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Dr. Lekshmi Nair
Rubber Expert

TechnoBiz

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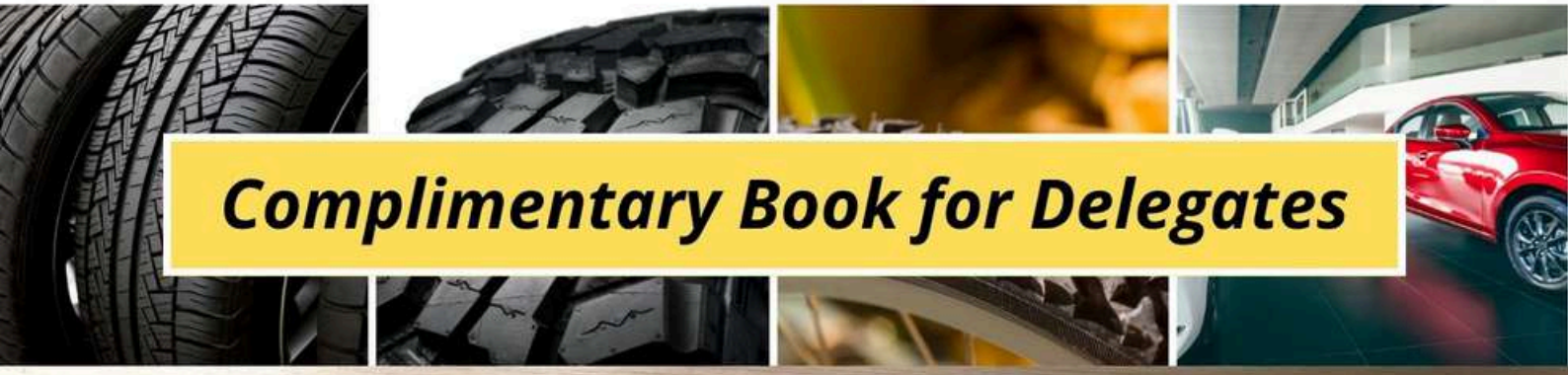

