



## MEMBER NEWS

### Murfitts and ETIA sign agreement to deliver commercial scale solutions for recycling of tyres

Murfitts Industries and ETIA today announce that the two companies intend to form a unique partnership delivering commercial scale solutions for recycling of post-consumer tyres to recover their valuable raw material and energy content.

Murfitts Industries, the UK's leading tyre recycling and reprocessing company, has been working with ETIA for a number of years and the proposed joint venture will build on that strong relationship. ETIA is a French engineering group and part of Vow ASA, an international technology company listed in Norway.

Murfitts has carried out extensive trials with ETIA's technology and proven that the process consistently produces a recovered carbon black (rCB) which exceeds the properties of the virgin materials it replaces. Murfitts has tested various formulations to meet a range of exact specifications, with a particular focus on feeding the rCB back into the manufacturing of new tyres, thus completing a circular production process. In addition to the rCB, the process recovers pyrolytic oil and syngas which can be used as low carbon fuel.

The partnership is backed by Murfitt's parent company European Tyre Enterprise Ltd (ETEL) and ETIA parent Vow ASA. Murfitts collects end of life tyres from its ETEL sister companies Kwik Fit and Stapleton's, as well as other tyre retailers, recovering and processing a total of around 20 million tyres annually. It therefore has ready access to the quantities of feedstock required to deliver the tyre sector's first fully fledged materials recovery solution on a commercial scale.

The Tyre Recovery Association (TRA) represents the UK's tyre recovery sector, which processes over 40 million used tyres every year. A key role is to represent and promote good practice within the tyre recovery sector and to provide an externally audited, legally compliant tyre collection and recovery service which provides protection and peace of mind for all those who generate waste tyres across the UK.

## THE TYRE RECOVERY ASSOCIATION



# Newsletter

[www.tyrerecovery.org.uk](http://www.tyrerecovery.org.uk)

Winter/Spring 2023

## Work Continues on New Quality Protocol

In future to be known as Resource Frameworks, our own end-of-life tyres QP was one of thirteen others helpfully confirming 'end of waste status' on processed waste-derived materials.

Pleasingly, our Environment Agency has invited us to renegotiate our old QP which by general consensus has delivered commercial and regulatory tangible benefit to many of our TRA members and helped in the development of markets for ELT-processed materials.

The work of the joint EA/TRA 'Task and Finish' Group set up in late 2022 is being funded by the TRA and its members and is progressing well in identifying the key areas of concern to both sides in meeting Resource Framework standards.

Further meetings of the Group are scheduled for 2023. In the meanwhile, the existing Quality Protocol known as PAS 107 QP will remain in vigour until the process of developing its successor Resource Framework is achieved.

## Latest News on 'Exemptions'

After many years of foot dragging DEFRA has finally confirmed that it will move to remove the current T8 exemptions regime for all those players currently involved in the mechanical treatment of end-of-life tyres. This means that, in future, all operation will require to be fully-permitted. Legislation to bring this into law across England and Wales will be introduced in the near future. In Scotland, exemptions have been outlawed since 2016.



## STILL RAISING THE BAR

### Our Responsible Recyclers plan new recycling partnerships

Although our unique member-funded Responsible Recycler Scheme rightly focusses on ensuring that our scheme members meet all of the legal and compliance standards we require of them, here in the UK, we know that a growing number of our customers are starting to demand even more.

Some for example, might prefer all of their old tyres to be processed here at home or consigned to certain specific recovery routes such as play surfaces or pyrolysis while others may express a preference for particular export destinations.

As an association, acting alone, we would struggle to choose between the many options open to us or even mandate one over another provided they conform to UK legal requirements. What we believe we can now move to offer our tyre retailer and vehicle dismantler contract customers are 'bespoke' recycling outcomes for their end-of-life tyres written into their collection contracts and badged RRS 'plus'.

