvir S VIRDI , United Kingdom	: Technological Behaviour Of A New 'Nitrosamine Safe' Thiuram Disulfide In Natural Rubber
10 – Martin HEELS , United Kingdom	: The PPE Regulation and Key Changes To European Glove Testing Standards
11 – Dr Vincent LAM , Malaysia	: Medical Devices Regulations: How Will The Glove Industry Be Affected?
12 – Dr Shashidhar V GOVINDARAJU , India	: Versatile New Class of Polymer for Natural and Synthetic Rubber Gloves Coating
13 – Dr Wava TRUSCOTT , United States of America (USA)	: Chemo Drugs: New Uses, New Exposures, Failure to Protect Consequences
14 – Dr Nurhidayatullaili Muhd JULKAPLI , Malaysia	: Effect On Thermal Stability Of Nitrile Butadiene Rubber With Addition Of Nanocellulose
15 – Nurul Azman Mohd TAIB , Malaysia	: Characterisation and Mechanical Properties of Nanocellulose Reinforced Nitrile Butadiene Rubber Gloves
16 – Dr Azira Abd AZIZ , Malaysia	: Rearrangement Behaviour of Graphene During Film Formation
17 – Dr Jan COCQUYT , Belgium	: Calcium Stearate Dispersions and Paraffin Wax Emulsions, Enhanced Glove Properties
18 – Dr Siang Yin LEE , Malaysia	: Palm Based Polymeric Surfactants For Improved Latex Film Formation
19 – Susumu TAKAHASHI , Japan	: An Organo Modified Siloxane for Latex Dipping Application
20 – Hui Mei LIM , Malaysia	: Solubility of Rubber Additives in Latex Films
21 – Dr Bo DING , Singapore	: Ammonia Free Low Odor Natural Latex and Stabilized Latex Compound
22 – Dr Anvar BURANOV , Canada	: Development of Safe and Sustainable Biorubber and Biolatex from Annual Rubber Plant Taraxacum kok-saghyz (TKS) in Canada

Within the boundaries of our finances and governance, MARGMA shall continue to carry out CSR activities that will benefit humanity as a whole and the less fortunate in particular. There is a tax break for some CSR activities, but, generally, MARGMA shall continue with our CSR activities regardless of the existence of tax break or not. If humanity and our government requires us to assist, it is the duty of every good citizen to come forward to lend a helping hand.

Can you tell us more about the excellent and close interaction between MARGMA, MRB and MREPC ?

The very existence of MARGMA and the leading position of our rubber glove industry is purely the initial effort of our MRB and the scientists that they have nurtured. These early pioneers and scientists are still very much involved in the industry. The MREPC had held our hands in the early days to forage and to promote our gloves globally.

At present, the MRB continues to play leading roles in the area of research and development for both up-stream and down-stream activities. We believe that with the close rapport between MRB and MARGMA, it is just a matter of time that Malaysia can become adequately self-sufficient in the production of latex for the glove industry. There are constant meetings and brainstorming sessions between the three groups to ensure the best for our industry.

MREPC has continued to look out for non-traditional market place for our products and it has become a catalyst for business matching. The MREPC is also into data and market research and has been a good incentive provider to spur greater growth for the industry. With offices in a few major countries, it certainly helps to establish a more visible presence to gain more markets and information for us.

MARGMA is not only in engagement with MRB & MREPC, but some of our members also sit on their board.

What is your opinion about the future of NR and Synthetic Rubber lattice's availability and prices for the remainder of the year ?

NR supply will continue to be adequate with a tendency to be over-supplied due to more acreage under cultivation. It is estimated that in 2017, World rubber output was about 13.27 million metric tons while consumption stood at about 12.55 million metric tons. For 2018, it will be about 2 to 3% higher but consumption will remain thereabouts. Thus, the depressing prices of rubber.

There is a need to win back rubber consumption and there is certainly a need to find new usage for rubber. In Malaysia, there is a strong effort to use more rubber for road construction. We are also seeing a yearly dip in the usage of NR gloves versus SR gloves. In 2016, Malaysia exported 56% of SR gloves and 44% of NR gloves. In 2017, SR gloves rose to 59% while NR gloves dipped to only 41%.

The initial fear or rather hype about NR gloves causing allergy while SR gloves does not is more hype than truth.



Today, when most Malaysian manufacturers are producing both type of gloves, the allergy has also disappeared. It was not so when we were mainly into NR gloves previously. Therefore, the main reason is purely one of stability versus volatility. In SR latex, prices of the raw material is more stable while NR prices tends to be very volatile and speculative. The instability of prices drives a lot of buyers to opt for SR gloves as prices for retailing should not be changed too often, more so when an importer or distributor is supplying a long term contract

to the hospitals.

The higher percentage of SR gloves in 2017 and also in 2018 can be attributed to the fact that a longer lead time is required for NR gloves versus SR gloves. Over the last few years, starting from 2012, most of the manufacturers expanded on SR factories, totally forgetting about NR and the ensuing growth is still ongoing for NR gloves. This has resulted in an under-capacity situation for NR gloves. It is very common to have a 90 days lead time to get your container of NR gloves while SR is currently at normal 45 to 60 days. Thus, give it a year or so, NR should be able to claw back to an industry desired 50 / 50 situation where both median are equal.

What is your vision for MARGMA and the Malaysian Glove Industry for 2020 ?

MARGMA has indeed come a long way since its formation and we see our role being enlarged, simply because the industry has become a giant in the world. We will be the united voice of the industry locally and abroad. We shall continue to engage and consult our members to listen to their aspirations and issues for onward discussion with or to petition the relevant institutions to promote their aspirations or to resolve their issues of the day. We see and will nurture MARGMA to be the centre for all information and data pertaining to our industry in particular, the rubber industry in general with a wider scope as to the economic environment of our nation and the world. We will beef up our personnel with a view to commercialising certain aspects of our function in order to have a constant revenue stream for our association.

We shall continue to co-host with MREPC in the organisation of the prestigious IRGCE and any other forum to enhance the image of our association. The IRGCE will evolve into a showpiece for the glove industry and the supporting industry to the world.

MARGMA will eventually be an institution and an authority of the glove business....and remember that we are the leading and largest producer of a medical device whose importance can only be equated with this statement, "When a child is born into this world, the first thing that the child touches, is a pair of gloves...."

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Margma guides Malaysia to world's no.1 glove manufacturing



Margma and Malaysian Glove Manufacturers have been a huge success story. Started in the 1980's, it has seen tremendous growth. In 1992, Malaysian built glove production lines manufactured 6,000 gloves per hour, and this figure is now nearly 45,000 gloves per hour.

With the support of Margma and the boost provided by this organisation, Malaysia's Rubber Glove Manufacturing industry provides almost 65% of the global glove market.

Margma has 55% Ordinary Members, glove manufacturers, while its 141 Associated Members are companies connected with the rubber glove manufacturing industry in various capacities. It liaises with various government ministries and agencies and has a think tank to tackle current issues facing the industry. As per its services for members, it monitors and reviews various standards. It regularly engages with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, MRB, MREPEC, MIDA, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers, PRIM, IRCO & ISO.

Margma's 56 Ordinary members have a total of 106 factories with 2023 production lines and an industrial production capacity of 220 billion pairs of gloves. Seventy per cent glove

manufacturers are publicly listed companies, while 30% are privately owned. The glove factories are located all across Malaysia. Exports of Malaysian rubber gloves increased more than tenfold from 1.5 Billion RM in 1991 to nearly RM 18.6 Billion in 2018.

The global demand for gloves is big enough for all players from Malaysia, Thailand, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka. The potential for glove usage can be gauged from the per capita usage of gloves. As compared to 75 in North America, 59 in Europe and 12 in Brazil, the figure for India is 2 while in China it's 3 and for rest of Asia, it's 11.

There is an ever-increasing demand for gloves arising from new applications in the following areas

**Medical & Dental
Pharmaceutical & Laboratory
Food Industry – Processing & Service
Electronics – Clean Room
Industrial – Janitorial/Mechanical
Tattooing procedures and household
Specialised medical applications**



The situation is however not full of roses.

The glove industry also faces challenges in terms of R&D, Water Supply, Manpower, Latex supply, automation, regulations, trade barriers, tax & tariffs and logistics. Margma consistently liaises with MRB, MREPC and MIDA to overcome these challenges.

The rubber glove industry in Malaysia has evolved into a capital intensive one with a sizable modern plant requiring an investment of \$40 – 60 million. Innovation, R&D and advancement in globe production technology have led to increased productivity and lower costs in glove manufacturing. Compared to 9.7 workers required in 2008 to produce 1 million gloves, presently only 1.7 workers produce 1 million gloves. This figure is targeted to be reduced to 1.5 by 2024.

Faith in R&D

This has been the cornerstone of success in the industry which demands that

- a) It must fulfill an industrial need**
- b) It must be commercially viable**
- c) It must be brilliant if it is innovative**
- d) Enhances the wellness of mankind**
- e) Adds to the body of knowledge leading to a desirable end result.**

The future is bright as the industry moves in the dynamics and momentum of the 21st Century. The drivers for the glove industry will be increasing tough regulatory requirements, growing affluence and healthcare awareness resulting in demand for quality and affordable gloves

Magma will undoubtedly continue to help its members and the glove industry to further consolidate its position as the world's largest supplier (nearly 65%) of the global glove market.

9th International Rubber Glove Conference & Exhibition 2018 and International Rubber Conference 2018 (September 4 to 6, 2018)

The 9th International Rubber Glove Conference & Exhibition is poised to be the most successful IRGCE since the first event was organised by MARGMA in 2002. This event is going to be special as it will be held concurrently with the International Rubber Conference 2018 (IRC 2018). The theme for the event is aptly put as "Transforming Technology, Driving Innovation".

IRC is one of the biggest international conferences on rubber science and technology related to materials and rubber products. Malaysia has the honour to host the event every 10 years.

The work to organise both the 9th IRGCE 2018

gloves in the world will be here to exhibit their latest products. It will open opportunities for global buyers to engage the manufacturers for business deals. With the assistance of the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) and the Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council (MREPC), carefully selected foreign buyers will be participating in the International Sourcing Programme (INSP) to facilitate business-matching between buyers and sellers.

The exhibition is also a platform for glove manufacturers around the world to look at the



Denis Low Jau Foo
MARGMA President



Lim Kwee Shyan
9th IRGCE 2018 Organising
Chairman



Pong Kai See
PRIM President



Chan Pak Kuen IRC 2018
Organising Chairman

and IRC 2018 started two years ago. The 9th IRGCE 2018 is organised by MARGMA while IRC 2018 is organised by the Plastics & Rubber Institute Malaysia (PRIM). As both the events are going to be held concurrently, MARGMA and PRIM had coordinated so that all papers related to rubber gloves will be presented at the 9th IRGCE 2018 Technical Conference while IRC 2018 will focus on the other segments of the rubber industries, primarily dry rubber products.

The exhibition will have double the number of exhibitors at more than 210 exhibitors as compared to the previous event in 2016. More than 500 exhibition booths, each of 3m x 3m area, are prepared for the exhibitors from 14 countries. It will occupy all the available exhibition halls on the ground level of the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur from September 4-6, 2018. The exhibition has free entry for trade visitors and the general public from 9 am to 5 pm daily.

Exhibitors will showcase their products and professionalism. The top 10 manufacturers of

various machines and accessories that will be on display by the support services and material suppliers. Manufacturers can learn about the latest compounding technology and manufacturing equipment that could improve their production capabilities.

We have an IT 4.0 corner with 24 booths taken up by IT companies to show case their IT solution in manufacturing and entire gloves business cycle. This will broaden the limit in this challenging industry. At the same time, we also brought in research institution from local University to participate. They will show what are their research programme that can benefit the industry. Looking for possible collaboration to do research in specific area or interest by manufacturer and/or gloves buyer.

IRC 2018 not only organises technical conference paper but also brings in dry rubber manufacturers to participate in this exhibition. A total of 152 technical papers will be presented by speakers from 32 countries. Thirty seven

The top 10 ten manufacturers of gloves in the world will be here to exhibit their latest products



Ms. Low Yoke Kiew, CEO, (MREPC)

booths were taken up by non-gloves and dry rubber manufacturers such as condoms, latex mattresses, inner tubes, automotive rubber parts, catheters, dental dams and more.

The MREPC is also organising career talks to expose undergraduates to the various career opportunities in the Rubber Glove and Rubber Industries. They are aimed to encourage and attract a continuous supply of young talents to the industry.

Industry captains will be invited to share their experience with undergraduates from various universities in the country. Undergraduates from the fields of engineering, chemistry, accountancy, and marketing are encouraged to explore and learn at this event.

MARGMA is optimistic that as many as 10,000 trade visitors will come from around the world and the number of participants in the conference has already reached more than 600. They will learn about the latest development of the rubber glove and rubber industries and be able to interact with both suppliers and buyers, plus the chance to see



the sights and hear the sound of beautiful Malaysia.

I strongly urge all who are in this industry either as buyer, supplier, manufacturer, directly or supporting, to participate in this biggest event of the year. I wish to thank all Exco members from Margma, MRPMA, PRIM, IKM and IRGCE & IRC committee, as well as Chan Pak Kuen IRC 2018 organising chairman for working very hard for this event.

Parameters	2016	2018
IRGCE	8th	9th
No. of Booths	272	512
No. of Exhibitors	95	211
No. of Participating Countries	10	14
No trade Visitors	3563	As high as 10,000
No. of Conference Participants	612	More than 600



At the launch of MREPC Industry Linkage Fund

MREPC INDUSTRY LINKAGE FUND (ILF)

The Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council (MREPC) recently launched the MREPC Industry Linkage Fund (ILF), an initiative to provide funding to universities, research institutions and the industry to collaborate on research projects that will enhance the competitiveness of Malaysian rubber products.

Since its establishment in 2000, MREPC had introduced various initiatives in support of the industry's efforts to promote Malaysia as the leading exporter of rubber products. Some of these initiatives include the marketing and promotion of Malaysia's products in international markets, as well as research and studies to guide the industry. The ILF will further contribute to the expansion in research capacity and increase industrial innovation.

As the market promotion agency for Malaysian rubber products, MREPC introduced the ILF with the aim of supporting research and innovation,

and fortifying Malaysia's position as the leading exporter of rubber products.

The ILF was launched on September 26, 2017 by Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong, Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities.

During the launch, the minister witnessed the signing of the Certificate of Co-operation between MREPC and the Malaysian Rubber Board (MRB), the Malaysian Rubber Products and Manufacturers Association (MRPMA), the Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association (MARGMA) and several universities.



Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong, Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities

Supporting research and innovation

A key outcome of the ILF will be the establishment of closer ties between local academia and the rubber products industry, as the ILF is intended to utilise the talent pool, strengths and capabilities of universities to resolve urgent problems facing the industry. It will also encourage universities to conduct more applied research on rubber products and ensure relevant project outcomes that meet the industry's

Since its establishment in 2000, MREPC had introduced various initiatives in support of the industry's efforts to promote Malaysia as the leading exporter of rubber products



Datuk Seri Mah SIEW Keong, Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities (5th from right), Dato Haji Ahmad Lai, Chairman of MREPC (4th from right) Ms. Low Yoke Kiew, CEO of MREPC (3rd from right) AND Mr. Denis Low, President of MARGMA (2nd from right) with the captains of the rubber products industry at the launch of MREPC Industry Linkage Fund.



Datuk Seri Mah witnessing the signing of Certificate of Cooperation between MREPC, MRB and rubber industry, universities and research institutions at the launch of the MREPC ILF

requirements. Through closer communication between researchers and the industry, the ILF would ensure that R&D activities are market-driven and suitable for adoption by the rubber products industry.

Funding under the ILF will be in the form of full research grants for projects proposed by universities and research institutions that offer industry-wide solutions, and matching grants for projects proposed by individual companies that will benefit them, and especially SMEs.

In evaluating the project proposal for the award of research grants, priority will be given to research projects in the areas of latex products, the largest rubber product export revenue generator; dry

rubber products which include automotive components and industrial goods; rubber products for application in the infrastructure and construction sectors; and for automation and improvement in manufacturing processes to further advance the technological development of the rubber products industry in Malaysia.

Till the end of February 2018, MREPC had received a total of 17 research proposals from companies, universities, and research institutions. A Fund Committee comprising members of the rubber products industry appointed by MREPC will evaluate all the proposals that have been received. The first batch of funding was expected to be awarded to successful applicants in April 2018.

Till the end of February 2018, MREPC had received a total of 17 research proposals from companies, universities, and research institutions



Group photo with Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong after the signing ceremony



Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association

Sustainability Challenges in the Rubber Glove Industry

A Presentation for the World Rubber Summit 2018
May 2018



Denis Low,
President (MARGMA)

Roles of MARGMA



We have 56 Ordinary Members

Our Ordinary Members comprise of bona fide rubber glove manufacturers in Malaysia. Here are all of our members:



We have 141 Associate Members

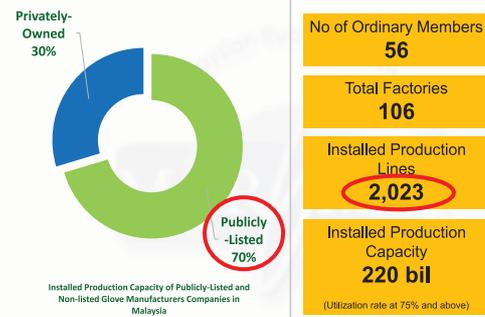
Our Associate Members comprise of companies associated with the rubber glove manufacturing industry. Here are some of our members:



We engage with Various Ministries, Agencies & Organisations



Installed Rubber Glove Production Capacity (2018)



Challenges in the Rubber Glove Industry



Energy
Latex Supply
Manpower
Water Supply
are always the challenges for the industry.

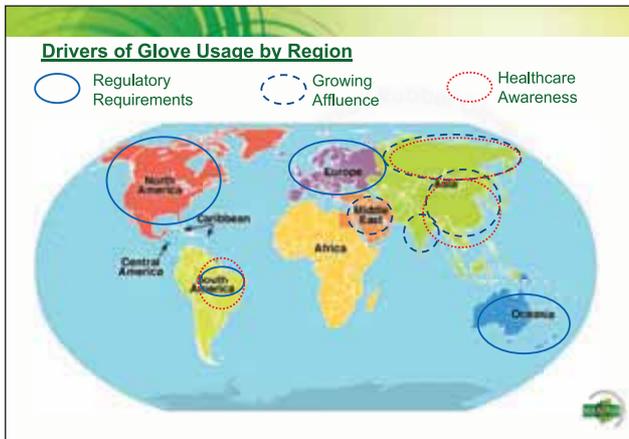
MARGMA engages the Malaysian Government regularly to deal with the above challenges.

Drivers of Growth for the Rubber Glove Industry



Effective, Quality and Affordable Rubber Gloves

Source: World Bank



Ever Increasing Applications for Rubber Gloves

- **Medical & Dental** (Original and major market segment)
- Industrial – Janitorial/Mechanical
- Pharmaceutical & Laboratory
- Tattooing procedures
- Food Industry – Processing & Service
- Household
- Electronics – Clean Room
- Specialized medical applications

The Rubber Glove Industry is now capital intensive.

A sizable modern plant can cost from USD40 million to USD60 million



Research & Development is critical to ensure sustained success.

Our R&D Mantras

- ❑ It must fulfil an industrial need
- ❑ It must be commercially viable
- ❑ Brilliant if it is innovative
- ❑ Enhances the wellness of mankind
- ❑ Adds to the body of knowledge leading to a desirable end result.