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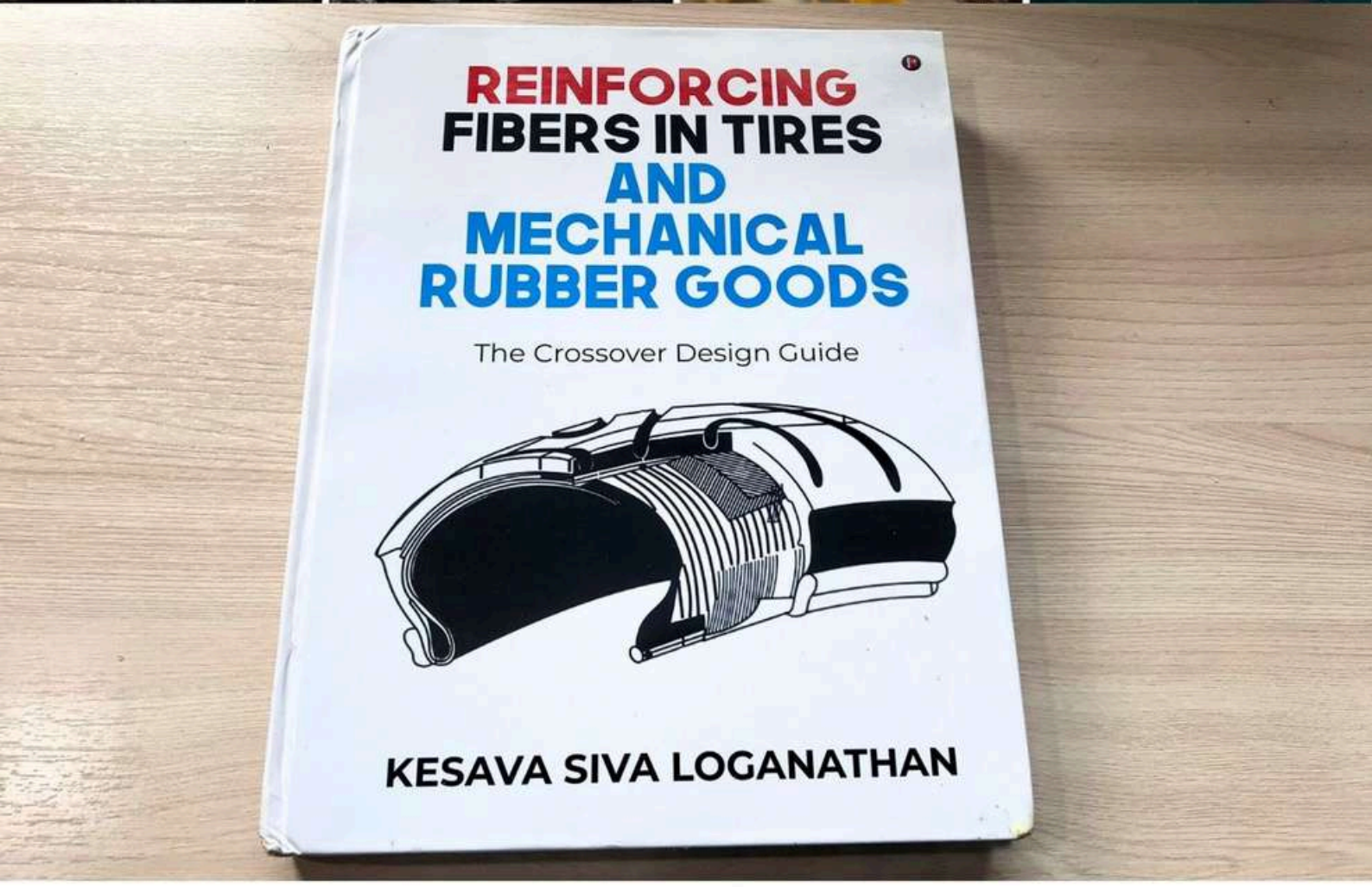

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Inquiries/Registration

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Our company was established in 1987. We produce Concentrated Latex and Skim Rubber Block. Since then, our company has been growing significantly both in quantity and quality of our products. In 1987, we started the operation with only 4 centrifuge machines and with storage capacity of only 400 Metric Tons. At present time, we are producing concentrated latex with 33 centrifuge machines with storage capacity of up to 4,000 Metric Tons. Our biggest assets of the company are customer confidence on our product and skilled human resources. With these assets, we have received ISO 9001 : 2000 certification since 2004.

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Our Latex is available in various standardized specifications according to your company's requirement. Our latex is used by wide range of customers such as manufacturers of gloves, condoms, latex threads, rubber foam, adhesives, etc. Since 2021, **Production capacity** was expanded to **3,500 metric tons of concentrated latex per month** with 33 centrifuge machines.

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We produce high quality rubber skim blocks. Our product is light color in natural yellow-brown and fully dried with no odor. Various rubber parts, car tires, and shoes manufacturers are our major customers for Skim Blocks.

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Conversation with
Dr. Lekshmi Nair
Rubber Expert

The global natural-rubber industry is navigating a defining moment—balancing growth with environmental and social responsibility. At this intersection stands Dr. Lekshmi S. Nair, a distinguished economist and sustainability strategist with over 25 years of experience across academia, policy, and international development.

From the Rubber Board of India to International Rubber Organizations, Dr. Nair has championed inclusive, data-driven, and climate-smart strategies that empower smallholders and SMEs. Her approach—rooted in cooperation, collaboration, and co-creation—underscores that sustainability is not a constraint but the new competitive advantage for the rubber industry.

Dr. Lekshmi Nair led the integration of climate-scenario modelling into global demand-supply forecasting and the Sustainable Natural Rubber Initiative (SNR-i) while spearheading Economics and Statistics in International Rubber Organizations. Dr.Nair played a key role in bringing natural rubber into the climate dialogue and spotlighting at the UNFCC climate conference.

