



The UK engineering success story that addresses a major environmental challenge

CONICA Ltd in Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire, is at the forefront of the playground safety surfacing and sports surfacing industry and utilises the granules produced by its tyre recycling process as the base, shock absorbing layer in many of its products. The origins of CONICA Ltd go all the way back to 1991 when Charles Lawrence, the pioneer of playground safety surfacing in the UK, decided that his group of companies needed a tyre recycling facility to meet its growing demand for rubber granules.

In January 2014, following acquisition by Serafin GmbH, the company was merged into CONICA AG and changed its name to CONICA Ltd. The facility now recycles end-of-life truck tyres only as they contain a very high percentage of rubber (natural and synthetic), a significant quantity of steel wire and only a very small percentage of fibre. A truck tyre differs significantly from a car tyre which typically contains much less steel and a much higher quantity of fabric. CONICA's focus on truck tyres allows it to produce a much wider range of granule sizes at a much higher quality (free of fabric which is a contaminant) than can be produced when processing car tyres.

The rubber granules produced by CONICA are used in a wide range of applications including CONICA's range of sports, playground safety surfaces and porous SUDS complaint pathways, as well as for moulded rubber products, equestrian arenas and civil engineering solutions.

For over 30 years, CONICA has been at the forefront of the tyre recycling industry. Its world class processes now recover and recycle over 99.5% of the contents of every tyre received, turning waste product into valuable raw materials for other industries. Every year, the Newark facility processes in excess of 400,000 end of life truck tyres and in doing so ensures this waste doesn't go into landfill.

NEW TRA MEMBER...

Responsible Recycling Solutions

We are pleased to welcome Hounslow, Middlesex based **Responsible Recycling Solutions** into full membership of the TRA. Company Director, Tony Allen said "It was an obvious move that we should have done even sooner".



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.



Newsletter

www.tyrerecovery.org.uk

Spring/Summer 2023




The ending of 'T8 Exemptions' - TRA urges the EA to be ready for the challenge

With legislation soon to be put before Parliament requiring all those operators still handling waste tyres under so-called 'exemptions' to become fully permitted, the TRA has urged the Environment Agency to be ready to meet the challenge.

Writing to EA Chief Executive, Sir James Bevan, the TRA expressed its appreciation at Sir James' stated wish to see this piece of regulatory reform delivered 'at pace', however the TRA went on to voice its concerns are current lengthy lead times to achieve full regulatory compliance. The TRA's letter to Sir James continued:

"Reports suggest that current permit application times are already extended and the expected 'flurry' of last-minute applications will only add to pressures on EA resources. Our fear is that some existing exempt businesses will simply not bother to meaningfully pursue permitted status and attempt to continue operating under the EA's radar".

The TRA urges the Environment Agency to address these concerns before they become realities.



TRA welcomes new Environment Agency CEO

From July of this year Phillip Duffy will assume the post of EA Chief Executive. Phillip takes over from Sir James Bevan who stepped down at the end of April.

As we all know, the challenges we face in our sector are considerable, not least when it comes to effective enforcement of the regulations we already have but also in the development of more market-friendly initiatives.

To this end, Phillip Duffy's reported wish "to hear from all sides what should come next" can only be welcomed.

Watch out for our Members' 2023/2024 Certification

The latest RRS Compliance Certificates are dated April 2023 to March 2024. All of our fully-permitted members are expected to display these and to provide evidence of audit compliance to any regulators and customers who ask.