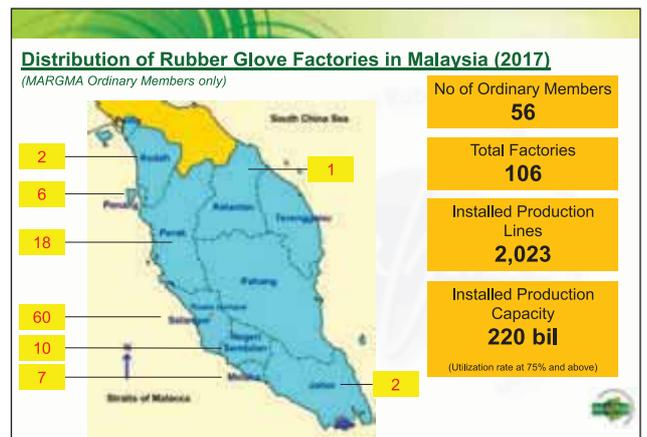
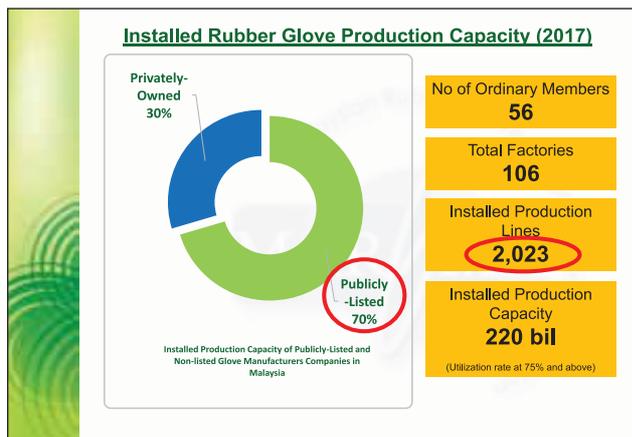
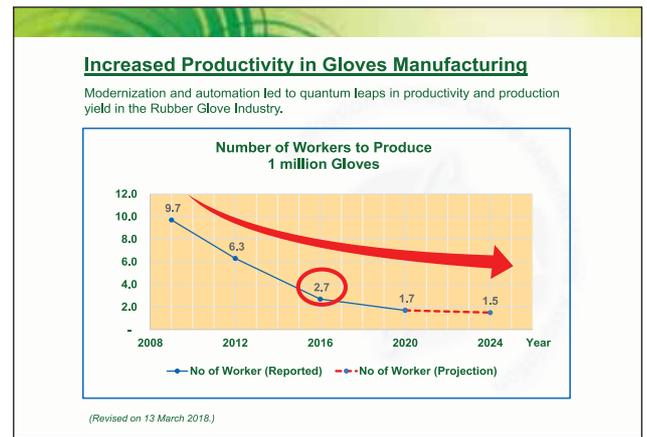
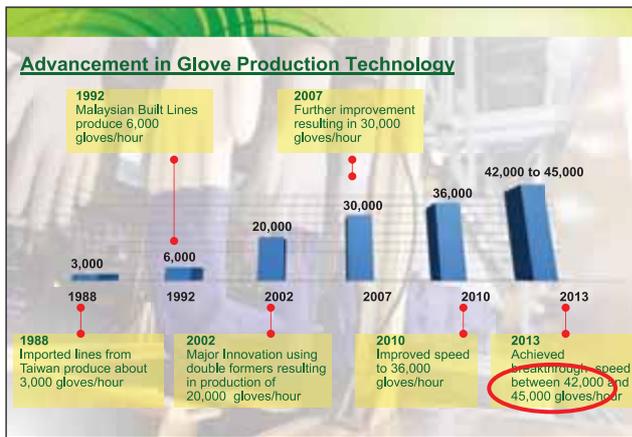
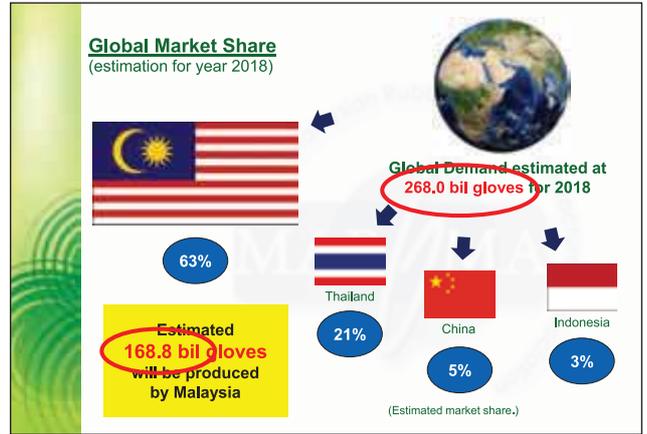


Moving into the Dynamics or Momentum of the 21st Century.....Industry 4.0

Moving into the Dynamics or Momentum of the 21st Century.....Industry 4.0



Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association
MARGMA Industry Brief 2018
 on the Rubber Glove Industry
 May 2018



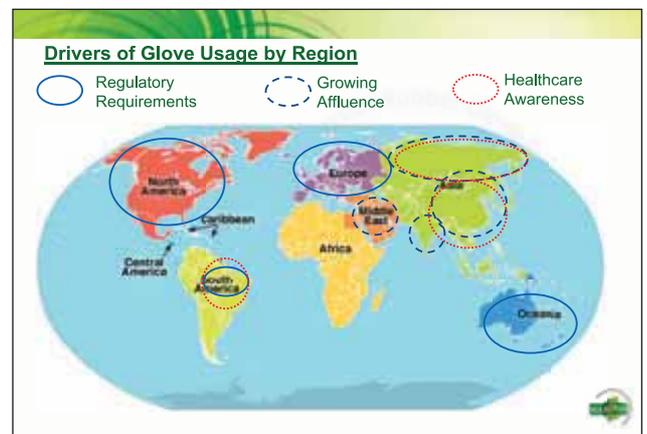
Drivers of Growth for the Rubber Glove Industry



- Regulatory Requirements
- Growing Affluence
- Healthcare Awareness

Effective, Quality and Affordable Rubber Gloves

Source: World Bank





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Triangle Tyre co-elects Ding Mu as the new chairman of the company

● The decision was taken in the 10th meeting of the 5th Board of Directors on June 15, 2018.

Meanwhile, Ding Mu will act as legal representative of the company according to the Articles of Association.

The former Chairman, Ding Yuhua, passed away on June 13, 2018. During his tenure as Chairman of the company, Ding Yuhua diligently, scrupulously and faithfully performed his duties and obligations as Chairman and made outstanding contributions to the globalization development of the company.

The company's directors, supervisors, senior management staff and all employees expressed their deep condolences for the passing of Ding Yuhua.

Linglong set to become first Chinese global Top 10 car tire manufacturer by 2019

● According to Astutus Research Analysts, Linglong Tire currently ranked 12th globally is set to move

JK Tyre record 35% revenue rise

HIGHLIGHTS	CONSOLIDATED (Rs. in crores)	
	Q1 FY19	Q1 FY18
Net Revenue	2446	1818
EBITDA	332	10
Profit Before Tax	110	(179)
Profit After Tax	67	(118)

● Indian tire industry major, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd. (JKTIL) announced results for Q1 of the current Financial Year with 35% higher Net Sales at Rs 2,440 crore. Operating Profit and PBT for the Qtr. is Rs. 332 crore and Rs. 110 crore respectively on a consolidated basis.

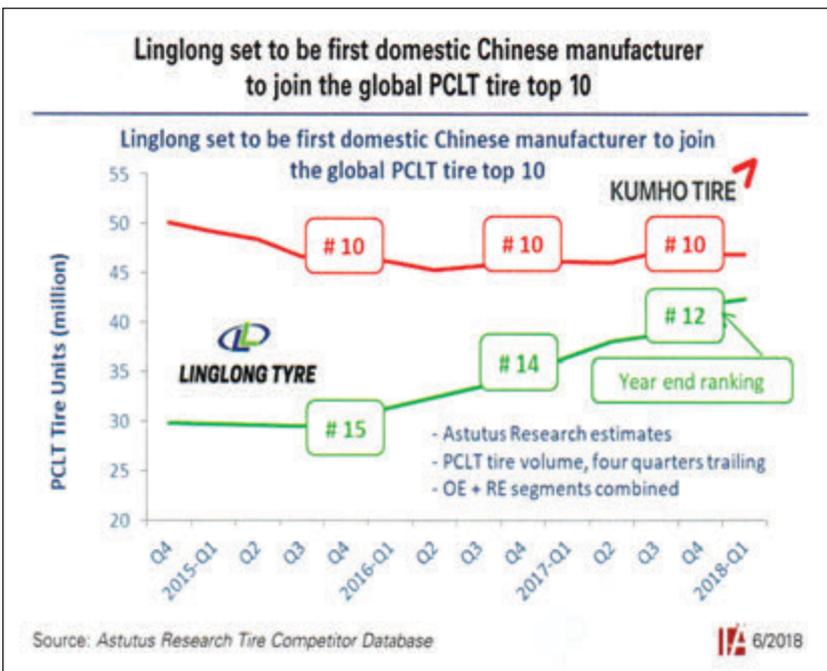
Commenting on the results, Dr. Raghupati Singhania, Chairman and Managing Director of the Company said, "In Q1 - FY19, on a standalone basis, JK Tyre Net Sales recorded an impressive increase of 44% and on a consolidated basis, Net Sales grew by 35%, with higher volumes across categories, especially in Truck/Bus Radial, Passenger Car and Light Truck Radials". He further added, "Increased volumes and internal efficiencies helped improve profitability."



Dr. Raghupati Singhania

Dr Singhania emphasised, "JK Tyre maintained its leadership in the fast growing Truck/Bus Radial segment, which witnessed further radialisation in Q1. Moreover, JK Tyre has further deepened its penetration in the market. Expansion of Truck/Bus radial capacity undertaken at Cavendish will further strengthen our leadership in this segment. We are excited at the growth of the Passenger Car industry and are well prepared to keep pace with opportunities arising there from." The two/three wheeler segment is also growing and JK Tyre is happy at its enhanced presence in this segment.

Company's subsidiaries namely, JK Tornel, Mexico and Cavendish Industries Ltd. have performed well during the Quarter. Labour Restructuring completed at JK Tornel last year is reaping good dividend which has added to the over-all profitability.



upto 10th place by 2019, replacing South Korea's Kumho Tyre.

Four Companies headquartered in mainland China currently feature amongst the 20largest players in the PCLT tire sector based upon their unit sales – Linglong Tyre, Zhongce Rubber, Sailun Jinyu and the most recent entrant, Sentury Tire.

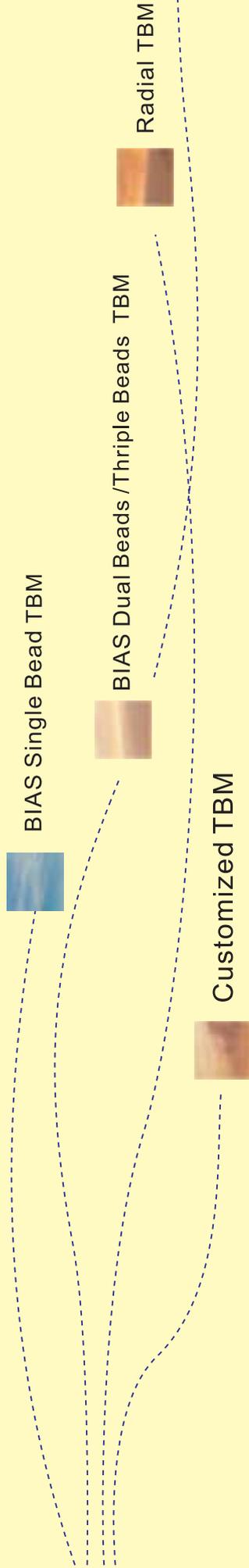
The positioning of China-based manufacturers amongst the world's PCLT tire leaders is on the increase. In early 2018, a group of creditors agreed to sell their stake in Korea-based Kumho Tire, whose volumes (which refers to global units sold in this article and global market share have been in decline since 2010), to a consortium led by Doublestar, the Chinese tyre producer. Meanwhile, consolidating its production facilities in China and Thailand, Linglong Tyre is poised to join the industry's top tier, surpassing Kumho



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Astutus Research : Astutus research focuses on the global tire and automotive aftermarket sectors, tracking the size and segmentation of tire markets accounting for more than 95% of global demand. The company analyses the performance of all the leading tire manufacturers – its competitor bench-marking covers more than 90% of the PCLT tyre market by value.

Sri Lanka rubber group (SLAMERP) hails US tire duties decision

● The Sri Lanka Association of Manufacturers and Exporters of Rubber Products (SLAMERP) has

welcomed what it said is the first-ever revocation of a US countervailing duty imposed on a Sri Lankan export. On July 11, the US Court of International Trade ruled that a 0.95% countervailing duty on off-the-road (OTR) tire imports should be removed. The US duties had been linked to a guaranteed price scheme on the import of OTR tires from Sri Lanka.

The ruling “will bring about significant reinforcement to the tire industry,” said SLAMERP. With respect to the regulations set up by the World Trade Organisation, the removal of this 0.95% duty also eliminates a larger 2.18% countervailing duty on the imports of OTR tires from Sri Lanka to the US.

Pirelli to buy 49% stake in China’s Jining Shenzhou Tyre

● Pirelli & C. S.p.A. has agreed with China’s Hixih Rubber Industry Group to buy a 49% stake in Jining Shenzhou Tyre Co., the new name for Hixih’s tire manufacturing entity in Yanzhou.

The investment will give Pirelli the necessary production flexibility in the high-value tire segment in Asia, taking into account the evolution of the Chinese market, the expected developments in electric vehicles and the growing share of OE homologations with car companies in China, Japan and South Korea.

Pirelli will pay roughly \$75 million

Linglong lays foundation for fourth manufacturing base in China

● Linglong Tire has held a foundation-stone laying ceremony on July 6 at its Hubei Linglong Tire site for its fourth domestic manufacturing base in China. The event was accompanied by the Linglong Tire ‘global partners’ conference in Jingmen, Hubei Province, said a company announcement. Almost 1,000 people attended the ceremony, including leaders from Chinese petrochemical industry and rubber industry.

Under its original ‘3+3’ global industrial layout strategy, Linglong has built three domestic manufacturing bases in Zhaoyuan, Dezhou and Liuzhou and its first overseas manufacturing base in Thailand. In 2017, Linglong moved to ‘5+3’ strategy, with plans to build the fourth manufacturing base in Jingmen and improve its international market competitiveness. Spanning over 900,000 square metres with planned floor

area more than 700,000 square metres, Hubei Linglong Tire is targeted to reach an annual capacity for PCRs of 12 million units; TBRs, 2.4 million units; and OTRs, 60,000 units. Sales revenue of Hubei Linglong is estimated to reach RMB5 billion (Euro 68 million).

The manufacturing base will integrate intelligent manufacturing, PLM (product lifecycle management), industrial big data application, high-end brand. Linglong added that it will “continue to promote the 5 + 3 global industry layout to achieve the strategic goal of developing into a world-class tire enterprise as soon as possible.”



Foundation stone-laying ceremony at Linglong Tire’s Hubei Linglong factory site



(Euro 65 million) for the 49% stake in Jining Shenzhou Tyre with the right to increase the stake to 70% between Jan. 1, 2021, and year-end 2025. Pirelli will take over management of the plant, set up in 2005 in the Yanzhou Hixih Industrial Park with technical assistance from Pirelli. The plant has rated annual capacities of 1.2 million radial truck tires, 10 million car tires and 3 million high-performance motorcycle tires, according to Hixih Group.

Pirelli said the deal reinforces its high-value strategy, which identifies Asia/Pacific as a key growth driver and calls for the continuous improvement of the product mix, the digitalisation of processes and constant attention to environmental sustainability.

The transaction is subject to approval by relevant local authorities and is expected to close by year-end,

Pirelli said. The deal leaves all targets indicated in the 2017-2020 industrial plan unchanged.

Pirelli also said it intends to concentrate local research and development activities at the factory's complex in the Hixih Industrial Park in Yanzhou, near Pirelli's existing Chinese production hub. This will further reinforce Pirelli's operations in Yanzhou. Pirelli and Hixih Group also are involved in another venture, Tongli Tire Co. Ltd, a commercial tire producer that goes to market under the brand name "Road One."

Hixih disclosed plans in July 2017 to expand capacities at both factories. Founded in 1989, Hixih Group also is active in conveyor belting (in a joint venture with Continental AG), steel cord (in a venture with Bekaert NV), real estate and power generation.

US drops review of anti-dumping duties against Indian OTR tires

●The US Department of Commerce has rescinded its administrative review of the anti-dumping duty order on certain pneumatic off-the-road tires imported from India between Feb 2, 2017 and Feb 28, 2018. It published a notice in the March 5 Federal Register giving interested parties an opportunity to request a review of the antidumping duty order.

On March 30, ATC Tires Private Ltd. and Alliance Tires Americas Inc. formally requested a review. Commerce initiated the review on May 2, but ATC and Alliance withdrew the request on May 17. No other parties requested a review,



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Commerce said in a July 27 Federal Register notice.

ChemChina names new chairman

● China National Chemical Corporation Ltd. (ChemChina) has named Ning Gaoning to serve as its future chairman and secretary of the party committee.

ChemChina said the current

chairman Ren Jianxin shall retire from his current posts, but did not provide a date for the succession plan.

Jianxin founded ChemChina in 1996 by taking control of over 100 chemical factories which were facing financial troubles at the time. Under his reign, ChemChina made a number key acquisitions in Europe, including the Euro 7.1-

billion takeover of Italian tire maker Pirelli & C. SpA in 2016. ChemChina ranks 167th in the Fortune Global 500 listing in 2018.



Ren Jianxin

CEAT to set up Rs 40-billion plant in Tamil Nadu

● RPG Group company CEAT has signed a MoU with the Tamil Nadu government to invest Rs 40 billion in the state. The investment will spread over the next 10 years and will reportedly give direct employment to around 1,000 people. This greenfield plant will increase CEAT's motorcycle and passenger car tire capacity.

CEAT has already purchased land for Rs. 673 million for the facility in the Sriperumbudur area. The MoU was signed in the presence of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister E Palaniswami and Anant Goenka, Managing Director of CEAT.



(From left) Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam, Anant Goenka, Managing Director of CEAT and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister E Palaniswami

China's Wanli puts US plant plans on hold

● China's Guangzhou Vanlead Group Co. Ltd. has indefinitely put on hold its plan to invest \$1 billion in a new tire plant in South Carolina, USA. The decision had earlier been announced by Guangzhou Vanlead, the Government control company that controlled Wanli Tire Group. The plant would have been capable of producing 6 million tires in the first phase of the project.

The Orangeburg County Development Commission (OCDC), South Carolina confirmed that the project is on hold, but did not rule it out completely. However, it has begun showing other prospective clients the land that Wanli was supposed to occupy.

The company disclosed its proposed investment in late April 2017 at the China (Guangdong)-US Investment Cooperation Conference held in Guangzhou. The Guangzhou-based entity disclosed its proposed US investment in late April 2017 at the China (Guangdong)-US Investment Cooperation Conference held in Guangzhou.

At the conference, Vanlead Group Chairman Fu Shoujie disclosed that his enterprise was prepared to invest \$1 billion in two phases over eight years to build a radial tire plant in Orangeburg County, South Carolina. The second phase would double the size of the proposed existing facility.

Among the company's core subsidiaries are South China Tire & Rubber Co. and Guangzhou Rubber Enterprise Group Co. Ltd.



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Continental accelerates growth in Q1

- Organic sales growth of 5.4% to Euro 22.4 billion after first six months
- Order intake still at record level: Automotive exceeds Euro 20 billion, electric mobility business receives orders for more than Euro 1 billion
- Adjusted EBIT of Euro 2.2 billion, adjusted EBIT margin at 10 %
- Net income up 4.3 % to Euro 1.6 billion

Continental AG's 2018 half-year results shows accelerated growth in the second quarter of 2018 and once again grew faster than its relevant markets. After six months, organic sales growth amounted to 5.4%, with all five divisions making a contribution. In the same period, the Automotive business was up 6.6% in organic terms. It was thus able to grow nearly 5% points faster than the global production of passenger cars and light commercial vehicles, which was up by about 2%. For the current year, the company still expects the global production of passenger cars and light commercial vehicles to rise by more than 1 %.

In the first half of the year, Continental upped its sales to Euro 22.4 billion and posted an adjusted operating result of Euro 2.2 billion. This corresponds to an adjusted EBIT margin of 10%.

"Our technological strength underpins our rapid and profitable growth. It makes mobility around the world safe, clean and intelligent. It is pioneering for the mobility of the future and vital for our long-term success in an environment characterised by change and uncertainty," said Continental CEO Dr. Elmar Degenhart while presenting the business figures for the first half of 2018.

He added, "Our profitable growth in the second quarter is further proof of our strength. In addition, the high order intake in the field of electric mobility is also quite gratifying and demonstrates that our product portfolio is fit for the future." In the first half of the year, more than Euro 1 billion in orders were received for products and systems for hybrid and electric cars. At over Euro 20 billion, order intake continues to be at a



Dr. Elmar Degenhart, Continental CEO

record level in the entire automotive sector after six months.

Sales growth was up in particular in the Powertrain division in the second quarter. "Our future alignment is paving the way for Powertrain as well as the other divisions to continue to outpace our relevant markets in the future as well, as part of our values alliance for top value creation," he said, making reference to the recently announced realignment of the company.

Degenhart was also pleased with the quarterly results of the Tire division, which had been impacted by exchange-rate effects in the first three months. Its adjusted EBIT rose from 15.2% in the first quarter to 17.8% in the second quarter. "Our tire business was back up again in the second quarter, maintaining its profitable position on the global market," said Degenhart, summing up the positive development.

Solid growth in all divisions; further substantial investments in the mobility of tomorrow

"As expected, all five divisions posted good organic growth. In light of this, we are satisfied with our sales development in the first half of the year," said CFO Wolfgang Schaefer, commenting on the past half-year. With regards to the results, he added: "The industry is currently undergoing radical technological change. It is all about automation, connectivity and electrification. Looking at our results, the trend reflects the substantial investments we have made in the development of these future technologies. The increase in order intake has in recent years also resulted in start-up costs." In the last half-year, the technology company spent Euro 2.9 billion on investments as well as on research and

development. According to Schaefer, there are only a few companies worldwide that are pushing developments in the field of mobility to this extent.

Looking ahead to the remainder of the year, Schaefer pointed out that the third quarter is traditionally impacted by seasonal effects: "Carmakers close down plants for vacation in the third quarter. Furthermore, next quarter will probably be negatively impacted by the new test procedure WLTP." At present, Continental is expecting a strong quarter at the end of the year, and is therefore confirming its outlook for the full business year.

Bridging the way into the future: Groundbreaking ceremony for Continental campus

Continental is beginning the construction of its new headquarters in Hanover. The first development phase for the building complex is to be completed by the end of 2020 and will provide space for 1,250 employees. According to the plans, later expansion to 1,600 workplaces is an option. Relocation of the employees should be completed in 2021, in time for the company's 150th anniversary.

"Continental has been enjoying rapid, profitable growth for many years. This is reflected in our growing workforce around the world. In recent years, the corporate headquarters has become too small for the nearly 900 employees. Now, we are creating the necessary space in a modern headquarters that will be a credit to our birthplace, Hanover," commented Continental's CEO Dr. Elmar Degenhart on the occasion of the ground-breaking ceremony. He added: "We are building a creative Continental campus. It will

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connect people and promote personal dialogue between them. They will find areas where they can retreat to concentrate in peace and quiet. At the same time, we are setting up open areas that encourage creative sharing of ideas and knowledge.”

The new Continental campus will consist of a total of eight buildings, which will be connected to each other by four bridges. The longest of these, with a span of 71 meters, will extend over Hans- Böckler-Allee. In combination with the buildings, it will form the landmark at the eastern entrance to the state capital city of Hanover near the Pferdeturm.

“The new headquarters of our long-standing company is a clearly visible commitment to its roots in Hanover. We are pleased with the generous support for our project that we have received from Lower Saxony’s capital city and our reinvigorated partnership that will extend far into the future,” declared Degenhart.

“In the course of the company’s history that stretches back over almost 150 years, Continental has shaped the city of Hanover. Now, with the new headquarters, a new foundation is being laid that strengthens this common bond. The new structural accent is a perfect match for our cosmopolitan city with its architecture and endorses Hanover as a business location,” said Mayor Schostok.