In this exclusive Rubber Review conversation, Dr. Lekshmi Nair shares her perspecives on global natural rubber industry, sustainability evolution, and policy priorities—offering a compelling vision where economics and ethics advance together.

Career Journey & Thought Leadership

You've worked across academia, government, and international organizations. What inspired your focus on natural-rubber economics and sustainability, and how have these experiences shaped your worldview?

In academia, the initial draw often comes from seeing how natural rubber sits at the intersection of agriculture, industry, global trade, and rural livelihoods. It's not just a commodity — it's a lifeline for millions of smallholders in Asia and Africa. Studying its economics reveals how deeply local livelihoods are tied to global supply chains. It is renewable, indispensable to modern industry, and yet deeply vulnerable to climate change. That curiosity became a commitment.

Working in government highlighted the policy challenges: balancing rural development, environmental protection, and industrial competitiveness. Seeing how subsidies, land-use policies, and trade policies affect rubber farmers, more importantly, smallholder farmers, who produce the vast majority of the world's natural rubber, struggle with price volatility and climate risks, inspired a commitment to sustainability. Natural rubber was overlooked in climate discussions compared to other commodities like palm oil or soy. These experiences shaped my worldview: sustainability must be systemic, fair, and collaborative—protecting ecosystems while empowering communities.

How did your academic foundation at SOAS, University of London and Cambridge University influence your approach to economic policy, climate action, and sustainable-development thinking?

My studies at SOAS, University of London, grounded me in the political economy of development, showing how trade and agriculture shape livelihoods through a rigorous policy and analytical lens, and Cambridge connected me to sustainability in a VUCA world and to economic models with real-world climate and sustainability challenges. These experiences taught me to see economic policy not just as numbers and models, but as tools that shape lives and ecosystems. Together, they shaped my approach: economic policy must integrate fairness, climate resilience, and systemic collaboration.

Global Supply–Demand Dynamics

How would you describe the present global supply–demand balance for natural rubber, and what long-term trends do you foresee toward 2030?

The global natural rubber market in 2025 is fragile. Supply growth is stagnating, demand is uneven, and prices remain volatile. Erratic weather patterns and limited investment in plantings are keeping supply growth weak in the near and medium term. At the same time, downstream industries like tyres and automotive are shifting toward carbon emission reduction, which is changing raw material requirements and increasing the importance of reused and regenerated inputs.


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Global production is expected to grow modestly in 2026. Demand is stronger in Asia, particularly China and India, but weaker in Europe and the Americas. The tyre industry, which consumes roughly 70% of natural rubber, has shown only limited recovery in 2025, and slow, sustained growth is expected in 2026. Looking ahead to 2030, the sector is expected to expand moderately, driven by Asia's automotive and industrial needs. However, growth will be constrained by climate risks, regulatory pressures, and investments in alternative raw materials. The rise of electric vehicles and evolving trade policies will reshape demand patterns, likely resulting in slower-than-expected growth compared to past decades. In short, natural rubber will remain indispensable, but its future will depend on how well producers and policymakers adapt to sustainability and climate challenges.

Which regions are likely to see the biggest production shifts, and how are climate conditions, replanting cycles, and labour issues affecting them?

The biggest production shifts are happening in two directions. In Southeast Asia—traditionally the heart of natural rubber—output is stagnating or declining. Indonesia, Vietnam, and Malaysia are seeing weaker yields due to erratic rainfall, disease outbreaks, and aging plantations. Many trees are past their peak productivity, and replanting has been slow due to a lack of capital support to replant old trees. At the same time, labour shortages are acute, as younger workers move to urban jobs, leaving rubber tree tapping as a less attractive livelihood.

By contrast, Africa is emerging as a new frontier. Countries like Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria are expanding plantations, often with investment from Asian companies. The potential is significant, but yields remain uncertain due to infrastructure gaps, climate variability, and the need for skilled labour. So, while Southeast Asia struggles with climate stress, aging trees, and labour constraints, Africa is poised for growth but faces its own challenges. The global supply picture toward 2030 will depend on whether replanting cycles accelerate and whether both regions can adapt to climate risks and labour realities.

