# From sourcing to market: *The European Tyre Recycling* Industry





November 2011

**RIMINI** 



In 2010,  $\pm$  3,300,000 tonnes of post-consumer tyres were permanently removed from cars, utility vehicles and trucks in the 27 EU States and Norway - and defined as waste.

Estimates are that an additional  $\pm$  60,000 to 70,000 tonnes of tyres are permanently removed each year from agricultural and other off-road vehicles - <u>but not defined as waste</u>

Another  $\pm$  30% may be available from non-EU producers





#### Tyres are 100% recyclable

- Rubber/elastomer compounds including carbon black and silica are materially recycled to produce raw materials for more than 500 different applications and products - in 50 different markets
- Metals from both the bead wires (trucks) and the plies, are cleaned and treated for use in replacement of virgin materials in a variety of high value added applications
- Textiles from casings can be used directly as a reinforcement for concrete, or used in other innovative products and applications
- And today, whole tyres are used to produce innovative new materials such as silicon carbide.





# **Tyre Management**

There are currently five different adaptions of producer responsibility operating in the EU today

While the majority are operated by tyre producers, others have been created by importers or other organisations

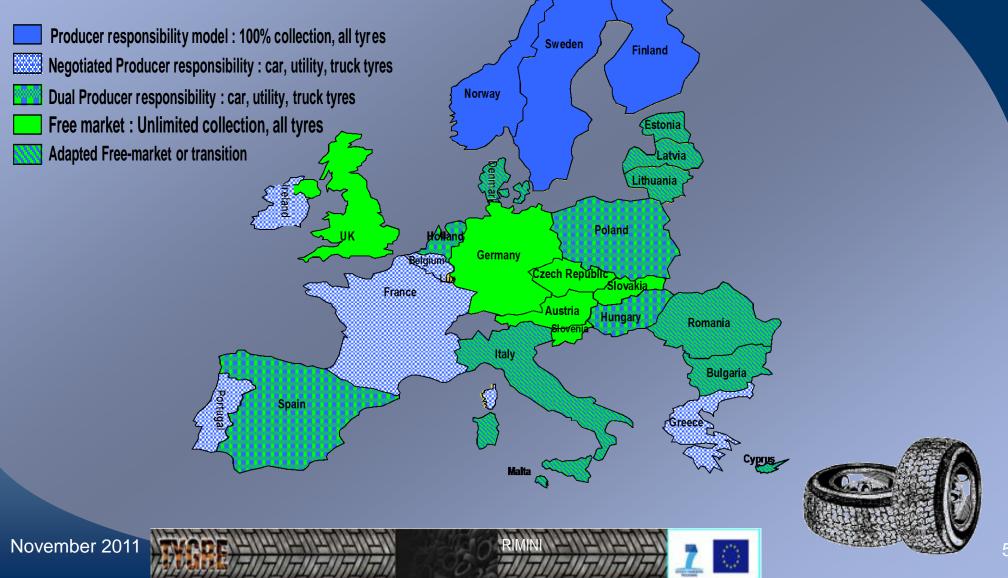
Some Member States depend on more than one system to ensure the collection of post-consumer tyres

In several States, whether with one or two systems is in charge, less than 100% of post-consumer tyres are collected





# **Collection Systems**



# **About ETRA**

#### What is ETRA What does ETRA do with and for its members ETRA's accomplishments



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#### ETRA : The European Tyre Recycling Association

Founded in 1994 by 19 recycling professionals in 5 EU States ETRA now has ±250 members in 43 countries, including more than 100 in the EU States, and a growing number in the CEE

ETRA's *mission* is to foster the recognition of tyre recycling as an environmentally sound and commercially sustainable European industry that produces an array of materials, products and applications which are effectively used in substitution of virgin resources.

ETRA is a networking tool for members – to collect information, identify and resolve industry issues.