(Left to right) Hans-Georg Gerstmann – Project lead new headquarters Continental, Martin Henn – Managing Director Henn architectural office, Dr. Ariane Reinhart – CHRO Continental, Dr. Elmar Degenhart – CEO Continental, Wolfgang Schäfer – CFO Continental, Stefan Schostok – Mayor Hannover at the groundbreaking ceremony for Continental campus

Intelligent, flexible, agile: a campus that connects

Continental’s CEO pointed out that the plans of Berlin-based architectural office Henn visibly and palpably realise the values and goals of the company. “Modern architecture and intelligent digital technology enable collaboration that is agile, flexible, connected and secure over organisational interfaces. In combination with our robust culture of innovation and networking, we can implement pioneering workplace concepts together with our employees. A daycare centre on the campus is just one of numerous elements to enable a healthy work-life balance.”

At the same time, the transportation

infrastructure of the new headquarters will take the future of mobility into account. Expressways and highways will provide direct connections to long-distance transportation. An urban rail station right in front of the building will offer links to local and long-distance public transportation.

Parking areas will have charging stations for electric vehicles. “With our new headquarters, we want to demonstrate in a tangible way that we are building bridges to the people inside as well as outside and to the future of mobility. And, as a leading technology company, we have a pioneering and significant role in shaping that mobility,” said Degenhart.

Apollo Tyres Q1 sales up 30%

● The Board of Directors of Apollo Tyres Ltd recently approved the company’s unaudited results for the 1st quarter of the financial year 2018-19.

For the quarter ended June 30, 2018, Apollo Tyres Ltd, on a consolidated level, reported a profit of **Rs 252 crores** on the net sales of **Rs 4,249 crores**. The net sales was up 30% aided by a healthy growth both in India and Europe across product segments for the company. While Indian Operations, backed by a robust performance of the commercial vehicle and passenger car tyre segments, grew 32% to close at Rs 3021 crores, European Operations’ revenue was up 22% to close at Rs 1242 crores.

Commenting on the results, **Onkar S Kanwar, Chairman, Apollo Tyres Ltd** said, “All our operations have done well in the past quarter, and have reported a good set of numbers. This is a

result of planning and investments in capacities, both in India and Europe, in addition to the increasing demand for our products with the OEMs, as well as, in the replacement market. Going forward, our growth momentum will continue despite the challenges posed by the raw material cost push, transporters strike and the new loading norms for commercial vehicles in India.”



Cross Currency Reference Chart for Key Financials:

Q1 FY19	Rs Crores	Rs Billion	US\$ Million	Euro Million
Net Sales	4249	42.49	633.92	532.23
Operating Profit	569	5.69	84.83	71.22
Net Profit	252	2.52	37.57	31.54

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New Managing Director for LANXESS in India

● Neelanjan Banerjee, 45, will be the new Country Representative and Managing Director for India effective September 1, 2018. He will assume these tasks in addition to his current function as head of the Advanced Industrial Intermediates business unit (BU AII) in India. Banerjee joined LANXESS in 2006 as head of the former Basic Chemicals business unit and the Saltigo business unit in India.

Banerjee follows Jacques Perez, age 56 years, who will take over new responsibilities as Managing Director of LANXESS Holding UK Unlimited and Country Representative of LANXESS in the United Kingdom. Born in France, he has also held the position of Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of LANXESS India Private Limited since 2013.

“On behalf of the entire Board of Management, I would like to thank both Jacques Perez and Neelanjan Banerjee for their excellent work and outstanding contributions to the company so far and wish them every success in their new roles” said Rainier van Roessel, Member of the Board of Management at LANXESS AG, commenting on the development.

LANXESS in India

LANXESS India was incorporated in India on February 20, 2004, and is represented through all its 12 business units, operating out of its registered office in Thane and sales offices in New Delhi and Chennai with around 1000 employees across its operations.

The company also has manufacturing facilities in India for five of its business units. The manufacturing sites are located in Nagda in Madhya Pradesh and Jhagadia in Gujarat. Production facilities for business units Liquid Purification Technologies (ion exchange resins), High Performance Materials (high tech plastics), Material Protection Products (biocides) and RheinChemie (polymer bound rubber chemicals and release agents) are operational in Jhagadia. The business unit Advanced Industrial Intermediates has production facilities both in Nagda and Jhagadia.

LANXESS has invested a sizeable



Neelanjan Banerjee

amount in India over the years, in greenfield investments, acquisitions and in upgradation of assets, which validates the potential of the Indian chemical industry.

For more information on LANXESS India please go to www.lanxess.in

Arlanxeo unveils new HNBR polymer (Therban ST 3107 VP)

● Arlanxeo presented a new fully hydrogenated nitrile rubber (HNBR) including a termonomer, which it said had never been used before with these rubbers. The Terpolymer Therban ST 3107 VP offers a “unique solution” for complex applications requiring both good low-temperature flexibility and excellent oil resistance, said Susanna Lieber, global head of technical marketing for Therban.

Arlanxeo has filed a patent application for the new polymer, which was developed at the company’s sites in Dormagen, Germany and La Wantzenau, France. “Our new Therban product can reduce

the glass transition temperature by up to 10°C in rubber compounds, while maintaining excellent media resistance,” added Lieber. The elastomer is further claimed to offer “good resistance to high temperatures and in contact with fuels, oil and gas, as well as excellent mechanical properties.” Target markets, include the automotive industry for the production of timing belts and the oil extraction industry in stator/rotor systems for drilling.

During DKT 2018 in Nuremberg, Germany, Arlanxeo presented a new fully hydrogenated nitrile rubber (HNBR) including a termonomer, which it said had never been used before with these rubbers.

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Target markets, said Arlanxeo,



Arlanxeo unveils new HNBR polymer

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LANXESS plans to sell remaining 50% stake for Euro 1.4 billion in ARLANXEO to its joint venture partner Saudi Aramco

● Specialty chemicals group LANXESS plans to sell its remaining 50% stake in ARLANXEO to its joint venture partner Saudi Aramco. The two companies, which founded ARLANXEO in 2016 as a 50:50 joint venture for synthetic rubber, signed a respective agreement recently. The transaction is still subject to approval of the relevant antitrust authorities. At the same time, information or consultation of the competent employee representative bodies will take place. The parties expect to complete the envisaged transaction by the end of 2018.

The total joint venture ARLANXEO is valued at EUR 3.0 billion. LANXESS expects to receive approximately EUR 1.4 billion in cash after deducting debt and other financial liabilities for its 50 percent share. LANXESS plans to use the proceeds to strengthen its financial basis and reduce net financial debt.

Originally, LANXESS and Saudi Aramco agreed on a lock-up period until 2021 for both partners. "With the envisaged transaction we would complete another important milestone of our strategic transformation earlier than originally planned. This should allow us to even better focus on our position as a leading player in mid-sized specialty chemicals markets," said Matthias Zachert, Chairman of the Board of Management. "At the same time, we increase the resilience of our business, strengthen our financial basis and gain additional strategic flexibility for further growth."

Headquartered in Maastricht/Netherlands, ARLANXEO generated sales of around EUR 3.2 billion in 2017 and employs about 3,800 people at 20 production sites in nine countries. The company produces high-performance rubber for use in, for example, the automotive and tire industries, the construction industry, and the oil and gas industries.

Back in 2016, the transfer of the business with synthetic rubber into the joint venture ARLANXEO was the foundation for LANXESS' strategic realignment. Since then LANXESS has been focusing on growth in mid-sized specialty chemicals markets and made various acquisitions in this area – with the takeover of the U.S. chemical company Chemtura in 2017 as the biggest one.



Matthias Zachert, Chairman, Board of Management Lanxess

include the automotive industry for the production of timing belts and the oil extraction industry in stator/rotor systems for drilling.

MESNAC upgrades strategy with new German director

● On June 26, MESNAC announced that Rudolf Albert Scharping, former Germany Minister for Defense, was elected as a non-independent director. Working as former president of Social Democratic Party of Germany and Party of European Socialists,



Rudolf Albert Scharping, former Germany Defense Minister

Scharping now operates Rudolf Scharping Strategie Beratung Kommunikation AG (RSBK) and makes contributions for Sino-German communication in smart manufacturing, environment protection, public affairs management and civil-military integration.

In the announcement, Yuan Zhongxue, founder of MESNAC, resigned from chairman. He Ning, MESNAC CFO, was elected as the new chairman. MESNAC executive team including President Yu Mingjin General Managers of divisions and subsidiaries, and technical teams will not be changed. MESNAC will promote industry development in rubber machinery with the help from German precision manufacturing technology. Expanding primary business international market, taking advantage of previous experience in smart manufacturing to new energy, new material, energy



He Ning, MESNAC CFO

conservation and environment protection, MESNAC will enhance sustainable development ability and profitability.

In nearly 20 years, MESNAC has become one of the leaders in global rubber machinery industry. With a product range covering 80% of tire production machine, MESNAC is able to provide integrated solution for tire industry in the world. Mixer feeding system, small chemical weighing system, TBR tyre building machine, MES software and RFID chips, curing



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Controller of Examinations: Rubber Technology Centre, IIT Kharagpur

Regular contact classes: October-May at IRI Branches

Examination : June/July at different IRI examination centres

Publication of result : September/October

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press have reached an advanced world standard; PCR tire building machine, cutting line, inter-liner production line and curing mold are approaching international level. MESNAC takes the lead in tire RFID four international standard and made great progress in smart manufacturing. In November, 2016, the first tire smart factory went into operation, with MESNAC as the general contractor and solution provider. MESNAC has accumulated experience in automation, intelligent control, visual technology, Human-computer interaction, equipment health management, energy conservation, environment protection and safety fields. "Smart Factory Experience Center" under establishment opens a window for MESNAC smart manufacturing upgrading.

For better development, MESNAC principal shareholders and management team have been working for finding strategic partners with global influence. MESNAC seeks opportunities in smart manufacturing, new material, new energy (new energy vehicles) and energy conservation. Thanks to years' efforts, Scharping and He Ning joined MESNAC: Scharping has abundant industry resource, talented personnel resource and communication experience in business circles.

MESNAC's new chairman, He Ning, is well known in the financial field. He worked as deputy director of funds management division for STOCK EXCHANGE EXECUTIVE COUNCLL (SEEC), Merrill Lynch & Co, Beijing office chief delegate & vice president, Morgan Stanley China legal representative & chairman, CMIF Data Management Company Limited president & investment committee chairman. Chairman He Ning will help MESNAC to grow even further and faster.

Following a good second quarter, LANXESS specifies its earnings forecast for 2018

● Following a good performance in the second quarter, LANXESS AG now expects an increase of the operating result at the upper end of the

LingLong Tire and Aditya Birla Group Signed Strategic Cooperation Agreement

● Linglong Tire and India's Aditya Birla Group have signed a strategic cooperation agreement under which Aditya Birla will become the carbon black supplier of the Chinese tire manufacturer. According to Linglong Tire, the agreement will support its internationalisation plans and is expected to improve the quality of its products. The cooperation is said to represent another important step of Linglong Tire in material quality control and quality management. In the future, the company will improve its global standards of product quality and service through continuous input in research, said Linglong Tire.



(Left to right) Sanjeev Sood, president of Birla Carbon in Thailand, Wang Feng, chairman and president of Linglong Tire, Sanrput Misra, CEO of Birla's carbon black business, and Amit Sain, vice president of sales of Birla Carbon in Thailand at the signing of the agreement

guidance of 5-10% that was presented in May. In the previous year, comparable EBITDA pre exceptionals was around EUR 925 million. The contribution from ARLANXEO, the joint venture between LANXESS and Saudi Aramco for synthetic rubber, is not taken into account in the full-year forecast for 2018 and, with immediate effect, will no longer be reported in the Group's sales and operating result.

In the second quarter, global sales of LANXESS increased by 6.8% to EUR 1.83 billion against EUR 1.71 billion in the prior-year quarter. EBITDA pre exceptionals improved by

3.6% to EUR 290 million compared with EUR 280 million in the prior-year quarter. The positive overall earnings performance was driven by three reasons primarily: firstly, the contribution of the former Chemtura businesses. They constitute a material part of the Specialty Additives segment, which recorded the best quarterly result since the acquisition of the US company. Secondly, the adjustment of selling prices due to higher raw material costs and thirdly, the synergies achieved from the integration of Chemtura had a positive impact on earnings. In the second quarter of 2018, the EBITDA

	Q2 2017	Q2 2018	Change in percent
Sales	1,712*	1,829	6.8
EBITDA pre exceptionals	280*	290	3.6
EBITDA margin pre exceptionals (in percent)	16.4*	15.9	
Net income	3	126	>100
Earnings per share (in EUR)	0.04	1.38	>100

*Comparative figures Q2 2017 excluding former ARLANXEO segment



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margin pre exceptionals was still on a solid level, at 15.9%, despite significantly adverse currency effects, compared with 16.4% a year ago.

“LANXESS is doing well in operational terms and our strategic decisions in recent years are visibly paying off. For instance, the acquired Chemtura businesses, which have now been included in our figures for a year, made a decisive contribution to the record result achieved by our Additives segment in the second quarter,” said Matthias Zachert, Chairman of the LANXESS Board of Management. “We are therefore specifying our full-year forecast and expect the increase of the EBITDA to be at the upper end of the guidance – despite the headwind resulting from the weakness of the US dollar and geopolitical uncertainties.”

Net income improved significantly to EUR 126 million against EUR 3 million in the prior-year quarter in which substantial exceptional charges were posted. Of net income, EUR 97 million was attributable to the four LANXESS segments and EUR 29 million to the so-called discontinued ARLANXEO business.

TROESTER at Rubber Tech China 2018

● In 1892, German engineer Paul Troester started building machines which could process unvulcanised rubber and guttapercha. One hundred and twenty six years later in 2018, TROESTER GmbH & CO. KG is well



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known as a reliable extrusion partner and source of know-how for all major tire companies, as well as a favourite choice for medium-sized and local tire producers.

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and line control. TROESTER solutions offer the maximum benefit for their customers’ needs.

In China, TROESTER is represented by TROESTER Machinery (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. which is not only responsible for the sales, after sales service, but also for customized design and production in the domestic market. A team of specialists will be present at Rubber Tech China 2018 to explain the latest technological developments and to answer your questions.

Rubber Tech China, Shanghai, 19.09. – 21.09.2018

Booth No. 1A159, Hall 1A

Contact:

Dr. Xinhua Peng, President and General Manager, TROESTER Machinery (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

Stefan Böttcher, Sales Director Rubber Machinery Division, TROESTER GmbH & Co. KG c rubber and other diene rubbers.

TARRC celebrates 80th anniversary

● The Tun Abdul Razak Research Centre (TARRC), the UK research and promotion centre of the Malaysian Rubber Board, celebrated its 80th anniversary on July 18 in an event held at its laboratories at Brickendonbury, Hertford.

Eight Malaysian manufacturers met over 100 guests from the global rubber industry, during the open-day event which provided a platform for buyers, importers and distributors of rubber-based products and materials to meet face-to-face with Malaysian manufacturers in the UK.



Director General of the Malaysian Rubber Board and chairman of the TARRC board, Dr Zairossani Mohd Nor, along with Dr Fauzi Mohd Som, TARRC CEO, welcomed all visitors to Brickendonbury.

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Kordsa acquires Fabric Development Inc and Textile Products Inc in the US for \$100 million

●Kordsa continues its organic growth with R&D and technology investments while seeking inorganic growth opportunities in composite business globally. Recently, Kordsa announced the acquisition of Fabric Development Inc. (FDI) and Textile Products Inc. (TPI), which provide advanced composite materials to the commercial aviation industry, with an investment of USD 100 million. Kordsa sees this opportunity as a very important step towards reinforcing its composite market position in the US as well as becoming a strong player in the growing aviation industry supply chain.

Kordsa CEO Ali Çalıpkın said: "Primarily producing only tire reinforcement technologies, as



Kordsa, we used to reinforce every one out of three automobile tires and every two out of three aircraft tires. Over the years, we leveraged our expertise in tire reinforcement technologies into construction reinforcement and composite technologies and expanded our lines of business. As Kordsa, we touch every corner of daily life and reinforce life. In parallel to our strategic decision to focus in composite technologies, we inaugurated Composite Technologies Center of Excellence, which operates as an innovation hub combining industry and university under the same roof as well as is home to basic research, design R&D and



Ali Çalıpkın, Kordsa CEO

production in 2016. Our business journey today is brought to a new level with this brand-new investment which will lead us to become a global player in the field of commercial aviation having an important presence in the commercial aviation value chain. This new step will ensure us to be a strategic supplier of key players in aerospace and civil aviation, particularly Boeing and Toray Composites Materials America Inc. With this acquisition, we also aim to

strengthen our strong global leadership in reinforcement technologies. We used to reinforce the tires of the aircrafts, now we are honored to say that we will also reinforce the wings and hulls of the aircrafts with our

composite technologies, as well as the landing tracks of those aircrafts with our construction reinforcement technologies. Kordsa, now operating in 10 facilities throughout four continents, will continue to reinforce life and take firm steps forward."

Yokohama Technology for producing isoprene from biomass

●The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., of Japan, the tire and rubber products major, says it has developed the world's first technology capable of efficiently producing isoprene from a biomass. The new breakthrough is the result of

joint research with RIKEN, Japan's only comprehensive research institution for the natural sciences, and Zeon Corporation, the leading Japanese synthetic rubber manufacturer.

Isoprene is a raw material in the production of polyisoprene rubber, used in automobile tires and other applications. Industrial isoprene is currently produced as a by-product of naphtha pyrolysis. Yokohama explained that the new technology they have developed for synthesizing isoprene will reduce dependence on petroleum and contribute to the reduction of carbon dioxide — a key cause of global warming.

Yokohama Rubber, RIKEN and Zeon began joint research in 2013 and discovered a new isoprene-synthesizing process in 2015, using a computer-based in-silico metabolic design technology. This is essentially a technology for designing new artificial metabolic reactions on computers.

Further development of this new technology has led to the creation of cells with excellent isoprene-synthesizing capability based on a new artificial pathway and highly active enzymes. Cells have been created with the in-vivo capability of generating isoprene from a biomass (sugar) that serves as the starting material. Yokohama says the in-vivo generated isoprene is then polymerised to achieve synthesis of polyisoprene rubber. The research leading to this new technology took advantage of the cell design and plant science technologies of the RIKEN Center for Sustainable Resource Science (CSRS).

It is widely understood that isoprene is produced naturally from mevalonic acid (an intermediate substance formed from sugar) through a five-stage reaction, but the new artificial pathway reduces that process to two stages. Additionally, Yokohama claims the highly active enzymes possess a phenomenal isoprene-producing capability that is not achievable by natural enzymes. Introducing this artificial pathway and these enzymes into colon bacilli gives the bacteria an isoprene-generating ability that it lacks in nature and enables an efficient artificial synthesis of isoprene. Yokohama confirms that this technology can also be applied to butadiene-based syntheti



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BKT becomes Italian Football SERIE B Championship Sponsor



A far-reaching three-year partnership agreement has been signed between BKT, the Indian multinational group, one of the big players in the Off-Highway tire market, and Lega Nazionale Professionisti B, the Italian professional football league of Serie B clubs. A new logo and the new name will be the companion for the 22 clubs and their fans throughout the 42 days, Playoffs and Playouts of the coming three seasons.

A new paramount agreement stipulated between Lega Nazionale Professionisti B and BKT, a major player in the Off-Highway market, has been officially announced. BKT assumes the role of title sponsor for the Serie B championship for the next three seasons. On the occasion, Serie B has changed its name into "Serie BKT" represented by a logo uniting BKT and Lega B, which will be the companion to clubs and fans starting from the 42 match days, all Playoffs and Playouts of the coming season on 22 pitches throughout Italy. One of the core aspects of this cooperation is to support the training of young talents thanks to a plan of action and activities focusing on novices, football academies and the stadiums belonging to the Serie B teams. As a result, growth and union will be one of the pillars of the "Serie BKT", values that are in perfect harmony with BKT's corporate claim, Growing Together. The aim is to share the same enthusiasm and passionate spirit to be found among players and fans entering this way into a direct relationship with clubs and fans enhancing at the same time BKT's brand awareness in Italy.

"I am very satisfied with this agreement, which is fully in line with BKT's branding strategy with focus on Italy, where our European Head Office is located," – Lucia Salmasso, Managing Director of BKT Europe, states. – "Football has always been the most popular sport in Italy arousing great passion and enthusiasm. Entering this privileged relationship means a lot to us, since it reflects our business style

and philosophy based on passion, loyalty, perseverance and tenacity when facing daily market challenges."

"This partnership is a continuation on the path to growth and going international that Lega B is putting forward full of fierce spirit and firmly believing into its brand. It is actually an essential course we adopt to ensure major economic support to our clubs stimulating and increasing spectators' both interest and involvement," – Mauro Balata, President Lega B, comments. – "Having joined the project of a company, which operates on a global scale and enjoys a considerable international prestige being a leader in their sector, is going to trace a path that will lead Serie B always further ahead. Due to its unpredictability, the show and the number of goals that are assured, the well-balanced tournament, the strong and deeply rooted presence on the Territory along with social engagement, and last but not least the descent of the teams taking part in Serie B, this championship has been able to build up a strong identity and has acquired great dignity over the last few years. It is hence one of the major and high-ranking contenders in

the world of football, and this partnership gives evidence for this distinctive feature."

Many are the similarities between BKT's key principles and the Lega B spirit. First of all, there is the determination to always achieve new goals and targets along with commitment, search for perfection, and the

power to pursue objectives. If Lega B can be considered a sort of talent incubator for the number-one stages of national football in Italy, the same goes for BKT in terms of Research & Development, consulting and listening to user needs within the company's market.

This partnership's common denominator is the ability of taking up and mastering challenges thanks to their own players' trustfulness - just like fierce determination and firm intention to obtain extraordinary performance on any terrain or pitch.

Football has been for long at the core of BKT's attention. A concrete example is the choice of making the king of football freestyle, Iya Traoré, a



special guest at the company's main events worldwide, or the almost traditional football distribution to visitors and guests on the occasion of trade shows.