With rising EV mobility and green manufacturing, how is demand evolving across tyre and non-tyre sectors, and what does this mean for producers?

With rising EV mobility, the tyre sector—which consumes about 70% of natural rubber—is undergoing a transformation. Electric vehicles are heavier and generate higher torque, which accelerates tyre wear and demands compounds that are more durable, energy-efficient, and quieter. At the same time, global manufacturers are under pressure to reduce carbon emissions, leading to greater use of recycled and bio-based materials alongside natural rubber. This means producers must innovate to meet stricter sustainability standards while ensuring supply chains remain competitive and resilient.

"Natural rubber's future hinges on Asia-led demand, Africa's supply potential, and how fast the industry adapts to climate risk, replanting gaps, and EV-driven sustainability demands."


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Beyond tyres, demand in non-tyre sectors such as healthcare, construction, and consumer goods is steadily expanding as industries embrace green manufacturing and renewable inputs. Gloves, medical devices, adhesives, and industrial products increasingly highlight natural rubber's eco-friendly profile compared to petrochemical alternatives. For producers, this evolution underscores the need to diversify beyond tyres, invest in certification and traceability, and position natural rubber as a sustainable material of choice in both traditional and emerging applications.

Price volatility remains a concern. What macroeconomic and policy measures can stabilize farmer income and ensure supply reliability?

Price volatility in natural rubber remains a persistent concern, particularly for smallholder farmers who dominate production. Because rubber prices are highly sensitive to global demand cycles, currency fluctuations, and speculative trading, farmers often face unstable incomes that discourage replanting and long-term investment. Macroeconomic measures such as establishing price support funds and revenue insurance schemes can help cushion farmers against sharp downturns. At the same time, counter-cyclical cash transfers and long-term offtake contracts with tyre manufacturers can likely provide predictable income streams, reducing the risk of distress sales and land conversion to other crops.

Policy interventions are equally critical to ensure supply reliability. Governments can support replanting through low-interest loans and grants that bridge the six-to-seven-year immature phase of new trees, while strengthening cooperatives to improve bargaining power and quality standards. Linking subsidies to sustainable practices, investing in climate adaptation infrastructure, and promoting digital traceability can enhance resilience and unlock premium pricing. Together, these measures stabilise farmer livelihoods, encourage continued participation in rubber cultivation, and secure reliable supply for industries increasingly demanding sustainable, certified natural rubber.

Sustainable Natural Rubber & Climate Resilience

You led the pioneering Sustainable Natural Rubber Initiative (SNR-i). How has the idea of Sustainable Natural Rubber evolved over time?

Sustainable natural rubber has evolved from a narrow, compliance-oriented concept into a holistic, forward-looking framework that integrates climate resilience, social equity, and long-term economic viability. What began as a focus on preventing deforestation and meeting basic labour and legality standards has matured into a system-wide agenda that emphasises landscape stewardship, digital traceability, carbon accounting, and inclusive development. The industry now recognises that sustainability is not an external obligation but a strategic pathway to competitiveness, especially as global regulations, ESG expectations, and climate risks intensify. Central to this evolution is the shift toward empowering smallholders—ensuring they have access to finance, technology, and fair value—so that sustainability becomes a shared opportunity rather than a compliance burden.


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THE RUBBER INDUSTRY AMID NE

What are the essential pillars of sustainability—economic, environmental, and social—that the industry must strengthen?

The natural rubber sector must strengthen all three pillars of sustainability in an integrated way: economically, by ensuring stable and fair incomes for smallholders through better market access, replanting support, productivity enhancement, and risk-sharing mechanisms; environmentally, by protecting forests, improving soil and water management, adopting climate-resilient practices, and embedding robust traceability across the supply chain; and socially, by upholding decent work, gender inclusion, community well-being, and equitable participation in sustainability programmes. When these three pillars—economic stability, environmental integrity, and social equity—are strengthened together, the natural rubber sector can build a future that is both resilient and inclusive.