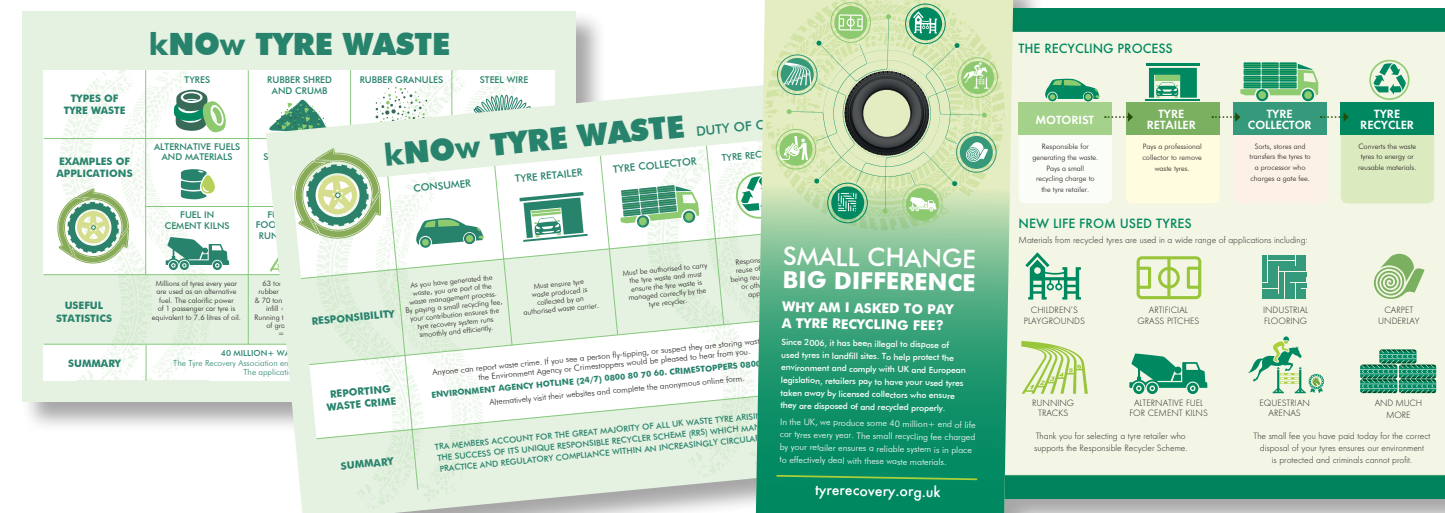
20 Years of Responsible Recycling

More than two decades ago, when the EU's then proposed Landfill Directive was first being mooted, the then newly-formed TRA started to think how it could raise recycling practice standards in Britain's tyre industry.

Perhaps the most important outcome of this early head scratching was the launch of our Responsible Recycler Scheme (RRS) in 2003, an audited better practice regime to which all of our full members subscribe to as a condition of membership. From the very beginning, the RRS has been self-funding with members required to pay for their annual individual compliance audits performed by our independent environmental auditors.

Support also came from both the British Tyre Manufacturers' Association and the Imported Tyre Manufacturers Association from the very start and this continues today in the form of annual grants used for publicity and point of sale purposes.

Twenty years on the RRS has the support of all major retailers as well as many tyre wholesalers and retailers right across the UK for what has become an established and unique market-based approach to regulatory compliance.



Our Annual Briefing Day Returns

With the worst of the Covid pandemic now behind us the **TRA Annual Briefing Day** will be back later this year. As always this 'one stop shop' for all things tyre recycling will seek to explain, inform and educate on a wide range of ELT issues. Once, just an afterthought, what happens to our old tyres is now a subject that absorbs a lot of our attention and so it should. Each year, the UK alone generates some 600kt of post-consumer rubber annually and the TRA and its Responsible Recycler members handle the lions share of it all.

The 2023 TRA Briefing Day will be held at the **Woodland Grange Hotel, Leamington Spa** so conveniently located for most of our customers and industry colleagues as well as regulators and the wider media.

Wednesday 13th September 2023 (10:30-15:00)

Participation is free for TRA members, media representatives and our industry regulators. A charge of £50.00 plus VAT per person will apply to all other participants. A buffet lunch and refreshments are included.

For more information or to pre-register please contact the TRA offices at:

Tyre Recovery Association (TRA), PO Box 13379, Billericay, Essex, CM12 2GY.

T: +44 (0)7932 702173 E: office@tyrerecovery.org.uk W: <https://tyrerecovery.org.uk>

The programme to date:

- **UK and European used tyre arisings** – where they come from and where they go.
- **The Regulatory Challenge** – improving enforcement and permitting and EA plans for waste movement monitoring.
- **Prospects for Tyre Pyrolysis** – a status update.
- **World developments in Tyre Recycling** – new projects and approaches to end-of-life tyre management.
- **Promoting rubberised asphalt** – a missing opportunity.
- **Tyre Recycling in the UK** – unlocking the barriers to success.