Passion for both sport and the show are likewise part of the motives, which have led BKT to being a sponsor of other international events such as Monster Jam, which the company has been sponsoring since 2013, the famous American motorsport show with also some European stages, where giant Monster Trucks fitted

with BKT tires perform unbelievable stunts.

Or again, most recently, XTRACTOR Around the World in Sudafrica, an expedition lasting 40 days. Aboard the latest-generation McCormick agricultural tractors, some drivers of the 1st Parachute Regiment "Tuscania" (part of the Italian Carabinieri corps) have travelled over 7,000 km of land, supporting also humanitarian initiatives in cooperation with AMREF, including, for instance, the build of a 100m x 50m football pitch and a

Community Garden.

The new "Serie BKT" is hence fully in line with the corporate marketing and communication strategy aiming at enhanced brand awareness, which will be definitely increased through visibility in all Lega B stadiums, on both the pitch and grandstands, by television broadcasting stations and TV networks as well as promotional initiatives all around the football championship, capturing this way a vast and enthusiastic audience.

XTRACTOR AROUND THE WORLD : GREATLY MASTERED BY BKT TIRES

The second edition of Xtractor Around The World, which had set off from Cape Town on April 3 came to a successful conclusion on May 20. A truly peerless experience charged with intense emotions. During the 50-day journey, the top-of-the-range tires AGRIMAX FORCE and AGRIMAX RT 657 made by BKT, a sponsor of the initiative, were fitted on the Series X7 P6-Drive and X8 VT-Drive McCormick farming tractors, the main players in this caravan, to face and master an itinerary of over 7,900 km. The expedition was divided into 50 stages, each of them completely different in terms of landscape and difficulties due to diverse climates and multiform land structure. The tires in play undoubtedly proved their ability to master any track under whatsoever extreme conditions, keeping all promises in terms of resistance, versatility and drivers' safety along with adaptability in the fields as well as on and off the road, flexibility plus traction, and reliability. All these acknowledged features have made their contribution to successfully overcome all aspects of this particularly tough challenge.

"This expedition through South Africa has definitely been a great occasion for our tires to prove toughness, tenacity and resistance while facing the 50 stages of the itinerary," Ms. Lucia Salmaso, Managing Director of BKT Europe, states. – "Both patterns have been able to show and highlight their outstanding performance features both on and off the road, perfectly adapting to this adventure's considerably tough rules and conditions. The credit for this certainly goes to our R&D Center's proficiency – always committed to finding innovative solutions as a response to any requirement in any context."

This extraordinary Xtractor edition will certainly be remembered by so many as pleasant memories, having profoundly empathized with its strong humanitarian message, which has found its expression in two charity stages, namely: the team's visit at Ephraim Mogale, a mother-and-child health clinic managed by AMREF, and the Sedibeng West high school, where AMREF has conceived and put into being the Healthy Lifestyle Project, an initiative that aims at teaching children the benefit of sports.

A tangible mark of this visit has been the building

of a 100m x 50m football pitch. The official inauguration took place in the presence of Iya Traoré, the king of football freestyle and special guest at BKT's main corporate events worldwide, who lends his image to the Indian multinational's marketing activities. On the occasion, 500 footballs signed by the company were distributed for free.

"Sustaining projects on a specific territory that not only do highlight the peculiarities and needs of a specific sector – in this case agriculture - means a lot to us," Lucia Salmaso continues. – "Yet, BKT aims at taking aid to populations in need along with our testimony and expertise in order to improve both their living and working conditions – perfectly in line with our corporate values and social commitment."



Ms. Lucia Salmaso



2018

9th IRGCE

International Rubber Glove Conference & Exhibition



FROM MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL

FROM TRADERS HOTEL

GLOVE MANUFACTURERS & DISTRIBUTORS

- MALAYSIA**
 - Advent Health Sdn Bhd
 - Alamo Rubber Products Sdn Bhd
 - AXG Industries Sdn Bhd
 - Brightway Holdings Sdn Bhd
 - Cangshan Global Sdn Bhd
 - Central Machinery Sdn Bhd
 - G.S. Industries Sdn Bhd
 - Glove Resources Sdn Bhd
 - Hanagel Sdn Bhd
 - IK-Kaoping Rubber Products Sdn Bhd
 - Koon Seng Sdn Bhd
 - Kosari Latex Industries (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Larson Manufacturing Sdn Bhd
 - Longone Industries Sdn Bhd
 - Multisole Sdn Bhd
 - Nearon Industries Sdn Bhd
 - Piper Glove (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd
 - Professional Latex Sdn Bhd (Ptd Ovale)
 - Qube Medical Products Sdn Bhd
 - Rivastara Resources Sdn Bhd
 - Rubbers (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Sikabaru Sdn Bhd
 - Smart Glove Corporation Sdn Bhd
 - SSM Medical Products Sdn Bhd
 - Synemas Glove Manufacturing Sdn Bhd
 - Tan Sri Lan Industries Sdn Bhd
 - Top Glove Corporation Bhd
 - VP Gloves Sdn Bhd
 - WSP Asia Pacific Sdn Bhd
 - YTY Industry Sdn Bhd
- CHINA**
 - Zheng Juyang All Day Safety Plastic Products Co., Ltd
 - 北京嘉利达塑料制品有限公司
 - Biao Shi Medical Co., Ltd
 - 北京嘉利达塑料制品有限公司
 - Byeon Chongil Co., Ltd
 - 韩国忠清北道义隆有限公司
 - Hubei Hanyuan Plastic Products Co., Ltd
 - 湖北恒源塑料制品有限公司
 - Hubei Hongqiang Plastic Technology Co., Ltd-Tiansi Group
 - 湖北恒强塑料技术有限公司
 - Hubei Medical Group (Magical) Sdn Bhd
 - 湖北医疗集团
 - Shandong Jingbo Gloves Co., Ltd
 - 山东景波手套有限公司
 - Shijiazhuang Welly Plastic Co., Ltd
 - 石家庄沃力塑料制品有限公司
 - Zhongyong Pulin Medical Products Co., Ltd
 - 中亿医疗器材有限公司
- THAILAND**
 - H-Care Thai Gloves Company Ltd
 - Healthi Gloves Co., Ltd
 - Sri Tring Agro Industry Public Co., Ltd
- SRILANKA**
 - Doped Products P.L.C (DPL)
 - Latex Rubbers Pvt Ltd
 - Mole Safety
- INDIA**
 - RFD Latex Ltd
 - Sri Meghi Rubber Pvt Ltd
- INDONESIA**
 - PT Medicals Technologies

EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS & DISTRIBUTORS

- MALAYSIA**
 - AFA Technologies Sdn Bhd
 - AV-Intersurel Sdn Bhd
 - Assign Metal Components (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Berms Asia Pacific Sdn Bhd
 - Cementec Innovative Ceramic Engineering (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Elektel Concept Sdn Bhd
 - GT Instruments Sdn Bhd
 - Konodi Products Sdn Bhd
 - KLE Products Sdn Bhd
 - Makam-Imaja Sdn Bhd
 - Motion Engineering and Services Sdn Bhd
 - NTH Bearing-Motors Sdn Bhd
 - Shree Ceramics (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Shreeva Products Sdn Bhd
 - Tan Asiaic Technology Sdn Bhd
 - Tan Drive Transmissions Sdn Bhd
 - Uthmaniyah International Sdn Bhd
 - Winston Engineering Corporation Sdn Bhd
 - Yee Lee Industrial Build Sdn Bhd
 - Yee Lee Plastic Manufacture Sdn Bhd
 - Multisole Sdn Bhd
- CHINA**
 - Chiyang Tiger Machinery Co., Ltd
 - 常州中虎机械有限公司
 - Shanghai Emson Commercial Development Co., Ltd
 - 上海慕森商业发展有限公司
 - Fornet Industries Inc
 - 富耐特
 - Shanghai ADU Thermal Engineering and Heating Component Co., Ltd
 - 上海艾都热能工程及换热部件有限公司
 - Shanghai Bower Washer Equipment Co., Ltd
 - 上海博尔沃洗胶设备有限公司
 - Chang Jiang Pulpation Energy Saving Technology (Jiang Su) Co., Ltd
 - 长江节能环保(江苏)有限公司
 - Tangrong Jiarui Packaging Material Co., Ltd
 - 江苏唐荣聚包材料有限公司
 - Hefei Xinglai Packaging Products Co., Ltd
 - 合肥兴来包装制品有限公司
 - Wenzhou Fengxing Machinery Co., Ltd
 - 温州丰兴机械有限公司
 - Zhangjiagang Xunxing Automatic Machinery Joint Stock Limited Company
 - 张家港兴兴自动化机械股份有限公司
 - Zhejiang Wenzhou Machinery Co., Ltd
 - 浙江温州机械有限公司
 - Zibo Hanning Chemicals Co., Ltd
 - 淄博瀚能化学有限公司
 - Zibo Rokua Automation Science & Technology Co., Ltd
 - 淄博若夸自动化科技有限公司

EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS & DISTRIBUTORS

- INDIA**
 - BBB Business Private Limited
- JAPAN**
 - Infid Co., Ltd
- SWITZERLAND**
 - UPS AG
- INDONESIA**
 - PT Mark Dynamics

OTHERS

- Qualitec Contract (M) Sdn Bhd
- CTI Resources Sdn Bhd
- CCS&H Hong Kong Ltd
- Solek Technology Centre Ltd

GOVERNMENTAL BODY

- Malaysia Rubber Export Promotion Council
- Malaysia Rubber Board

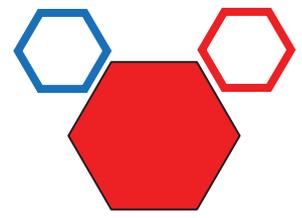
PUBLICATIONS

- Asian Business Media LLP (Rubber Asia)
- Indian International Rubber Journal

CHEMICALS MANUFACTURERS & DISTRIBUTORS

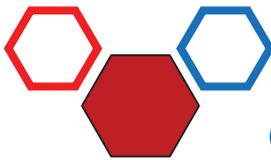
- MALAYSIA**
 - Accurel (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Adrian Sdn Bhd
 - Auacorpora (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Alkema Technology Sdn Bhd
 - Bahn Meyer Chemicals (M) Sdn Bhd
 - DDM Polymers Sdn Bhd
 - CEEBEE Chemicals Sdn Bhd
 - Chemix West Industrial Supplies Sdn Bhd
 - Chempro Technology (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Clarett (M) Sdn Bhd
 - DC (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd
 - Eckstein Sdn Bhd
 - Evocast Sdn Bhd
 - Fiksan Technosar (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Focus Pigment Sdn Bhd
 - Imperial Green Industrial Sdn Bhd
 - Jahman & Jansen Ingredients (M) Sdn Bhd
 - Kemaco Specialty Sdn Bhd
 - Luncheon Trading Sdn Bhd
 - Performance Alloys Sdn Bhd
 - Schuchman Sdn Bhd
 - Synthane Sdn Bhd
 - Yara International (M) Sdn Bhd
- CHINA**
 - Nansu Industry Co., Ltd
 - 南京南士工业有限公司
 - Hebi Lites Rubber Chemical Co., Ltd
 - 鹤壁利泰橡胶化学有限公司
 - Shijiazhuang Hongqiang Rubber Co., Ltd
 - 石家庄恒强橡胶有限公司
- ENGLAND**
 - Robson Brothers Limited
 - Clare Chemicals Ltd
- THAILAND**
 - Bangkok Synthetics Co., Ltd
- JAPAN**
 - Zenri Asia
- TAIWAN**
 - Shi-Fong Specialty and Applied Materials Co., Ltd
- GERMANY**
 - Rauwig GmbH
- USA**
 - Kusan Polymers
- SINGAPORE**
 - Ummatic Chemicals Singapore Pte Ltd
 - Antala Chemicals Singapore Pte Ltd

* List of registered exhibitors for 9th IRGCE 2018 & IRGCE 2018 as of 26 June 2017



HARI SHANKAR SINGHANIA ELASTOMER & TYRE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

An Autonomous SIRO Laboratory, engaged in Testing, Calibration, Scientific and Consultancy Services for Rubber and Allied Industry



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO RUBBER & ALLIED INDUSTRY

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- Effect of different environment on aging characteristics of cured rubber
- Benchmarking and Reverse Engineering of Rubber products
- Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) Analysis of Rubber Process Oil/Rubber product
- Compound Development for customized application
- Specific Aging Performance/Life Prediction
- Thermal property Characterization

Tyre Testing

- Tyre Dimension Analysis
- Plunger Energy
- Endurance Test
- High Speed Test
- Footprint Pressure Distribution
- Structural & Sectional Analysis
- Stiffness [X,Y,Z]
- Bead Unseat
- Sidewall deflection Profile
- Electrical Resistivity
- Non-Destructive Testing
- Air Retention Test
- Rolling Resistance
- High Speed Uniformity
- F&M/PRAT/CRAT/Conicity & Plysteer/SWEEP
- Tyre Noise Measurement (Anechoic Chamber)
- Tyre Noise Analysis & Modeling
- Rubber Product Noise Measurement & Analysis

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- Force Measurement
- Pressure
- Volume
- Mass
- Length



An NABL (ISO/IEC 17025)
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Contact : HASETRI, "Raghupati Singhania Centre of Excellence", 437 Hebbal Industrial Area, Mysuru – 570 016, Karnataka
Ph. : 0821-3078504; Mob: +91-9414786040/9940162550; E-mail : library@hasetri.com/rm@hasetri.com www.hasetri.com

Carbon Black Professionals from across the supply chain to gather in Dusseldorf this September at the prestigious 15th Biennial edition of Carbon Black World

Over 250 key professionals from across the carbon black industry will come together in Dusseldorf, Germany on 25-26 September 2018 to attend the renowned Carbon Black World conference. Organised by Smither's Rapra, this conference covers the full scope of the carbon black industry and provides valuable information on new developments and innovations, as well as delivering an insightful forecast into the future. Sessions this year include

- **Market outlook, supply & demand**
- **Innovation in Carbon Black**
- **Feedstock, materials and transportation**
- **Environmental regulations**
- **Process improvements.**

In addition to the two-day conference, there will be two optional pre-conference workshops, both taking place on Monday 24 September 2018. The workshops will cover **carbon black feedstock** and **recovered carbon black**. As with previous year's the event boasts a superior speaker line-up including presentations from Birla Carbon, Continental **Carbon Company Europe**, **Goodyear Dunlop Handelssysteme GmbH**, **Omsk Carbon Europe GmbH**, **Jiangxi Black Cat Carbon Black**, **Monolith Materials** and many more.

For more information on Carbon Black World please visit www.carbonblackworld.com or contact Adriana Lobo via alobo@smithers.com

4.0 The New Paradigm of Businesses

IRRBID backed by Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz S.A. Kadir is organizing a Business 4.0 Conference between 27th to 29th August 2018 in Kuala Lumpur. This interesting Conference 4.0 : The New Paradigm of Businesses is very timely because with the pace of Digital



Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz S.A. Kadir

Disruption, companies around the globe are embarking on digital transformation aggressively and realigning their corporate roadmap towards becoming a digital enterprise. Yet many business leaders have still not come to terms with the conceptual leap that digital transformation represents or the practical implementation strategies.

Unlike Industry 3.0 which involved automation of single machines and processes, digital transformation encompasses end-to-end digitisation and data integration of the entire ecosystem of a business which comprises the Customer Solution Ecosystem, the Digital Operations Ecosystem, the Technology Ecosystem and the People Ecosystem. This includes transforming and integrating all operations and internal activities, optimising customer-facing activities, offering digital products and services, operating connected physical and virtual assets, and building partnerships. Mastering Digital Transformation requires in depth understanding of collaboration, the commitment of top management, and a clear strategy.

The Business 4.0 is designed to provide a comprehensive look at the different approaches being taken to achieve digital transformation by focusing on:

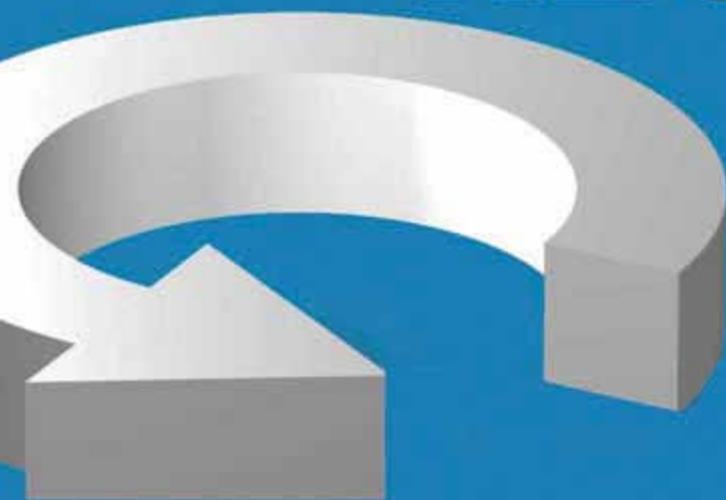
- Mapping the Digital Operations Ecosystem in Businesses
- Creating and Empowering Digital Workforce
- Integrating Digital Technology into Conventional Businesses
- Digital Transformation for Business: Disruption vs Incremental
- Funding Strategies for Digital Transformation
- New Revenue Stream through Digitalisation
- Robotics and Automation in Business
- Capturing and Creating Business Value through Big Data
- Artificial Intelligent (AI) Applications in Businesses
- Maximising Cloud Computing
- Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) for Businesses
- IoT Integration

Benefits of Attending

- Hear from international experts on redesigning the business ecosystem to ensure future digital readiness
- Understand the current state and future trend of digital transformation globally and locally
- Learn how digital technologies and the explosion in real time data are transforming the way companies use and generate value
- Get the latest insights on the changing spectrum configurations and infrastructure models
- Explore new challenges and requirements that digital transformation brings to the commerce sphere
- Discover new and innovative technologies and services enabled digital transformation
- Network and connect with leading digital transformation solution providers and enablersx.

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THE HOUSE OF RECLAIMED RUBBER



Manufacturers & Exporters Of

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- ◆ Butyl Reclaim
- ◆ Hightensile Reclaim
- ◆ Halobutyl Reclaim
- ◆ Crumb Rubber
- ◆ EPDM Reclaim

BALAJI RUBBER GROUP



Balaji Rubber Industries (P) Ltd.,
Namakkal, Tamilnadu, India



Balaji Rubber & Reclaims (P) Ltd.,
Tumkur, Karnataka, India



Eswar Rubber Products (P) Ltd.,
Penukonda, Andhrapradesh, India



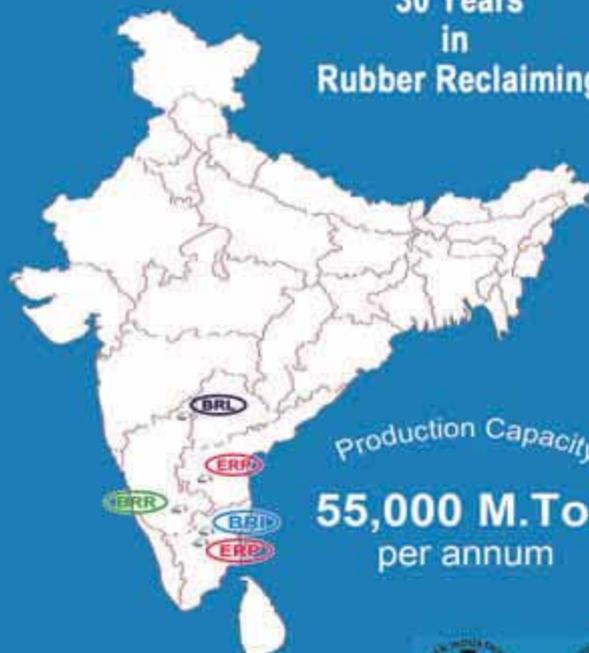
Bidar Rubber & Reclaims (P) Ltd.,
Bidar, Karnataka, India



Eswar Rubber Products (P) Ltd.,
Namakkal, Tamilnadu, India

(Unit - II)

30 Years
in
Rubber Reclaiming



Production Capacity

55,000 M.Ton
per annum



DIARY OF WORLD EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2018

► 9th International Rubber Glove Conference & Exhibition

04 – 06 September: Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia

Contact: Chan Wone Fu, MARGMA

Tel: +603 7727 3197

Fax: +603 7727 3191

Email: ceo@margma.com.my

Web: www.margma.com.my

► REIFEN 2018

11 – 15 September: New Hall 12 at the Frankfurt Fair & Exhibition Centre.

Contact: Dr. Ann-Katrin Klusak
Director Marketing
Communications Mobility & Logistics

Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH

Tel: +49-69-7575-5621

Fax: +49-69-7575-6337

Email: ann.katrin.klusak@messefrankfurt.com

Web: https://automechanika.messefrankfurt.com

► Rubber Tech China 2018 & Tire+ China 2018

19 – 21 September: Shanghai New International Expo Centre, Shanghai

Contact: CURC - Ella Liu / Willow Sun

Tel: +86-10-58650277

Fax: +86-10-58650288

Email: expo@chrubber.com

Web: http://en.rubbertech-expo.com/

► Carbon Black World 2018

25 – 26 September: Hilton Dusseldorf, Germany

Contact: Adriana Lobo

Tel: +44 (0) 1372 802085

Email: alobo@smithers.com

Web:

www.carbonblackworld.com

► Asia Rubtech Expo 2018

27 – 29 September: Hotel Lalit Ashok, Kumara Krupa High Grounds, Bengaluru-560 001

Contact: S.Vasudeva Rao,

Hon.Sec. Indian Rubber Institute,

Tel: 91-9886758930,

91-7290050669

Email: irikarnataka1@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 2018

► 2018 Rubber Recycling Symposium

07 – 08 November 2018: Sheraton on the Falls Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

Contact: Michal Majernik - Tire and Rubber Association of Canada

Tel: +11 519 249 0366

Email: info@tracanada.ca

Web: www.tracanada.ca

► Africa Rubber Expo & Summit 2018

20 – 21 November 2018: Sandton Convention Center, Johannesburg, South Africa

Contact: Peram Prasada Rao - TechnoBiz

Tel: +66 2 933 0077

Fax: +66 2 955 9971

Email: peram@technobiz-asia.com

Web: www.rubbertechnology-expo.com

► TPE & Silicone Elastomers 2018

27 – 28 November: Milan - Italy

Contact: Joana Gibson

Tel: +44 (0) 1372 802000

Email: jgibson@smithers.com

DECEMBER 2018

► Tire Production Forum (Mixing Forum collocated with Curing Forum)

13-14 December 2018

Leonardo Hotel, Berlin, Germany.