# **ETRA Activities**

ETRA works with its Board, members, governments and NGOs to initiate opportunities and options in support of tyre recycling

Through networking and exchanges, partnerships are formed to pursue research, funded projects and other activities to support :

Sustainable materials, products, applications ;

Market opportunities ;

Required industry documentation, testing, among many others

ETRA works with its members to create a context for sustainable markets





# **Historic Accomplishments : ETRA**

Image: contributed to the preparation of the Basel Convention "Guidelines for the identification and management of used tyres' (1997 – 1999)

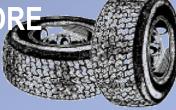
assisted in the European 'Recycling Forum' (1999)

was the first recycling industry to prepare a CWA under the CEN Workshop Agreement programme (1999 – 2005)

.... was a member of the European Recycling Coalition (from 2005)

.... made two presentations to EU Parliament in support of specifics re the Revised Framework on Waste (2007, 2008)

..... Pre-registered under REACH ...... AND MUCH MUCH MORE





# **Tyre Recycling Activities**

Means of valorisation Material outputs Market sectors



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## Means of tyre valorisation



Re-use and or export



- Retreading
- Material recycling including :
  - Civil engineering and construction applications.
  - Sport surfaces
  - Surface transport applications
  - Environmental rehabilitation projects
  - Consumer and industrial products
  - Innovative new materials and products
- Energy recovery for :
  - Co-incineration
  - Cement kilns

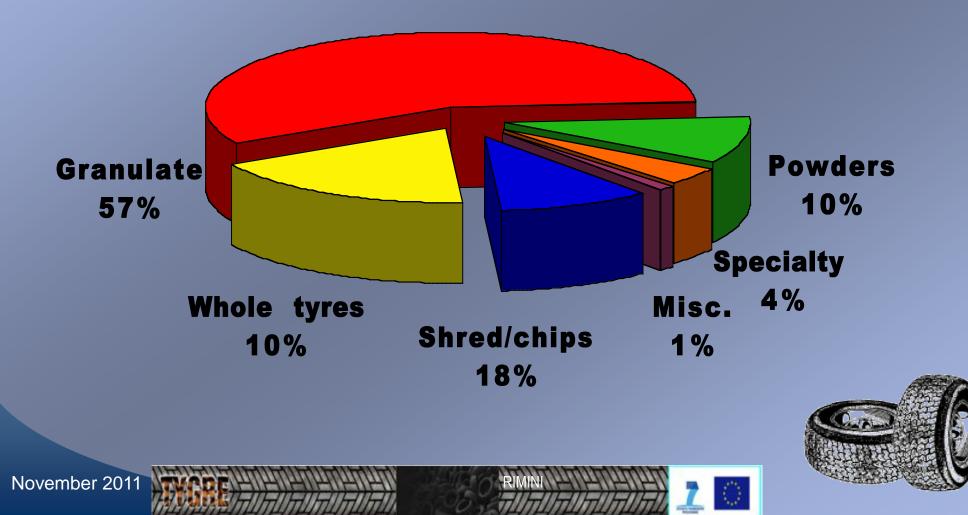
Each form of valorisation requires a consistent flow of input







### **Recycled tyre materials**

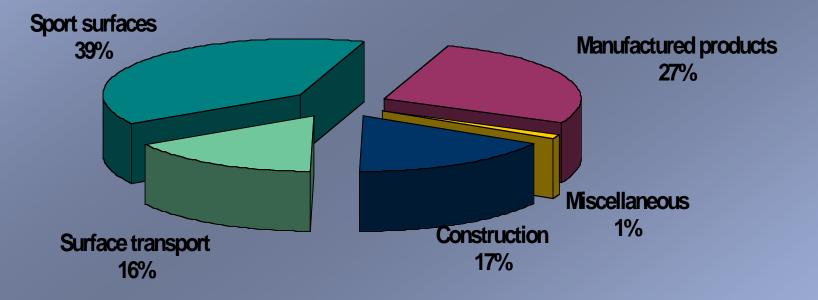


### The actual quantities

Material	tonnes	Primary application
Granulate	685 000	Sport surfaces/transport
Shred/chips	210 000	Construction/transport
Powders	110 000	Transport/products
Whole tyres	110 000	Rehabilitation/construction
Specialty materials	49 000	Products
Miscellaneous	10 000	Research, testing



### **Principal market sectors**





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