A TRA Working Group to consider just how this could work as well as be promoted more widely to consumers is being set up tasked with quickly formulating proposals for new recycling partnerships between the TRA and its customers.





## The TRA Conference is back!

Well, actually, it never went away but this longstanding annual event in the UK recycling calendar was rudely interrupted by Covid.

Scheduled for early autumn, we will be announcing more details soon.



## VRA Publishes 'Know Your Tyres'

In the course of last year the Vehicle Recycling Association (VRA) published a very comprehensive survey of tyres and the tyre industry in its house journal (No 17). Building on this seminal work the VCA's Secretary, Dr Chas Ambrose, has drafted a new training-oriented protocol to be called 'Know Your Tyres'.

Aimed primarily at new recruits into the profession this thoroughly comprehensive on-line training module focusses particularly on casing/brand knowledge, casing selection, repair and management and as such should prove invaluable. By kind permission of the VRA, the Know Your Tyre training module will also be available to TRA members and their employees.



## Free Business Advice Service

The TRA, in partnership with Croner, is offering a free business advice service for our members. Instant access to a range of advice and support including:



### 24/7 Employment Law Advice

Covering existing legislation in the tyre industry and upcoming changes to impact your business.



### Health & Safety Assistance

Helping you with compliance, effective safety management and reporting in the industry.



### Free Webinars & Regional Events

Regional seminars across the UK and live webinars presented by industry experts.



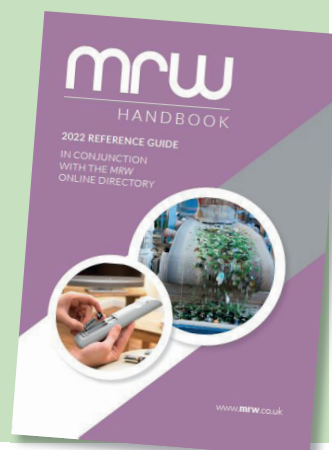
### Commercial Legal Support

Assisting with data protection, property disputes, leases and access rights.

## TRA to the fore

One important role the TRA performs is to inform and to educate the wider world on the progress and challenges we, as an industry, face in dealing with more than half a million tonnes of the UK's end of life tyres each and every year. Specifically though, we have a special duty to our colleagues in the auto-motive, recycling and environmental media to remind them of who we are and all we do on their behalf.

Opportunities to do this come each and every year when many of them approach the TRA for editorial copy in their yearbooks and on their website, as you see, from this selection, we do our best to respond to all these requests.



## Dates announced for 28th ETRA Conference



The 2023 ETRA Conference returns to its traditional March slot in 2023. Themed 'Tyre Recycling in a Changing Economy' the 2023 event will take place from 29th-31st March 2023 at the popular Hotel Le Louise, Brussels and will focus heavily on the current challenges and opportunities for tyre recyclers across Europe and well beyond.

Particular sessions will be devoted to questions of arisings and market capacity, the impact of the proposed EU ban on infill as well as a new conference session entitled 'Innovation Showcase'. This latter will offer a platform for the latest new product trends and developments in our business.

There will be more of course, including sessions devoted to opportunities in civil engineering and construction; pyrolysis and materials circularity and funding and investment opportunities for Europe's SME's. Add to all this, the many networking and break-out opportunities as well as the usual conference dinner and lunches this promises to be a truly vintage ETRA event.

For more details of the 2023 European Tyre Recycling Association Brussels Conference or to book your place contact ETRA [ETRA-EU - The European Tyre Recycling Association](https://etra-eu.org/).

## The TRA is moving

The TRA office is on the move. Our office sharing arrangement with our NTDA colleagues will end on 28th February 2023 and move to a new address to be advised shortly.

Although our website and email addresses remain unchanged we will have a new telephone number **07932 702 173**.

Even more importantly we will have a new Administrative Assistant, James Graham. James may already be known to many of you as together with his father, Alfred, who is Director of the Imported Tyre Manufacturers' Association, James has had a long association with tyres and the tyre industry.