Contact: Luka Jovanovic
Marketing Manager-TBM Evolution Group

Tel: + 420 212 24 24 00

Email: luka@tbmgroup.eu

Web: tire-forum.com

JANUARY 2019

► 10th India Rubber Expo 2019

17-19 January: NESCO Complex, Goregaon(E), Mumbai.

Contact: Sandeep Sanyal, Coordinator

Email: sales@indiarubberexpo.in

Tel : + 022-28392095 /2107

Web : www.indiarubberexpo.in

MARCH 2019

► Tire Technology Expo 2019

05 -07 March

Deutsche Messe, Hannover, Germany
Contact: Colin Scott, UKIP Media & Events,

Tel : +44-1306-743744

Email: colin.scott@ukipme.com

Fax: +44-1306877411

Web: www.tiretechnology-expo.com

► Tyrexpo Asia 2019

19- 21 March at Singapore Expo Hall 1 & 2, Singapore

Contact: Darren Tay - Project Manager

Tel: +65 64032100

Email: darren.tay@singex.com

Web: www.tyrexposeries.com

OCTOBER 2019

► Arab Rubber Expo 2019

16-17 October 2019

Sharjah Expo Centre UAE

Contact: Peram Prasada Rao - TechnoBiz

Tel: +66 2 933 0077

Fax: +66 2 955 9971

Email: peram@technobiz-asia.com

Web: www.rubbertechnology-expo.com

► K- 2019

16-23 October: Duesseldorf, Germany.

Contact: Fr. Eva Rugenstein/
Desislava Angelova/Sabrina Giewald

Tel: +49-211-4560 240 /

Fax:+49-211-4560 8548

Email: AngelovaD@messe-duesseldorf.de

GiewaldS@messe-duesseldorf.de

MARCH 2020

► Global Rubber, Latex & Tyre Expo 2020

11-13 March 2020, Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

Contact: Peram Prasada Rao - TechnoBiz

Tel: +66 2 933 0077

Fax: +66 2 955 9971

Email: peram@technobiz-asia.com

Web: www.rubbertechnology-expo.com

SIAM

India's: Production, Domestic Sales & Exports data for the month of July 2018 and Growth

Category	Production						Domestic Sales						Exports					
	July			July			July			July			July					
	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	% Change			
I Passenger Vehicles (PVs)																		
Passenger Cars	236,975	256,759	8.35	192,845	191,979	-0.45	49,794	49,328	-0.94									
Utility Vehicles(UVs)	92,361	95,903	3.83	86,871	79,092	-8.95	15,207	14,326	-5.79									
Vans	16,886	18,509	9.61	19,350	19,889	2.79	107	272	154.21									
Total Passenger Vehicles (PVs)	346,222	371,171	7.21	299,066	290,960	-2.71	65,108	63,926	-1.82									
II Commercial Vehicles (CVs)																		
M&HCVs																		
Passenger Carriers	3,027	3,552	17.34	3,027	3,204	5.85	1,094	768	-29.80									
Goods Carriers	23,440	30,276	29.16	19,703	25,095	27.37	2,034	3,524	73.25									
Total M&HCVs	26,467	33,828	27.81	22,730	28,299	24.50	3,128	4,292	37.21									
LCVs																		
Passenger Carriers	4,544	4,511	-0.73	4,000	5,012	25.30	168	280	66.67									
Goods Carriers	39,994	52,612	31.55	32,271	43,186	33.82	3,290	4,046	22.98									
Total LCVs	44,538	57,123	28.26	36,271	48,198	32.88	3,458	4,326	25.10									
Total Commercial Vehicles	71,005	90,951	28.09	59,001	76,497	29.65	6,586	8,618	30.85									
III Three Wheelers																		
Passenger Carrier	65,609	94,898	44.64	32,672	50,232	53.75	29,828	45,520	52.61									
Goods Carrier	8,866	10,726	20.98	8,589	10,109	17.70	260	419	61.15									
Total Three Wheelers	74,475	105,624	41.82	41,261	60,341	46.24	30,088	45,939	52.68									
IV Two wheelers																		
Scooter/Scooterette	587,427	687,045	16.96	569,809	598,976	5.12	26,312	40,754	54.89									
Motorcycles/Step- Through	1,254,917	1,488,340	18.60	1,049,478	1,150,995	9.67	186,337	237,559	27.49									
Mopeds	72,145	74,742	3.60	60,589	67,106	10.76	942	320	-66.03									
Total Two wheelers	1,914,489	2,250,127	17.53	1,679,876	1,817,077	8.17	213,591	278,633	30.45									
Quadracycle	302	594	96.69	0	0	-	314	666	112.10									
Grand Total of All Categories	2,406,493	2,818,467	17.12	2,079,204	2,244,875	7.97	315,687	397,782	26.01									

Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (10/08/2018)

Tire makers reiterate demand for rubber imports at nil duty

●With rubber production hitting a six-year-low of 1.26 lakh tonnes in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, and consumption at its highest level, at 3.02 lakh tonnes, the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA) has reiterated its demand for



Rajiv Budhraj, Director-General, ATMA

rubber imports on a tariff rate quota (TRQ) basis, with a 'nil' rate of duty.

This is important since expensive imports are striking at the root of cost saving measures being adopted by the industry to stay competitive internationally, said Rajiv Budhraj, Director-General, ATMA.

The production-consumption gap has widened to 58% of consumption in Q1 from 46% in the year-ago period, making the raw material scenario all the more worrisome.

Quoting the Rubber Board's latest figures, he said NR production contracted by 12% while its consumption went up by 14%, leading to a widening of the gap. The production-consumption gap stood at 1.76 lakh tonnes in the first three months of the ongoing fiscal against 1.21 lakh tonnes in the corresponding period in FY18.

For the second consecutive month in June, rubber consumption breached the one-lakh-tonne mark. Production, on the other hand, has remained below 45,000 tonnes in each of the first three months.

Domestic natural rubber production could meet only 42% of domestic demand in Q1. Such scarcity and inadequate availability of domestic rubber are pushing the tire

D. Anandan appointed Executive Director of India's Rubber Board

●D. Anandan has taken over as Chairman and Executive Director of the Rubber Board from Dr M.K. Shanmuga Sundaram IAS. This is in addition to his existing charge of the Jt. Development Commissioner, MEPZ Special Economic Zone, Chennai.

A 2000 batch IAS officer of Sikkim cadre, D. Anandan holds a post graduate degree in commerce and accountancy. He served the Sikkim government under various capacities including that of Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim.



industry to a precarious position, he said.

According to ATMA, natural rubber, being the principal raw material, accounting for over 40% by weight, is critical for the industry's growth and competitiveness. However, a consistent decline in domestic availability and its erratic supply are hurting the production process at tire companies at a time when a large capacity is going on-stream.

Rubber imports are imperative to meet the huge demand supply gap. However, rubber supplies are being squeezed in view of a restrictive policy environment.

Rubber output hits a 6-year low of 1.26 LT

●Natural rubber production has hit a six-year low of 1.26 lakh tonnes in the first quarter of 2018-19 as consumption reached a peak of 3.02

lakh tonnes.

The production-consumption gap has widened to 58% of consumption in Q1 of current financial year from 46% in the year-ago period making the raw material scenario all the more worrisome, Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (Atma) has stated.

According to the latest figures released by Rubber Board of India, natural rubber (NR) production contracted by 12% while consumption went up by 14%. The deficit stood at 1.76 lakh tonnes in the first three months of the ongoing fiscal against 1.21 lakh tonnes a year ago.

For the second consecutive month in June, NR consumption breached the one lakh-tonne mark. The production, on the other hand, has remained below 45,000 tonnes in each of the first three months, Board data showed.



“Domestic natural rubber production could meet only 42% of the domestic demand in Q1 of the current fiscal. Such scarcity and grossly inadequate availability of domestic NR is leading the tire industry to a precarious position. The dependence on expensive imports will need to go up significantly if tire manufacturing operations are to be sustained in the country”, said Rajiv Budhraj, director general of Atma.

The NR import is imperative to meet the huge demand-supply gap. However, customs duty on NR import is a steep 25%, higher than other NR importing countries, despite acute domestic crunch.

Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu to inaugurate India Rubber Meet in Kochi

● Suresh Prabhu Hon'ble, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry will inaugurate the 4th edition of India Rubber Meet (IRM 2018) at Hotel Grand Hyatt, Bolgatty, Kochi on August 30, 2018. The Meet is jointly organised by the Rubber Board and stakeholder associations in rubber and allied sectors.

The theme of IRM 2018 which is scheduled on August 30 and 31, is 'Towards a sustainable rubber value chain'. The discussions will focus on topics related to the rubber scenario, present trends, challenges and strategic planning for sustainability and advancement. There will also be talks by internationally-renowned speakers.

Speakers include Gunther Lottmann (CEO, Grupo Fortaleza, Guatemala), Rakesh Batra (Partner and National Leader, Automotive Sector, Ernst & Young), Mathew George (General Manager, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Mumbai), Kishor Katkar (Head, Technical Services & Business Development, Indian Synthetic Rubbers Pvt. Ltd.), Aly Toure (Representative of Ivory Coast, International Organisations of Commodities, U.K), John Heath (Director, Wurffain BR, United Kingdom), C Vinayaraghavan (President, Harrisons Malayalam Ltd.), N Dharmaraj (Director & Chief Executive, Harrisons Malayalam Ltd.),

Jom Jacob (Senior Economist, Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, Kuala Lumpur), Dr. Lakshmi Nair (Head, Economics & Statistics, International Rubber Study Group, Singapore), Dr. K.J. Joseph (Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram) Rajendra Gandhi (President, IRMRA), Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz (Secretary General, International Rubber Research & Development Board, Malaysia), Ajay Shah (President, Polymer chain, Reliance Industries Ltd.), Dr. Ranjit Matthan (Consultant & Director, Polymer Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd., Chennai), Sandana Das (Managing Director & CEO, R1 International, Singapore), Prof. Dr. Charoen Nakason (Prince of Songkla University, Thailand), Dr. A.K. Krishnakumar (Former Rubber Production Commissioner & Adviser IL&FS), Dr. James Jacob (Director, Rubber Research Institute of India), Jose Mathew Kochukudy (Rubber Grower), Shiyas Ali (Managing Director, Edathala Polymers Pvt. Ltd & Secretary, Block Rubber Processors Association of India) and Tomy Abraham (President, Indian Rubber Dealers Federation).

There will also be panel discussions involving experts and key stakeholders from different segments of the rubber industry. The committee includes representatives of small and large rubber growers, rubber processors and traders, tire and non-tire sectors, auto component manufacturers, rubber product

exporters, synthetic rubber and reclaimed rubber manufacturers, rubber research and skill development institutions, media dealing with rubber etc. IRM 2018 is targeted to attract around 700 delegates from India and abroad.

Details on website www.indiarubbermeet.in.

India's NR output falls to 694,000 tonnes in 2017-18

● India's Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, C R Chaudhary, announced that the country's natural rubber (NR) production shrank to 694,000 tonnes in 2017-18 from 774,000 tonnes in 2013-14. Meanwhile, NR consumption in the country rose from 981,000 tonnes in 2013-14 to 1,111,000 tonnes in 2017-18 and imports were up from 360,000 tonnes in 2013-14 to 469,000 tonnes in 2017-18.

While the official forecast for NR production for 2017-18 was 800,000 tonnes, but the production forecast for 2018-19 is lower at 730,000 tonnes. C.R. Chaudhary added that these projections are made on the basis of matured rubber area under tapping, productivity and production trend during the near past, which are determined mainly by the price of NR.

Even as India's rubber growers are slowing recovering from falling prices, according to the Indian Farmer's Movement (Infam), the

Sri Lanka gives growers tool kit to boost productivity

● In an attempt to safeguard 130,000 rubber smallholders against the unfavourable global pricing projected by the ANRPC (Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries) the Sri Lankan government has decided to distribute tool kits to them, which, it hoped, will improve the productivity of rubber cultivation.

Navin Dissanayake, the country's Plantation Industries Minister, won approval from the Sri Lankan cabinet in July to distribute a gift package valued at Rs. 5,000 among 5,000 members of the Thurusaviya Society, operated under the Thurusaviya Fund. Aside from the Rs 8 million given for the Thurusaviya programmes, the Rs. 25 million needed for the programme to be implemented in 2018 will be allocated immediately. An additional Rs. 25 million will be included in the budget estimate of the Thurusaviya fund for 2019, in order to implement the same project in 2019.

country's government has made an unexpected gain of Rs 1,890 crore (\$300 Mln) by way of various duties from the import of 450,000 MT of natural rubber (NR) during the recent fiscals.

The government's exchequer benefits from 25% import duty, 3% central excise duty, 3% customs cess and 4% counter-veiling duty, adding to a total of 35% duty for rubber imports. The import of NR touched 458,374 tonnes in 2015-16, falling to 426,434 tonnes in 2016-17.

MC George, national trustee of Infam, stated that of the additional Rs 2,000 crore (\$291 million) which the Indian government has received through imports, they should at least use a part of the proceeds to help the disadvantaged rubber farmers.

It is feared that the 'Grow in India' programme will suffer as NR growers are exploited by both the industry and the government. "If there are no benefits, growers will stop cultivation and the country will be forced to import its full requirement," George said.

The government of the country's major rubber-growing state of Kerala has been providing NR farmers with an assured Rs 150/kg by paying the shortfall in the market price. A

government official maintained that the entire Rs 500 crore provided in the budget for the rubber price stabilisation scheme has been used for the farmers and has been directly credited in their bank accounts.

In 2013-14, Kerala produced around 90% of India's NR needs, with an output of 900,000 MT when the country's consumption was at 1,000,000 MT. Production fell to 600,000 MT following the fall in market prices for NR.

Torrential rain in Kerala hits natural rubber sector as production declines

● Natural rubber (NR) production in India's prime growing state of Kerala has been hit by heavy monsoon rains, at a time when the Central Government is delaying announcing a comprehensive package for the ailing NR farming sector. Output fell at a time when consumption in the country rose slightly, leading to the import of the commodity.

The Rubber Board of India said that NR production during the April to June 2018 quarter was down by

11.9% to 126,000 tonnes, compared to 143,000 tonnes during the same period in the previous fiscal year. During the period, consumption rose 14.2% to 302,000 tonnes, as compared to 64,000 tonnes during the same period of the previous fiscal year. One of the factors cited for this increase in consumption include the anti-dumping duty (ADD) imposed on the import of truck and bus radial tires from China. Tire companies in India did record a 17.7% spike in NR consumption, at 216,316 tonnes of NR fiscal against 183,619 tonnes in the same period last year.

Indian NR growers were concerned about the 15% increase in imports of the commodity, at 118,355 tonnes in the April to June quarter, as compared to 94,982 tonnes in the same period the previous year. Low NR prices in the international market and the fall in domestic NR production have led to the import. It is significant that prices fell even as consumption increased.

Despite the various measures undertaken by India's Rubber Board to promote NR production, farmers have moved away from rubber tapping due to falling prices taking into account the low income from rubber.

Thailand to cut back on natural rubber production

● The Thailand government is reportedly paying natural rubber growers to stop growing rubber in an effort to raise prices. Thailand's Agriculture and Cooperatives Ministry plans to reduce the country's NR planting areas by about 80,000 acres per year for the next five years. This would permanently reduce Thailand's NR production by 40,000 to 50,000 tonnes per year.

Charging top officials of the ministry with the task, Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak said the government pledged to pay farmers about \$480 per rai (equal to about 0.4 acre), up to 10 rai per family, to stop growing rubber on that land.

The programme was set to begin early in August, according to reports. It will concentrate on land that is considered less prime for cultivating Hevea trees, such as low-lying areas and farmland better suited to rice and other crops, they said. This is the latest announced plan in NR-growing countries in an effort stretching over many years to shore up prices. The earliest such scheme was the International Natural Rubber Agreement, which began in the 1980s and ended in 1999.

Later, from 2001 to 2003, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia — which also collaborated on INRA — carried out a plan to restrict rubber production.

In January, the Royal Thai Embassy announced an agreement with Indonesia and Malaysia to cut back NR exports by 350,000 tons during the first three months of 2018.

Despite this action, NR prices fell during the first part of 2018. Prices for Thai rubber smoked sheet 3 stood at \$1.7560 per kilogram in early May, but fell to \$1.48 by 26 July.

Thailand currently has about 7.2 million to 8 million acres planted with NR, according to the Bangkok Post.

Officials of the domestic NR trading industry said they had heard of the new Thai programme, but knew little about it except its existence.

One industry source said many small rubber farmers already are starting to desert rubber tapping in favour of other crops, because NR prices don't provide a living wage. Another said that Thailand's effort to reduce NR production is in response to overplanting of Hevea trees in 2011.

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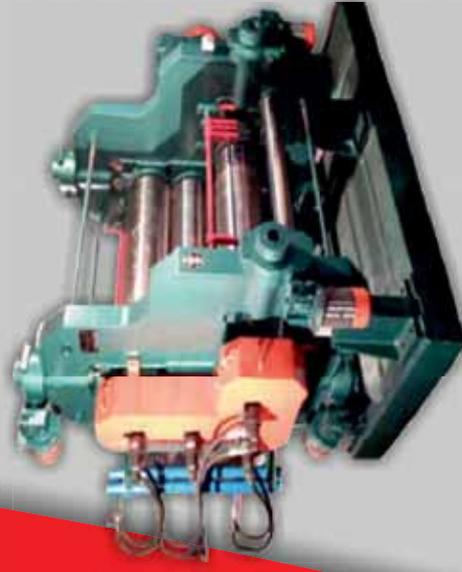
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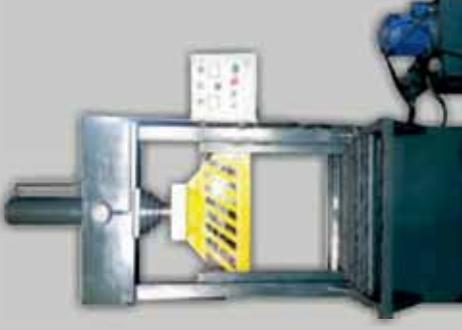
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The Trend

Production Sector

The production of Natural Rubber (NR) in India during the year 2017-18 was 694,000 tonnes, registering a marginal growth of 0.4% compared to 691,000 tonnes produced a year ago. Though, the Rubber Board had taken several measures to increase rubber production and productivity during 2017-18 as in 2016-17, the unexpected heavy rainfall from June 2017 onwards together with low rubber prices affected the production sector adversely and couldn't achieve the targeted production. The tapped area during the year was only 78% of the tappable area in spite of the expected 90%. The average yield, measured in terms of production per hectare of tapped area decreased to 1,449 kg/ha in 2017-18 from 1,553 kg/ha in the previous year. The country had produced 69% Ribbed Smoked Sheet (RSS), 17% Technically Specified Rubber (TSR) and 11% latex concentrates of the total 694,000 tonnes. NR production in 2018-19 is projected at 730,000 tonne with a growth of 5.2%.

Consumption sector

The country has consumed 11,12,210 tonnes of NR in 2017-18, up 6.5% from the quantity of 1,044,075 tonnes consumed during 2016-17. This represents a 9.2% rise in the dominant auto tire manufacturing sector and 1% rise in the general rubber

goods sector. The high growth in auto tire sector in NR consumption was supported by the imposition of Antidumping Duties (ADD) on pneumatic radial tires used in buses and lorries/ trucks from China vide Notification No. 45/2017-Customs (ADD) dated 18 September 2017 of the Department of Revenue. The autotire manufacturing sector accounted for 69.4% of the total quantity of NR consumed in the country during 2017-18. Out of the total NR consumed by the industry, 46% were RSS, 44% TSR and only 7% latex concentrates in 2017-18. Consumption of NR in 2018-19 is projected at 1.2 million tonne, with an increase of 7.9%.

Import & Export

As per data available from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, the country imported 469,760 tonnes of NR during 2017-18 as compared to 426,188 tonnes imported in the previous year. Import of NR touched all time high in 2017-18, an increase by 10.2% as compared to 2016-17 and around 71% was through duty paid channel. During 2017-18, block rubber constituted 81% of the total NR import and sheet rubber 17%. Among the source countries of imports of NR into India, Indonesia dominated with a share of 58% in the total volume imported during 2017-18, followed by Thailand (18.4%) and Vietnam (13.5%). Unpleasant

relative prices prevailed in overseas markets throughout the year except for April and May 2017 kept exports unattractive during the year 2017-18. Export of NR decreased to 5,072 tonnes in 2017-18 from 20,920 tonnes in 2016-17. The main form of rubber exported from the country was Latex (61%) and the main destination countries were Iran, China and Italy, etc.

Stock

The estimated total stock of NR with growers, processors, traders, and manufacturers at the end of March 2018 was 292,000 tonnes as against the quantity of 264,000 tonnes held at the same point of time a year ago.

NR prices

Natural Rubber prices in both domestic and International markets were at relatively lower levels during 2017-18, mainly due to recovery in production in Thailand, fall in crude oil prices and downward trends in TOCOM and Shanghai futures. Domestic prices showed a downward trend from April 2017 onwards and during July 2017, though, it showed an increasing trend and peaked at Rs 141/kg by 20th July 2017 again retreated with some ups and downs till January 2018. Prices in domestic NR market remained at the lower levels during February and March 2018. The annual average price for domestic RSS 4 grade rubber for the year 2017-18 was Rs. 129.80/kg compared to Rs. 135.49/-kg in 2016-17.

PRICE OF NATURAL RUBBER (Rupee per 100 Kg)

Month / Year		RSS-5	RSS-4	RSS-3	Latex	(60% drc)	ISNR 20	SMR 20
		Domestic		International	Domestic	International	Domestic	International
April	2017	13939	14339	14625	15688	15885	12522	10701
May	"	12815	13073	14165	15595	15940	11916	9859
June	"	11971	12238	11627	15410	14623	11089	9228
July	"	13027	13300	11315	15290	13178	12495	9706
August	"	12571	13063	11775	13685	13747	11414	9783
September	"	13102	13424	11977	13993	14313	11743	10269
October	"	12767	13060	10889	13807	12772	11200	9414
November	"	12290	12587	10298	13788	12508	10689	9184
December	"	12794	13082	10455	15283	12633	11365	9309
January	2018	12285	12746	10755	14787	12937	11352	9602
February	"	12054	12413	10963	14385	12733	10993	9421
March	"	12137	12438	11286	14090	13297	11426	9389
Average 2017-2018		12646	12980	11678	14650	13714	11517	9655

Note: Domestic price refers to Kottayam market, international RSS 3 refers to Bangkok market and international price of latex and SMR 20 to Kuala Lumpur market.

PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION OF NR & SR

(Metric Tonnes)

Type-wise Production & Consumption of NR & SR	March 2018 (1)	March 2017 (2)	April 2017 to Marc 2018 (3)	April 2016 to March 2017 (4)	Percentage increase (+)/ decrease (-) of (3) & (4) (5)
PRODUCTION					
NATURAL RUBBER (NR)					
Ribbed Smoked Sheet (RSS)	25545	34690	478445	473375	
Solid Block Rubber	11295	11925	114875	106560	
Latex Concentrates(DRC)	6660	6945	75070	83200	
Others	1500	1440	25610	27865	
Total	45000	55000	694000	691000	0.4
SYNTHETIC RUBBER (SR)^P					
Styrene Butadiene (SBR)	22346	5325	209938	96637	
Poly butadiene (BR)	11354	10850	113666	116557	
Others	750	748	7617	9550	
Total	34450	16923	331221	222744	48.7
Total NR & SR	79450	71923	1025221	913744	12.2
CONSUMPTION*					
NATURAL RUBBER (NR)					
Ribbed Smoked Sheet (RSS)	46585	48145	513710	486470	
Solid Block Rubber	46290	38840	493410	451240	
Latex Concentrates(DRC)	7675	6835	79765	82100	
Others	2450	2180	25325	24265	
Total	103000	96000	1112210	1044075	6.5
Out of which Auto Tire Manufactures	70874	66601	772162	707335	9.2
SYNTHETIC RUBBER (SR)^P					
Styrene Butadiene (SBR)	29990	24580	311555	278800	
Poly butadiene (BR)	16655	15325	184130	184720	
Others	11555	12145	138290	135060	
Total	58200	52050	633975	598580	5.9
Out of which Auto Tire Manufactures	39925	37031	437754	417728	4.8
Total NR & SR	161200	148050	1746185	1642655	6.3
Out of which Auto Tire Manufactures	110799	103632	1209916	1125063	7.5

PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION OF RR

(Metric Tonnes)

	March 2018 (1)	March-2017 (2)	April 2017 to March 2018 (3)	April 2016 to March 2017 (4)
RECLAIMED RUBBER (RR)				
Production @	11680	10385	131575	122895
Consumption	11660	10270	130510	120235
Out of which Auto Tire Manufactures	4497	4439	50866	49635
Stock with Manufacturers (end of the Month/Year @:Indigenous purchase by Manufacturers	11865	10800		

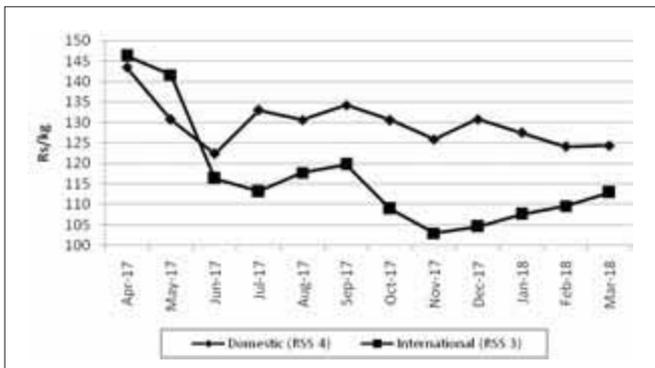
IMPORT / EXPORT & STOCK OF NR & SR

Natural Rubber	48699	25295	469760	426188
Synthetic Rubber	28490	38907	338189	379791
Total NR & SR	77189	64202	807949	805979
Natural Rubber	19	4857	5072	20920

Rubber Statistical News

During 2017-18, the average price of international RSS 3 grade was Rs.116.78/ kg and it was Rs.131.78/ kg during 2016-17. Both Domestic RSS-4 price and International RSS-3 price were peaked at maximum on the same day, 5th April 2017, at Rs.148.50 per kg and Rs.154.10/- kg respectively. Domestic RSS-4 price was ruling above the international RSS-3 price throughout the year 2017-18 except for beginning months April and May 2017.

The chart depicting the monthly average price of RSS 4 in domestic market and that of RSS 3 grade in international market during the year 2017-18 is given below.

**MONTHLY AVERAGE PRICE OF NR -2017-18
SYNTHETIC RUBBER (SR)****Synthetic Rubber (SR)****Production & Consumption**

Synthetic Rubber production increased to 331,221 tonnes during 2017-18 from 222,744 tonnes during 2016-17, registering a huge

growth of 48.7% as against a growth of 11.5% during 2016-17. Shares of styrene butadiene rubber and poly-butadiene rubber were 63.4% and 34.3% respectively during 2017-18, which were 43.4% and 52.3% during 2016-17.

SR consumption increased to 633,975 tonnes during 2017-18 registering a growth of 5.9% as against 598,580 tonnes consumed during 2016-17. The automotive tire sector consumed 437,754 tonnes of SR during 2017-18 as against 417,728 tonnes during 2016-17, recording a growth of 4.8%. During 2017-18, the ratio of consumption between NR and SR in India was 64:36.

Consumption details of NR and SR are summarised in Table II.

Table II: Consumption details of NR and SR

	2017-18p	2016-17	Growth (%)
	(tonnes)		
Natural Rubber			
Auto Tyres & Tubes	772162	707335	9.2
General Rubber Goods	340048	336740	1.0
Total NR	1112210	1044075	6.5
Synthetic Rubber			
Auto Tyres & Tubes	437754	417728	4.8
General Rubber Goods	196221	180852	8.5
Total SR	633975	598580	5.9
NR & SR			
Auto Tyres & Tubes	1209916	1125063	7.5
General Rubber Goods	536269	517592	3.6
Total NR & SR	1746185	1642655	6.3

World Rubber Situation – 2017

Production

India is currently the sixth largest producer of NR in 2017 with a share of 5.3% of world production. According to the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG), the world NR production increased by 7.4% to 13.539 million tonnes in 2017, compared to 12.604 million tonnes in 2016. During 2017, the output in main producing countries viz; Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, China and Malaysia increased. India holds second rank in productivity in the world during 2017, succeeding Vietnam. Global SR production during 2017 was 15.05 million tonnes as against 14.85 million tonnes in 2016 registering an

Table III : Country-wise production of NR ('000 tonnes)

Country	2017	2016	% Growth
Thailand	4429	4347	1.9
Indonesia	3629	3358	8.1
Vietnam	1087	1035	5.0
China	798	774	3.1
Malaysia	740	674	9.8
India	713	624	14.3
Other countries	2143	1792	19.6
World Total	13539	12604	7.4

increase of 1.4%.

Source: NR Trends and Statistics-May 18 of Association of NR producing countries (ANRPC) for country-wise figures and Rubber Statistical Bulletin (April-June 2018) of International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) for world total.

Consumption

India ranks second with regard to NR consumption in 2017 with a share of 8.2% of world consumption. Global NR consumption increased to 13.23 million tonnes in 2017 registering a growth of 4.4% compared to 12.67 million tonnes in 2016. Consumption of NR in main consuming countries increased during 2017. Consumption of NR in China, India, U.S.A, Thailand and Japan increased by 6.4%, 4.7%, 3.5%, 5.4% and 0.4% respectively during 2017 on previous year. World SR consumption increased to 15.19 million tonnes during 2017 from 14.83 million tonnes

Table IV : Country-wise consumption of NR ('000 tonnes)

Country	2017	2016	% Growth
China	5301	4982	6.4
India	1082	1033	4.7
U.S.A.	965	932	3.5
Thailand	685	650	5.4
Japan	679	676	0.4
Indonesia	608	583	4.3
Malaysia	489	486	0.6
Brazil	413	412	0.2
Rep.of Korea	384	381	0.8
Other countries	2619	2535	3.3
World Total	13225	12670	4.4

during 2016, recording a growth of 2.4%. World NR and SR consumption ratio during 2017 was 47:53.

p: provisional

Import of SR by rubber goods manufacturing industry during 2017-18 was 338,189 tonnes as against 379,791 tonnes during 2016-17.

According to IRSG, the world supply-demand balance of NR showed an excess of 314,000 tonnes during 2017.

Source: Rubber Statistical Bulletin (April-June 2018) of International Rubber Study Group (IRSG).

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* Registration fee does not include travel and accommodation;
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INNOVATIVE MIXING ROOM FORUM

Accounting for almost half of the entire plant's energy consumption and one third of costs and resources at the facility, mixing is regarded as the most critical operation in the whole tire production process. With the rising complexity and versatility of recipes and mixing procedures, mixer manufacturers and operators are increasingly turning to automation, outsourcing, new technologies and materials science to gain competitive advantage. With even further disruptive changes coming to the sector, mixing room offers the biggest opportunity for efficiency improvements in the upcoming years.

The Innovative Mixing Room Forum brings together industry leaders to present and discuss on the latest innovations and developments within the compounding and mixing sections of tire production process. The forum discovers and displays the best insights from the latest researches from around the globe. It stands as a networking platform for mixer manufacturers, operators and solution providers to come together and communicate effectively.

Among the key challenges discussed will be:

- **Mixing Room Automation 4.0**
- **Optimizing Energy Efficiency**
- **Outsourcing Opportunities and Pitfalls**
- **Liquid-Phase Mixing**
- **State-of-the-art Technologies in Mixing Technology**
- **Material Handling**

INNOVATIVE CURING AND TIRE BUILDING FORUM

Tire curing and tire building processes account for the largest percentage of energy consumption at the tire production plants. The machines have a large footprint, overall high costs and remain the largest capital investments for tire companies. Most of the currently used machines are decades old, affecting the tire production and the competitiveness of companies. The industry is in an urgent need for innovation in every aspect of both tire curing and tire building processes.

The 2nd Annual Innovative Curing and Tire Building Forum brings together industry leaders to present and discuss on the latest innovations and developments of the two most challenging sections of curing and tire building. The forum discovers and displays the best insights from the latest researches from around the globe. It stands as a networking platform for curing and tire building machine producers, end-users and solution providers to come together and communicate effectively.

Among the key challenges discussed will be:

- **Evolution of production plants**
- **Increasing automation**
- **Achieving curing cycle efficiency**
- **Monitoring technology**
- **RFID solutions and endurance**
- **Efficient energy usage and maintenance**
- **Waste reduction**

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We look forward seeing you in Berlin

Overview of the Development of China's Rubber Industry in 2017 & Path of Sustainable Growth



Ms. Annie Hou, Deputy Secretary General, China Rubber Industry Association

Content

1. China's Economy Shifts from Rapid Development to High-quality Development
2. Review of the Overview of the Development of China's Rubber Industry in 2017
3. Development of China's Tire Industry in 2017
4. Development of Non-tire Rubber Products in China
5. Development of China's Auto industry
6. Path of Sustainable Growth for the Rubber Industry



Content

1 | China's Economy Shifts from Rapid Development to High-quality Development



1. China's Economy Shifts from Rapid Development to High-quality Development

Year	GDP %
2017	6.9
2018	6.5
2019-2022	5.8

China's economy needs to shift from high-speed development to high-quality development

Content

2 | Overview of Development of China's Rubber Industry in 2017

2. Overview of Development of China's Rubber Industry in 2017

China:

- 3,600 rubber product enterprises in 2017
- Incomes from main business reached RMB 959.9 Billion Yuan
- Increasing by about 8% year on year.

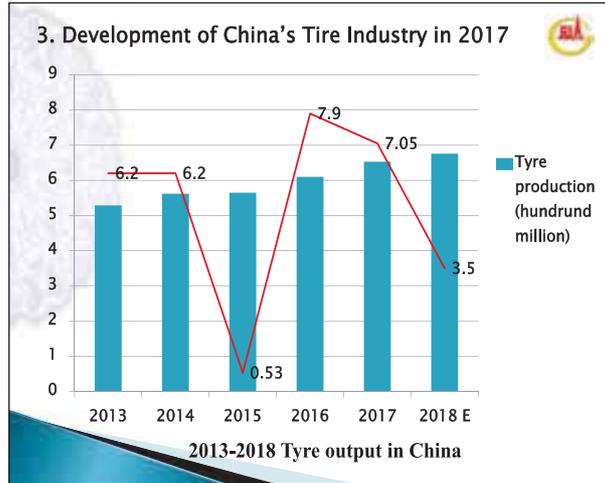
China Rubber Industry

- The rubber products: tires, conveyer belts, rubber hoses, V-belts, rubber shoes, latex products, automobiles and industrial rubber products
- Rubber raw materials: rubber chemicals, carcass, carbon black
- rubber manufacturing machinery.

However, the profit is falling. In particular, the tire industry is an about 50% decrease in profit.

Content

3 Development of China's Tire Industry in 2017



3. Development of China's Tire Industry in 2017

- Tire production in China

All of the top 10 tire companies within the ranking list of Top 75 Tire Companies Global have set up factories in China, giving priority to the Chinese market.

With the ending of an era that features rapid development of the automotive industry, the previous era of two-digit fast growth rate is gone forever. In future, China's tire industry will enter a micro-growth era along with normalized development of the automobile industry.

3. Development of China's Tire Industry in 2017

2018 Top 15 Tire manufactures in China By CRIA

Rank	Company Name	Sale Amount (100 million RMB)
1	Zhongce Rubber Group Co., Ltd.	227.36
2	Giti Tire (China) Investment Co., Ltd.	147.10
3	Shandong Linglong Tire Co., Ltd.	139.13
4	Sailun jinyu Group Co., Ltd.	126.45
5	Xiamen Zhengxin Rubber Industry Co., Ltd.	94.92
6	Xingyuan Tire Group Co., Ltd.	82.76
7	Triangle Tire Co., Ltd.	79.74 (E)
8	Michelin (China) Investment Co., Ltd.	70.04
9	Double Coin Tyre Group Ltd.	66.93
10	Doublestar Group Co., Ltd.	66.33
11	Aeolus Tire Co., Ltd.	63.07 (E)
12	Pirelli Tyre S.p.A.	57.03
13	Prinx Chengshan (Shandong) Tire Co., Ltd.	54.72
14	Guizhou Tyre Co., Ltd.	46.71(E)
15	Jiangsu General Science Technology Co., Ltd.	42.23(Estimated)

3. Development of China's Tire Industry in 2017

- China's export of tire

China is also a major tire exporter whose tire export volume accounts for about 40% of its output. The export volume has seen fluctuation since 2014. It fell sharply in 2015 and increased modestly in 2017.



Content

4 | Development of Non-tire Rubber Products in China

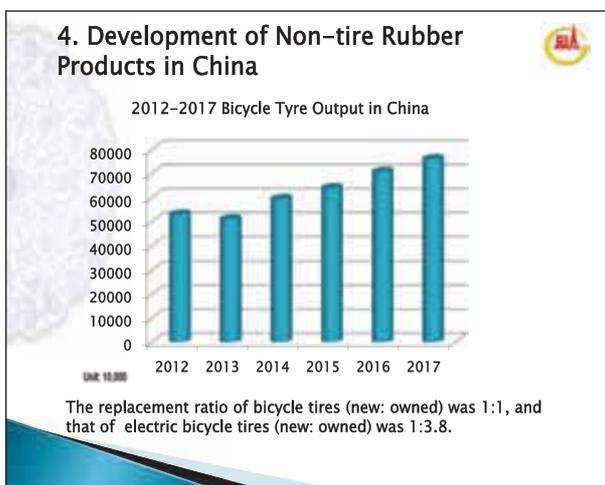
4. Development of Non-tire Rubber Products in China

General rubber products: Conveyor belts, V-belts, rubber hoses, bicycle tires, electric bicycle tires, Industry Rubber Products.

General rubber products consume only less than 30% of NR. A part of rubber products primarily use SR owing to their special requirements on function.

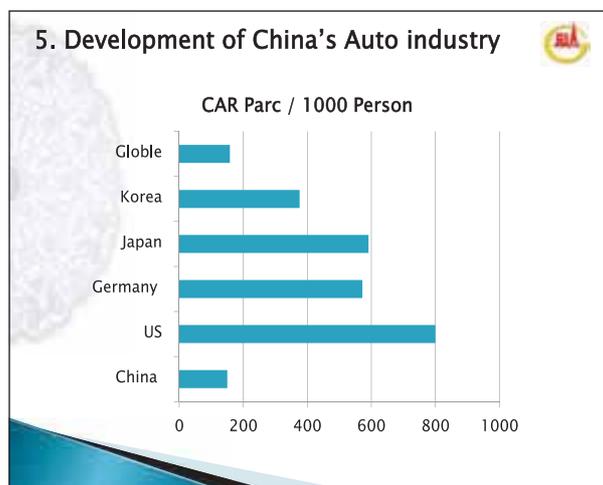
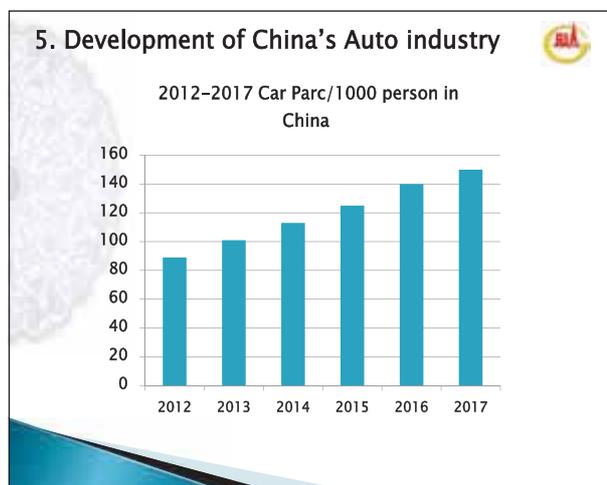
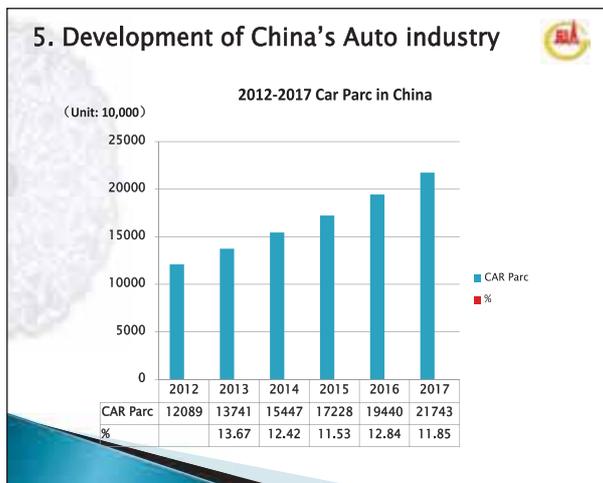
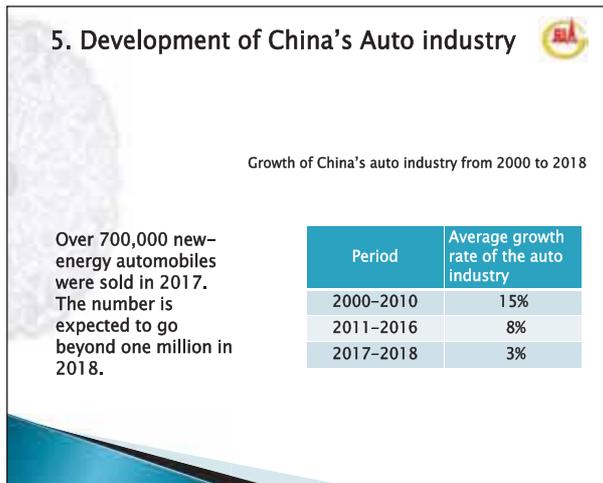
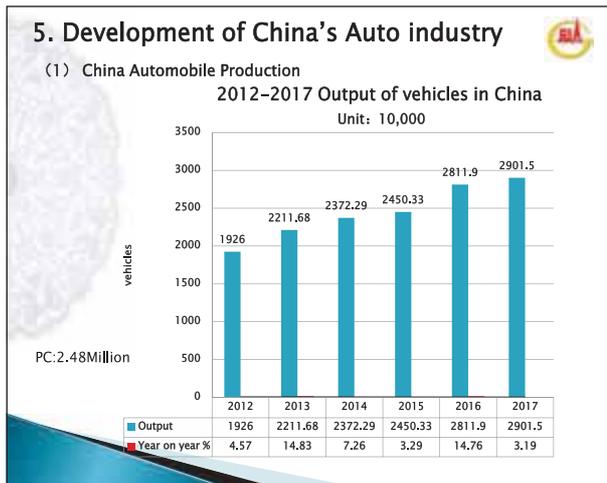
China's output of motorcycle tires dropped by 10% in 2017. The output of bicycle tires increased substantially thanks to the appearance of bicycle-sharing. It grows slowly this year.

In 2017, 10 million shared bicycles were newly added.



Content

5 | Development of China's Auto industry



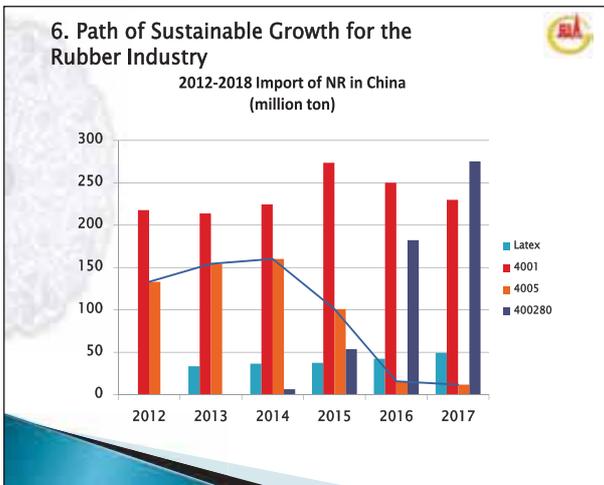


6. Path of Sustainable Growth for the Rubber Industry

China is a country with the world's largest population followed by India. The per capita rubber consumption of China and India is far less than that of developed countries, which will help boost the sustainable growth of the rubber industry.

(1) China's import of NR
The import volume accounts for 85% of the demand.

- In 2017, China imported 494,000 tons of latex, increasing by 17% year on year .
- In 2017, China imported 5.5 million tons of NR(latex was counted on a dry basis), increasing by 15.4% year on year. China's actual rubber consumption volume in 2017 was about 5.3 million tons.



6. Path of Sustainable Growth for the Rubber Industry

Challenges and opportunities faced by the rubber industry

- ◇ Prices of raw materials and the costs of labor, energy, logistics and capital (financing) are increasing.
- ◇ Prices of main raw materials fluctuate sharply. Such products as carbon black, rubber chemicals, carcass, etc. are faced with tight supply and price increase resulted from closing of small factories due to strict requirements on environmental protection.
- ◇ The export market is held back owing to severe international trade protectionism and the appearance of various trade frictions.
- ◇ Strict requirements on environmental protection: carbon emission, VOC treatment, replacement with green raw materials, moving old factories to industrial parks, etc.
- ◇ Implementation of the tire labeling system guides green production and consumption.

In 2016, CRIA introduced the *Tire Grading Standard and Regulations on Tire Label Management* based on the principles of voluntary application of companies as well as registration, review, management and approval by CRIA.

6. Path of Sustainable Growth for the Rubber Industry

- ◇ 48 tire companies applied for registration
- ◇ CRIA approved 21 tire companies
- ◇ CRIA issued 111 tire labels

6. Path of Sustainable Growth for the Rubber Industry

· China in 2018

Factors including overcapacity cutting, the strict standard on environmental protection, a low cardinal number and the prices of bulk commodities that are in the recovery cycle will continue to drive up PPI (Producer Price Index) this year and then influence CPI.

In 2018, with respect to infrastructure, the government has arranged RMB 730 Billion Yuan in railway investment, about RMB 1.8 Trillion Yuan in highway and water transport investment, and RMB 1 Trillion Yuan in water conservancy facilities under construction. The investment in infrastructure construction is expected to maintain steady growth, which will require a large number of rubber products.

New products, new materials, new techniques, high-performance tires, functional tires (snow tires), high-quality rubber products, etc. will all give impetus to China's rubber industry!



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CHINA RUBBER INDUSTRY YEARBOOK is a large reference book for recording the status quo and development of Chinese rubber industry year by year. It mainly includes the overall situation of rubber industry, the current condition and development of each rubber profession and related business, industry organization, statistics and data, the rank of members and important industry news.

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The Global Rubber Industry Outlook

World Rubber Summit 2018
Taj Samudra , Colombo, Sri Lanka

7-8 May 2018



Dr Lekshmi Nair
Head of Economics & Statistics
International Rubber Study Group
(IRSG)

About International Rubber Study Group

- Who are we?
- Established in 1944 as an inter-governmental organisation, headquartered in London, UK
- As of July 2008, the Group has been based in Singapore.
- IRSG is the forum for discussion of matters affecting the supply and demand for natural as well as synthetic rubber.
- Authoritative source of statistical data and analysis for all aspects of the rubber industry.
- IRSG has 36 member countries.



IRSG has a network of more than 100 Industry Members

IRSG is the Global Platform for the Rubber Sector



What Drives Development, Trend and Future

Macroeconomics & Urbanisation



Capital markets



Customer & Society



Environment



Regulatory restrictions



Sustainable Business & Future



Supply and Demand of Rubber

Natural Rubber: 47%



Tyre Sector: 59%

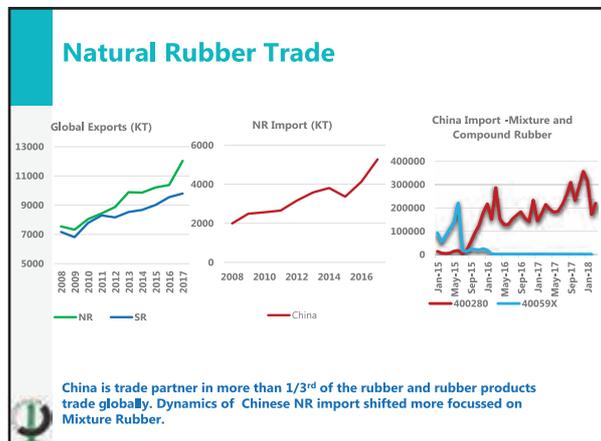
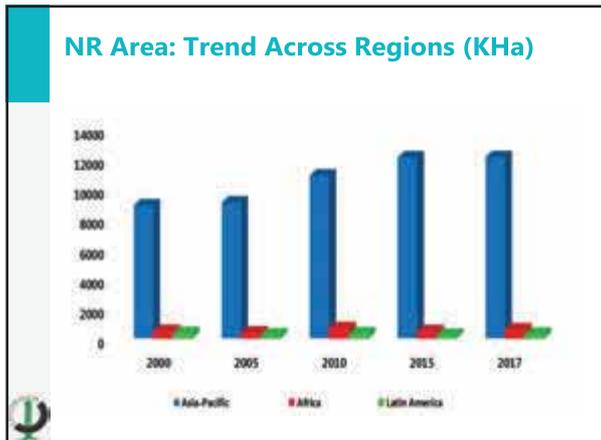
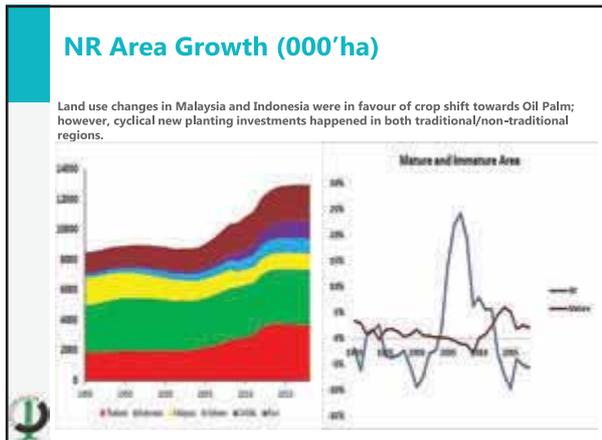
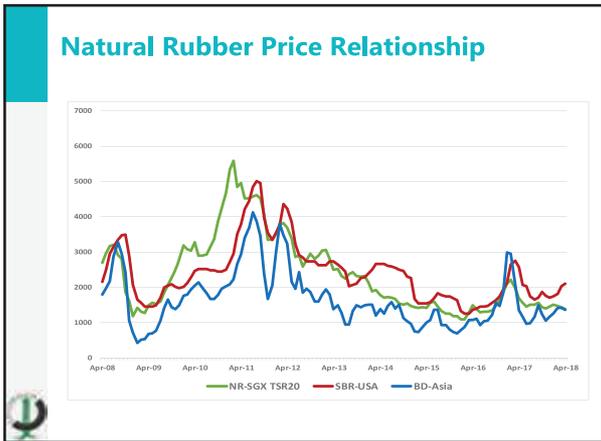
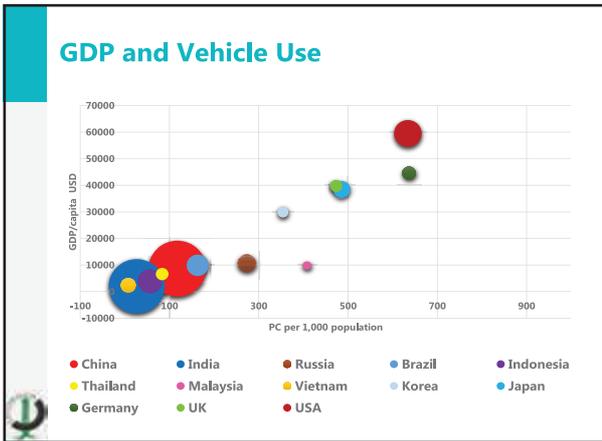
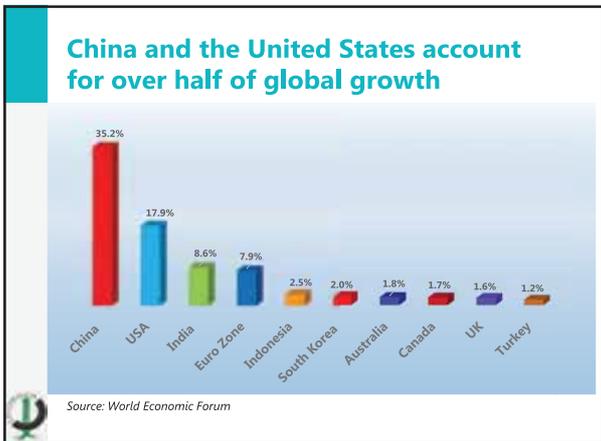
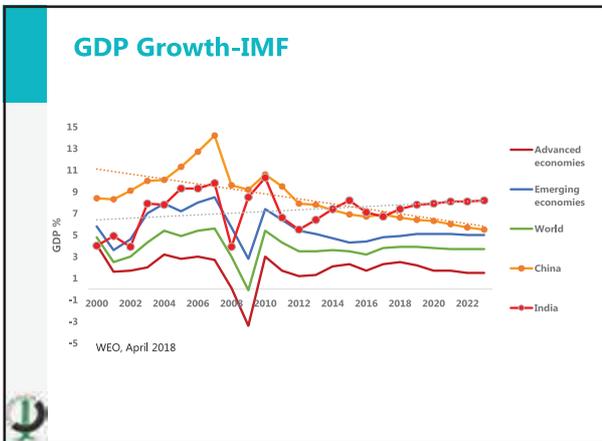


Synthetic Rubber: 53%



General Rubber Goods: 41%



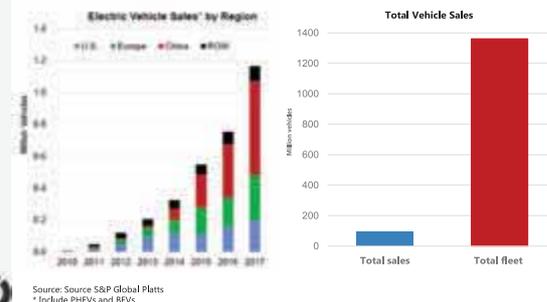


Global Vehicle Sales



Rapid growth in vehicle sales leading to parc growth in emerging market and aging parc in developed market-leading to growth in tyre replacement sales

Global Vehicle Sales

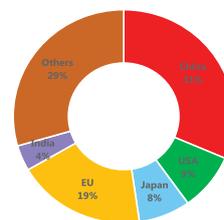


Source: Source S&P Global Platts
* Include PHEVs and BEVs

Global Tyre Production



Tyre Production



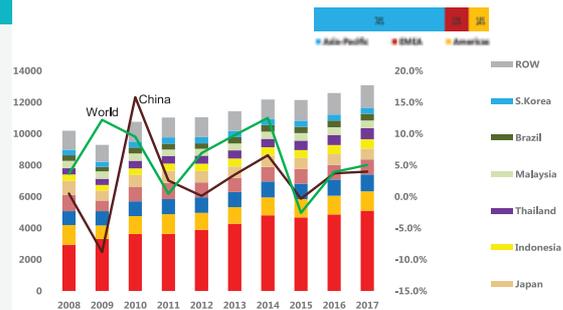
With rising vehicle sales and increasing parc, tyre market growth is dominated by emerging market; steady replacement sales in mature market; strong link between miles driven and fuel price.

Global Rubber Consumption

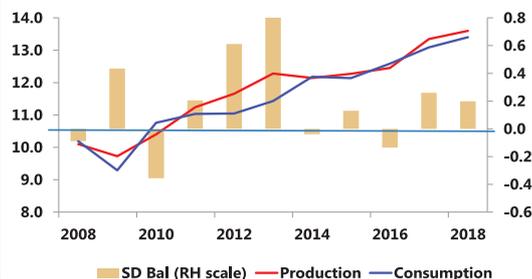


China consume more than 1/3rd of the rubber for rubber product industry globally

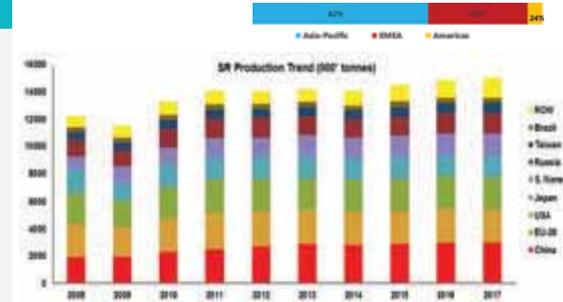
Global Natural Rubber Consumption (KT)



NR Production, Consumption and SD Balance (Million tonnes)



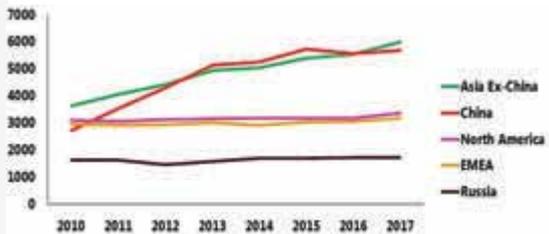
Global Synthetic Rubber Production (KT)



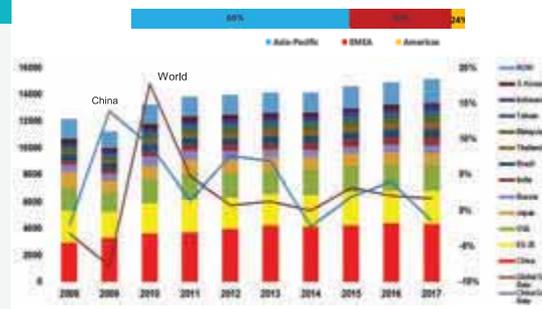
Deceleration in global growth driven by environment regulation in China



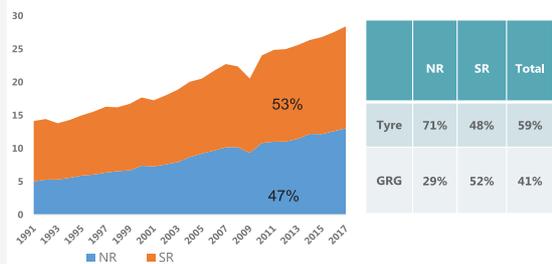
Global Synthetic Rubber Capacity (KT)



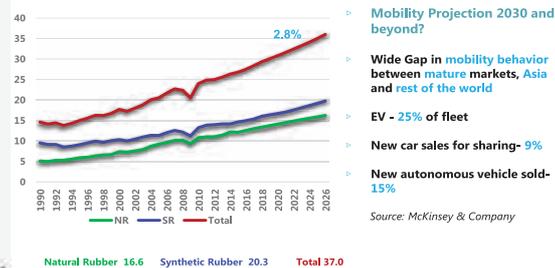
Global Synthetic Rubber Consumption (KT)



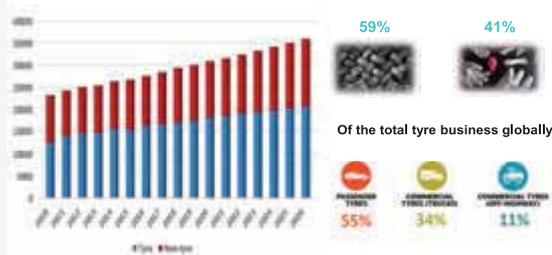
Rubber Consumption



Future Mobility and Rubber Consumption



Rubber Consumption (KT)



Prospects and Challenges

Mobility Ecosystem- 'FACE' and 'FAST'
 Electric/Autonomous vehicle
 Intelligent tyre
 Changes in tyre requirements (towards full automation)

Customised Tyres

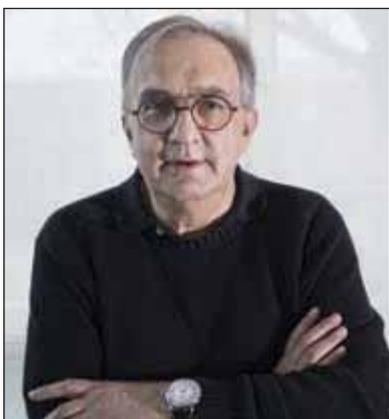
Supply Chain-Rubber Industry
 Quality/Consistency
 Sustainability business
 Partnership

Prospects and Challenges

- ▶ Growing demand, supply risk mitigation via better practices.
- ▶ Rationalisation and consolidation in the value chain.
- ▶ Drive for productivity improvements, no additional land to improve farm income.
- ▶ Establishing longer-term partnership with farmers and supply-chain players for sustainable business relationship.
- ▶ Switch from rubber to other agricultural crops – driven by policies and/or economic reality?
- ▶ Investment in other natural rubber sources for longer-term sustainability?

Auto industry legend Sergio Marchionne dead at 66

●The longtime CEO of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) Sergio Marchionne passed away on July 26, following complications that had arisen during shoulder surgery. Just a couple of days before his demise, the company abruptly announced that he was resigning due to “unexpected complications” which arose when he was recovering from surgery, as a result of which he was unable to



Sergio Marchionne

return to work.

John Elkann, a member of the Agnelli family that founded Fiat in 1899 and chairman and chief executive of Exor, the holding company controlled by the Agnelli's, said in a statement, “Unfortunately, what we feared has come to pass. Sergio Marchionne, man and friend, is gone.”

Italian-Canadian Marchionne is credited for having rescued Chrysler following the financial crisis of 2007-09, which left US auto makers weakened and in need of a rebound. He was the CEO of Fiat when he brought Chrysler out of bankruptcy in 2009 and went on to rebuild the company into a profitable global automaker. Charismatic and confident Marchionne was known for his trademark black sweaters and witty comments.

Marchionne was to be replaced by the former head of the company's Jeep and Ram brands, Mike Manley. Louis Camilleri, a Ferrari board member and chairman of Philip Morris

International Inc., will become CEO, while John Elkann will become chairman of Ferrari. Marchionne was also leaving his roles as chairman and chief executive at Ferrari, which was spun off from FCA (FCAU). Chrysler fully merged with Fiat in 2014.

In 2017, FCA sold 2 million vehicles in the U.S — more than double its sales during the financial crisis in 2009 — and sold 4.7 million vehicles globally.

India's auto component industry to grow at 10-12% CAGR

●The auto component industry is likely to grow at 10-12% annually in the long term on rising rural income, higher disposable income and continued infrastructure activity, according to a report.

A long-term compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10-12% for the industry (auto component) is expected.

Operating margins for the industry are expected to be strong at 14% for FY19, said Subrata Ray, senior group vice-president, corporate sector ratings, Icra.

Riding strong volume growth across automotive segments, especially in the automotive original equipment (OE) manufacturers, the Indian auto component industry grew by 13% during FY18, the Icra report said.

OE demand grew following rising rural income, recovery in medium

and heavy commercial vehicles (MCV and HCV) demand post GST, stricter overloading restrictions and pickup in infrastructure activity, it added.

“Based on the available trends so far, we expect the domestic OEM segment to witness a broad-based 10% volume growth during FY19, supported by a further improvement in rural income, higher disposable income with anticipated pay revisions by some states and continued infrastructure activity,” said an expert.

BMW enters sub-500 cc bike segment with Rs 3-lakh G310s

●The two-wheeler arm of BMW Group, BMW Motorrad India, launched the all-new G310 R and G310 GS motorcycles priced at Rs 2.99 lakh and Rs 3.49 lakh respectively (ex-showroom).

Powered by a 313 cc engine, both the bikes can achieve a top speed of 143 km/hr.

The motorcycles developed by BMW Motorrad in Munich will be produced at TVS Motor's Hosur plant, in keeping with the partnership between the two companies.

Designed from scratch, the G310 R and the G310 GS represent everything BMW Motorrad stands for and mark its foray into the sub-500 CC segment in India, the company said.

Firms such as Honda Motorcycle, Bajaj Auto and TVS Motor Company are also present in the segment.



Mercedes ahead of Audi, BMW in China

● The German luxury vehicle manufacturer Mercedes-Benz widened its lead in June as the top-selling luxury brand in China over main rivals Audi and BMW. During the month, Mercedes sales grew at a double-digit pace, up 14% to 56,945, while Audi's sales were down 7.2% to 48,177 and BMW saw sales rise 1.6% to 48,062.

In 2017, Audi's sales suffered when local dealers stopped ordering new vehicles to protest the automaker's attempt to open a second distribution network in China. They have rebounded this year, rising 20% during the first half to 306,590 vehicles, while Mercedes-Benz sales were up 16% to 340,000 and BMW sales increased 3.4% to 286,536 vehicles.

US becomes third-largest market for India's cars

● The US, which was non-existent as an export market for Indian automakers, is now the third-largest export destination, thanks to the slowdown in other regions.

In FY 2018, passenger car exports to the US ballooned to \$654 million from a paltry \$3.52 million a year before, export data from the Ministry of Commerce showed.

With this, the US market contributed to 9.2% of the overall car exports from India, the third largest.

The impact of Brexit and firming commodity prices have hit India's exports to most of the popular markets such as the UK and Europe, according to industry experts.

Exports to the UK, which was the second-largest market after Mexico in FY17, fell by almost half to \$220 million in FY18. Meanwhile, exports to Spain went down 30% to \$137 million and to Italy by 25% to \$263 million.

Export to Mexico, the largest market for Indian automakers, grew 7.7% to \$1.69 billion in FY2018.

The surge in US exports, however, helped in an overall growth of exports for the year.

The overall car exports in FY 2018 grew 10% to \$7.1 billion compared



with \$6.5 billion in the previous year.

In 2017, two American companies, Ford and GM started exporting to the US in a big way.

While Ford started exporting its EcoSport from India to the US, GM completely shut down India sales, using the entire production capacity for exports, primarily to the US.

Ford EcoSport and Chevrolet Beat remained the most exported cars from India. The US continues to be the largest car market in the world and Indian exports are only scratching the surface.

Being a higher margin market, companies such as Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai and even Volkswagen are ramping up their exports to the US from India, which has become a large automotive manufacturing hub, selling to about 175 countries.

Donald Trump blasts Harley-Davidson's plan to shift US production to avoid EU tariffs

● The European Union has hit American motorcycles with duties of 31% on 10th August, up from 6%, boosting the cost to EU consumers by about \$2,200

Europe is Harley-Davidson's second biggest market after the US. The company reported \$521.8 million in earnings in 2017 on \$5.6 billion in revenue.

US President Donald Trump slammed Harley-Davidson Inc. on 13th August after the motorcycle maker said it would move production for European customers overseas to avoid retaliatory tariffs that could cost it up to \$100 million per year. Trump said he has fought hard for the company and was surprised by its plans, which

he described as waving the "White Flag."

Harley-Davidson, the dominant player in the heavyweight US motorcycle market said earlier on 13th August it would not pass on any retail or wholesale price increases in the EU and instead focus on shifting some US production.

Harley shares closed down nearly



6% and analysts cut their profit forecasts on concerns about how quickly the company would be able to adapt to the 25% import duties the European Union began charging on 22 June.

"The US earlier this month imposed tariffs on steel and aluminium imports from the European Union, provoking a "tit-for-tat" response from the trading bloc against US goods.

In a regulatory filing, the 115-year-old Milwaukee, Wisconsin-based company said the retaliatory duties would result in an incremental cost of about \$2,200 per average motorcycle exported from the United States to the European Union, but did not provide more details on current motorcycle costs. Harley's entry-level bike in France currently costs • 7,490 (\$8,766). The company said it expects the tariffs to result in incremental costs of \$30 million to \$45 million for the rest of 2018 and \$80 million to \$100 million on a full-year basis.



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Telephone: 033-2248 4413/ 2243 0218/ 6534 3103
Email: achi0218@bsnl.in/ akhourl@vsnl.com/ rm@hasetri.com

APPEAL

DR. D. BANERJEE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR RUBBER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESEARCH, TESTING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT AT JSS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY, MYSORE

Indian Rubber Institute (IRI) is a non-profit organization involved into education of Rubber Industry Operatives and Professionals for several decades. The experience and knowledgeable faculty of Rubber Industry, Polymer & Rubber Institutes have come forward voluntarily to participate and impart knowledge to the professionals.

IRI also conducts regular courses and have instituted Diploma (DIRI) and Post Graduate Diploma (PGD-IRI) courses for upgrading knowledge of people associated with Rubber & Allied industry while working. The examinations are conducted at eight branches all over India. The Controller of Examination is Rubber Technology Centre, IIT Kharagpur. So far more than 3000 qualified rubber technologists were provided to Indian Tyre and Rubber Industries since its inception.

In order to substantially enhance this activity and to impart knowledge as well as to support rubber industry, small and medium scale in particular, IRI has undertaken setting up this "Centre of Excellence" which will house all types of facility for training, education, hands on experience besides undertaking development and testing for various industrial rubber products and tyres. This centre will be one of the approved training providers in India for Skill Development for the rubber sector under RSDC/NSDC, Govt. of India and an NABL accredited Rubber Product and Tyre Testing Centre.

This centre is being set up at the premises of JSS Science and Technology University, Mysore who were kind enough to provide IRI 10000 sq.ft area on long lease (62 years).

The construction of 32000 sq.ft building is under progress. It will have an auditorium with a seating capacity of 250, training halls (three Nos.), full-fledged Library cum Documentation centre, different laboratories for On the job training & testing like Rubber Processing Lab (Intermixer, 2 Roll Mill, Extruder, Baby Calender, Moulding, Auto clave etc.), Physical Testing Laboratory, Chemical testing Laboratory, Analytical & Characterization Laboratory, Rubber Product Failure Analysis Lab, Rheology Lab, Reverse Engineering facility, Tyre Testing Lab, Pilot Plant for new product development etc. The estimated cost of establishing the centre is Rs. 500 million (Rs. 100 million for Building, Furniture/fixtures, utilities etc. and Rs. 400 million for equipment & machinery).

The construction, commissioning and smooth running of this institute will be possible only with whole-hearted support from well-wishers from the global rubber fraternity. We are appealing individuals/organisations/society/ Universities/ Institutes/raw material suppliers/ equipment suppliers to whole heartedly support this noble cause by way of donation or adopting a Laboratory/Lecture Hall/Library cum Documentation Centre etc.

Your contributions in the form of cheque/DD in favour of "INDIAN RUBBER INSTITUTE", payable at Kolkata may please be sent to above address or may please transfer to account through NEFT/RTGS.

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Your contributions will be acknowledged.

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RIL posts highest quarterly profit at Rs 9,459 crore

●Reliance Industries, India's second most valuable company, reported a consolidated net profit of Rs 9,459 crore in the quarter ended June, up 17.9% year-on-year, fuelled by its petrochemical and consumer businesses. The conglomerate, with interests in businesses as diverse as telecom, retailing and oil refining, saw

Strong Show

In ₹ crore	CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE		
	Q1 FY19	Q4 FY18	% chg from Q1 FY18
Revenue	1,41,699	9.70%	56.50%
PBDIT	22,449	8.60%	52.80%
Net Profit*	9,459	0.30%	17.90%
EPS (₹)	16	0.30%	18.00%

*represents owner's share

#Figures for 1Q FY18 excludes exceptional item ₹1,087 cr representing profit from divestment of stake in Gulf Africa Petroleum Corporation (GAPCO)

etrochem business, which represents around 30% of RIL's revenue, boosted profits as volumes rose 35% and realisation was 24% higher



its revenue rise 9.7% to Rs 141,699 crore. According to a Bloomberg poll of equity brokers, RIL's net profit was seen at Rs 9,554 crore and net sales at Rs 126,900 crore in the quarter.

"Financial results of 1Q FY19 underscore the strength of the petrochemicals (business) we have reinforced over the last investment cycle," chairman Mukesh Ambani said. "Our petrochemicals business generated record EBIDTA (earnings before interest, depreciation, tax and amortisation), with strong volumes and an upswing in polyester chain margins. Performance remained steady despite the seasonal weakness in cracks."

RIL's petrochemical business, which represents around 30% of the company's revenue, boosted profits as volumes rose 35% and realisation was 24% higher, as its recently commissioned paraxylene (PX) plant performed at full capacity.

"Our petrochemical production is over 9 million tonnes in the quarter, which was what we produced in an entire year before we undertook expansion beginning 2013. The volume will now remain at this level and going ahead, the business will be

more about realisation and margin expansion," V Srikanth, joint chief financial officer stated.

GST rate cut timed with festive season, to spark early Diwali for consumers

●The government's decision to cut tax rates on a wide array of consumer items is bound to bring in cheer to consumers ahead of the festive season

starting this month with Rakhi and Onam. However, the tax rationalisation measures are being seen more as populist politics than sound economics by many.

Ahead of the start of the festive season, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council recently brought down the rates of over 100 items, including

consumer goods and domestic electrical appliances.

With the new GST rates kicking in, shopping for your next TV, refrigerator or washing machine would become a lot cheaper. Television sets (up to 26 inch), vacuum cleaners, water heaters, water coolers, grinder, mixers and juicers will also cost less with the reduction in tax rate on about 15 items from 28% to 18%. The new rates have been made applicable from July 27.

The prices of cosmetics, perfumes and toilet sprays have been slashed from 28% to 18%. The cost of lithium-ion batteries for mobile phones and electric vehicles will also come down following a 10% cut in the tax rates.



GST rate has also been reduced from 18% to 5% on footwear costing up to Rs 1,000 and e-books for which print version exists.

Vistara orders 19 aircraft for \$3.1 billion to fly overseas

●Inching closer towards its cruise towards international, Vistara, the joint venture between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines recently announced it placed firm orders with Airbus for 13 aircraft from the A320neo family and with Boeing for six 787-9 Dreamliners.

Together, the deals are valued at \$3.1 billion, based on published list prices. The full-service carrier will also lease another 37 new A320neo-family aircraft from leasing companies, taking the number of A320neo-family aircraft in its fleet to 50.

The airline said the letter of intent signed with Boeing comprises six firm 787-9 Dreamliner orders and purchase rights for four more aircraft from the 787 Dreamliner family. Vistara has selected the General Electric GENx-1B engines to power the aircraft, which are scheduled to be delivered between 2020 and 2021. The 787-9s are intended for use on medium-haul and long-haul international routes.

According to a statement issued by Vistara, the airline has selected the LEAP 1-A engines from CFM International to power the A320neo and A321neo aircraft, which will be due for delivery between 2019 and 2023. The airline will use these aircraft to densify its domestic network and to support its international operations planned for later this year.

Leslie Thng, CEO, Vistara, said that India's position as the world's fastest

g r o w i n g
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for domestic expansion and international foray.

Operating in one of the world's most competitive aviation markets, Vistara has cornered 4% of the domestic market, but has not yet become profitable. The airline insiders said that right from its inception, the airline management has been looking to fly international destinations.

India may target \$400 bn exports in two years

●Buoyed by a pick-up in exports in April-June quarter this year, the central government may target \$400 billion annual merchandise exports in two years.

India clocked about \$300 billion merchandise exports in 2017-18 after dipping to \$275 billion in the 2016-17 – a near 10% annual growth. India achieved \$313 billion exports in 2013-14 and in subsequent years, exports have shown a declining trend in the face of global slowdown.

But in the first quarter of this fiscal, exports have seen a pick-up, with May witnessing a 20% growth and June 18%. This has prompted the Union commerce ministry to formulate a strategy in consultation with Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) to push annual merchandise exports to \$400 billion in two years.

A sustained 20% exports growth from now will easily push India's merchandise exports to a little over \$350 billion this year, and \$400 billion in the next fiscal should be achievable, according to FIEO president Ganesh Kumar Gupta.

India can be the engine of global growth for decades, says IMF

India will be an engine of growth for the global economy for the next few decades and it could play the role China did for the world economy, the IMF said today, even as it recommended that the country take steps towards more structural reforms.

"India now contributes, in purchasing power parity measures, 15% of the growth in the global economy, which is substantial," said Ranil Salgado, the International Monetary Fund's mission chief for

ON THE MOVE

GDP growth in %

Annual constant (2011-12) prices

2014-15	7.4
2015-16	8.2
2016-17	7.1
2017-18	(P) 6.7
2018-19*	7.4

Source: RBI *RBI Estimates

Key achievements

- **GST: IMF expects major long-term gains from the new tax regime**
- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code: Sees it as a big positive**

Retail inflation (Y-o-Y) in %

based on CPI Base: 2011-12= 100

Source: MOSPI

"India now contributes, in purchasing power parity measures, 15 per cent of the growth in the global economy, which is substantial"

Ranil Salgado, International Monetary Fund's mission chief for India

India. This is behind only China and the US, he said.

Salgado said spillovers from India are not that big because it is not a very open economy.

He said the IMF views India as a "long run source of global growth".

"India has three decades before it hits the point where the working-age population starts to decline. This is India's window of opportunity in Asia.

"For the (next) three decades, it (India) is a source of growth for the global economy and could be even longer. India can be almost what China was for the world economy for a while," Salgado said.

7.3% GDP forecast

In its report, the IMF Executive Board has forecast India's growth to rise to 7.3% in FY2018/19 and 7.5% in FY2019/20, on strengthening investment and robust private consumption.

"The Indian economy is recovering from the two shocks that started from late 2016: demonetisation and then the kind of implementation issues related to the GST. We see growth recovering. Generally, India is benefiting from good macroeconomic policies; stability-oriented policies as well as some important reforms that have been done in recent years," he said.

Although there are short-term issues, the IMF views GST as a long-term major gain for India.

"It's something that's difficult to do. Other countries have struggled. In India it's much more complex because

you have 29 States and Union Territories and you need agreement. I think that was a great achievement," he said.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy code is the other big achievement, he said. "We are seeing certain positive steps there and we hope that can continue," he said.

"The third (big achievement) from an economist's point of view is the inflation targeting framework that you now have in the Reserve Bank of India, formally adopted in 2016 but informally even earlier," he said.

Other steps

And then there are some key smaller steps like improving the business climate, further liberalising FDI, he said.

"In the near term, it's just to make sure that effective implementation of those are ongoing. If you think of the insolvency and bankruptcy code, it's a difficult change. Basically, the underlying system to resolve bad assets from the corporate sector side is something new. It takes time and experience has to be gained. And we're seeing some of the hitches along the way there, but generally things seem to be moving in the right direction," the senior IMF official said.

RATES OF INDIAN RUPEE			
Currenc	16.08.2018	11.07.18	28.05.18
1 US \$	0.01423	0.01454	0.01485
1 Euro	0.01251	1.17048	0.01275
1 Pound	0.01120	1.32429	0.01114

US Fed leaves key rate unchanged with economy growing at 'strong rate'

●US Federal Reserve officials left U.S. interest rates unchanged and stuck with a plan to gradually lift borrowing costs amid "strong" growth that backs bets for a hike in September.

Economic activity has been "rising at a strong rate," and unemployment "has stayed low," the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) said last week "Household spending and business fixed investment have grown strongly."

"The FOMC did nothing to the statement that would suggest a lower likelihood of a September hike," said former Fed Governor Laurence Meyer, who runs a policy research firm in Washington. "The market has now priced a September rate hike as a near-certainty, and we agree with that assessment."

Fed Chairman Jerome Powell is trying to nurture the second longest U.S. expansion on record by slowly reducing the amount of support that monetary policy provides to growth. The economy is riding a tailwind from tax cuts and higher federal spending, though a trade war threatens to dent growth.

The committee described risks to the outlook as "roughly balanced," and restated that "monetary policy remains accommodative" while leaving the target range for its benchmark policy rate at 1.75% to 2%.

Policy makers weighed their action against a generally positive backdrop. The U.S. economy grew at a 4.1% pace in the second quarter, its fastest pace since 2014. Inflation is close to the Fed's 2% goal, rising at 2.2% for the year ending June, while the core rate that excludes food and energy was up 1.9%.

Unemployment was 4% in June, below the Fed's 4.5% estimate of the level that reflects full employment.

China's Q2 GDP growth slows to 6.7%

●During the April to June quarter of 2018, China's economic growth slowed to 6.7%, amid apprehensions about a full-blown trade war with the U.S. The figure is slightly slower than the 6.8% growth posted in the first quarter.

The government's attempts to lower debt levels also contributed to the slowdown in the world's second-largest economy, since borrowing costs were higher and hence economic activity was dampened.

While the impact of trade tensions between the U.S. and China have not yet been reflected in the statistics in a significant way, it has started affect business confidence, as is evident from slowing exports and direct investment data during the period. The impact is expected to be felt in the third and fourth quarters, following the recent implementation of tariffs imposed by the two nations on each other's goods. Some analysts expect the current tariffs to slow China's full-year GDP by 0.1 percentage point.

In July, the U.S. government put into force tariffs of 25% on \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods. Immediately reciprocating, China imposed tariffs on the same value of U.S. goods. Following these moves, the U.S. announced it would impose 10% tariffs on an additional \$200 billion worth of Chinese imports that could take effect in September or October. Some analysts expect a 0.2% point fall on full-year GDP growth through trade channels if the \$200 billion in tariffs takes effect. Tariffs on Chinese imports

could go up on average by 6.5% and exports to the U.S. could fall by 8.6%.

Bank of England raises interest rates despite Brexit worries

●The Bank of England raised its main interest rate on August 2 for only the second time since the 2008 financial crisis as it weighed a strong job market and high inflation against growing concerns about Brexit.

The bank's nine-member Monetary Policy Committee voted unanimously to raise the rate from 0.50% to 0.75%, the highest level



Mark Carney, Governor, Bank of England

since March 2009. Economists had been expecting the move but believe the central bank will be more cautious about further increases in coming months as Britain's Brexit talks with the European Union enter a crucial phase and uncertainty about the future heightens.

Britain's economy is sending mixed signals. Unemployment is at its lowest level since the 1970s, and inflation is above the bank's 2% target, at 2.4%. But growth has been weak so far this year, people are not spending much and companies are worried about the lack of progress in Brexit talks, which could see Britain crash out of the EU without a deal on trade and business ties.

The increase was only the second in more than 10 years, following a hike in November. But while the US and eurozone economies have seen strong growth in the past year, the British economy has wilted under the uncertainties of Brexit. A deal is needed by October so that Britain and the EU have new trade rules in

China files complaint to WTO against US' proposed tariff on Chinese goods

●China's commerce ministry said on July 16 it had filed a complaint with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regarding Washington's proposed tariff list on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods. The Ministry of Commerce said China would immediately file a complaint to the WTO against U.S. unilateralism, following the U.S.' threat to slap 10% tariffs on an extra \$200 billion worth of Chinese imports.

place by March next year, when Brexit actually happens. Both Britain and the EU have hardened their negotiating positions, and companies are worried. Major manufacturers such as Airbus have warned they could pull their operations out of the country, and drug maker Sanofi sees it stockpiling more medicines in Britain in case of customs trouble during Brexit.

And more broadly, trade disputes between the US and major powers are casting a shadow over the world economy's outlook.

VDMA backs Iran trade as Trump tariffs bite

● Germany's plastics & rubber machinery trade association VDMA has highlighted the importance of the Iranian market ahead of the Iranplast trade show, to be held in Tehran 24-27 Sept. At nearly Euro 38.0 million, Germany came second to China in terms of machinery exports to Iran in



2017, posting 87.3% growth compared to the previous year. However, for the first six months of 2018, German plastics & rubber machinery exports to the country came in at just Euro 15.4 million – 30.9% lower than in last year's first half.

The sudden decline reflected US president Donald Trump decision to break from an international nuclear agreement and reimpose economic sanctions on Iran. Overall, Iran's import of plastics & rubber machinery fell 13.4% year-on-year in 2017 to Euro 205 million.

China continued to lead the table of rubber & plastics machinery exporters to Iran by a high margin at Euro 99 million, despite registering a 33.7% decline compared to 2016.

Canada, Japan, Taiwan and Korea all registered strong growth in sales of

Top 10 Suppliers of Plastics and Rubber Machines to Iran			
	2016 m EUR	2017 m EUR	Yoy %
China	149.2	99.0	-33.7
Germany	20.3	37.9	87.3
Italy	19.9	16.4	-17.6
Republic of Korea	7.1	10.7	51.0
Turkey	11.0	9.8	-10.7
Taiwan	5.4	8.5	56.7
Japan	2.3	4.2	80.8
France	3.5	3.7	7.1
Canada	1.0	2.8	193.3
Austria	6.5	2.5	-62.0
Total	237.6	205.7	-13.4

Source: VDMA

machinery to Iran during 2017, while traditional suppliers, including Turkey and Austria saw significant declines, 10.7% and 62%, in exports to the Islamic Republic.

Since 2015, the VDMA organises an 'Iran management meeting' for its members. In May this year, the association voiced its support for EU efforts to protect European companies against sanctions on their activities in Iran. "We believe that the fundamental decision of the EU is right to finally tackle the problem of extra-territorial sanctions, as is currently the case in the US," said VDMA chief executive Thilo Brodtmann.

The comments followed an EU move on May 17 to reactivate "Blocking Statute", which bans European companies and courts from complying with US sanctions against Iran. This followed Washington's pull-out of the landmark 2015 nuclear deal, earlier in the month.

No war, no negotiations with the U.S, says Khamenei

● Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said there would be neither war nor negotiations with the United States, and that the country's problems were the result of government mismanagement more than renewed sanctions.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's comments add to the pressure on President Hassan Rouhani following a collapse in the currency and widespread protests over high prices and corruption.

They also appeared to rule out any hope of fresh talks with Washington, following US President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the landmark 2015 nuclear deal and reimposition of sanctions last week.

"Recently, US officials have been talking blatantly about us. Besides sanctions, they are talking about war and negotiations," Khamenei said via his official Twitter account in English.

"In this regard, let me say a few words to the people:

THERE WILL BE NO WAR, NOR WILL WE NEGOTIATE WITH THE U.S."

Meanwhile, there was a show of resolve as Defence Minister Amir Hatami unveiled a next generation short-range ballistic missile on August 13 and vowed to further boost the country's missile capabilities.



Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

State broadcaster IRIB said the new Fateh Mobin missile had "successfully passed its tests" and could strike targets on land and sea.

Despite renewed US sanctions, many Iranians, including many at the highest levels of the establishment, see US hostility as only a contributing factor to long-standing problems inside the country. "Today's livelihood problems do not emerge from outside, they are internal," Khamenei said in another tweet. "Not that sanctions don't have an impact, but the main factor is how we handle them," he added.

US DOLLAR RATES

Currency	16.08.2018	11.07.2018	28.05.2018
1 INR	0.01423	0.01485	0.01539
1 Euro	0.01251	0.01275	0.01241
1 UK £	0.01120	0.01114	0.01091
1 Yen	0.0090	0.00915	0.61452

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(Rs./Quintal, Ex-Kottayam)

Grade	August 2018	July 2018	May 2018	March 2018
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RSS 5	13050	12550	12650	11850
ISNR 20	12900	11795	11795	11100
Latex (60% drc)	8980	8240	8694	8085

(Source: Rubber Board)

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Pilcure F	360.00
Pilcure CBS	400.00
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ACCELERATOR ZDBC	297.00
ACCELERATOR ZMBT	305.00
ANTIOXIDANT SP	219.00
ANTIOXIDANT TDQ	225.00
ALUMINIUM SILICATE	13.00
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FACTICE - BROWN	99.00
FACTICE - WHITE	90.00
GRAPHITE POWDER	50.00
LIGHT MAGNESIUM CARBONATE	ON REQUEST
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PINE TAR - Synthetic	68.00
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