How can smallholders and SMEs be more effectively included in sustainability programmes, ensuring equitable benefits and not just compliance pressure?

Smallholders and SMEs can be more effectively included in sustainability programmes when the focus shifts from compliance demands to genuine empowerment. This requires providing them with the tools, incentives, and support systems needed to participate meaningfully—such as access to affordable finance for replanting and climate-smart practices, training that is practical and locally adapted, and digital tools that simplify rather than complicate traceability requirements. Strengthening cooperatives and producer organisations can improve bargaining power and reduce the cost of certification, while long-term offtake agreements and premium-linked pricing help ensure that sustainability translates into real income gains. When programmes are co-created with farmers, supported by public–private partnerships, and backed by fair market incentives, sustainability becomes an opportunity for shared value rather than a burden placed on the most vulnerable actors in the supply chain.

What advances are being made in traceability, carbon accounting, and climate-risk modelling, and how can these tools drive practical impact?

Advances in digital traceability, carbon accounting, and climate-risk modelling are making sustainability far more actionable. Farm-level geolocation, satellite monitoring, and mobile-based data capture now allow supply chains to verify origin and demonstrate deforestation-free production with much greater accuracy. Carbon accounting tools and life-cycle assessment platforms help producers measure emissions, identify reduction opportunities, and access emerging green finance incentives. Meanwhile, climate-risk models that integrate rainfall variability, disease incidence, and temperature stress are enabling more informed decisions on replanting and long-term investment. Together, these technologies turn sustainability from a compliance exercise into practical, data-driven strategies that strengthen resilience, market access, and value creation.

“True sustainability in natural rubber lies in empowering smallholders, protecting ecosystems, and using smart data to build resilient supply chains.”

EUDR – Progress, Challenges & Opportunities

How do you assess the readiness of producing countries for the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), and what progress has been made among producing countries?

Producing countries demonstrate varying but steadily improving levels of readiness for the EUDR, with most transitioning from awareness-building to the development of practical compliance systems. Many governments have begun strengthening traceability frameworks, improving land-use data, and assessing gaps in smallholder documentation, though capacity constraints and uneven digital infrastructure remain challenges. Producing countries have been supported through structured capacity-building programmes and multi-stakeholder dialogues that clarify regulatory requirements and promote consistent approaches across members.

What are the main implementation challenges for smallholders, and how can capacity-building or financial mechanisms help them comply?

Smallholders face significant EUDR implementation challenges, including limited access to formal land titles, insufficient geolocation data, low digital literacy, and the high upfront costs of adopting traceability and sustainability practices. Many smallholders operate in fragmented supply chains with minimal extension support, making it difficult to understand regulatory requirements or maintain the documentation needed to demonstrate deforestation-free production. Targeted capacity-building—such as training on geolocation, record-keeping, and Good Agricultural Practices—combined with financial mechanisms like grants, concessional credit, subsidies for mapping tools, and group-based compliance models can substantially reduce these barriers. Together, these measures help smallholders meet EUDR obligations while safeguarding their market access and strengthening long-term resilience.

How can regional coordination, shared databases, and policy dialogue ensure that EUDR enhances sustainability without creating trade distortions?

Regional coordination, shared databases, and policy dialogue help ensure that EUDR strengthens sustainability without creating trade distortions by promoting consistent, interoperable systems across producing countries. Joint geolocation and deforestation-risk databases reduce duplication and ensure all exporters work from the same evidence base, while coordinated traceability systems and mutually recognised certifications make compliance uniform and predictable. Open dialogue among countries, industry, and smallholder groups addresses bottlenecks and secures support, ensuring the regulation strengthens sustainability without fragmenting markets or disadvantaging producers.

"EUDR will succeed when readiness, data, and dialogue move together—building consistent traceability systems that strengthen sustainability while protecting smallholders and avoiding trade distortions."


MRC
MALAYSIAN RUBBER COUNCIL
MRC

In your view, how might EUDR reshape global sourcing, market access, and investment flows in natural rubber?

EUDR is likely to reshape global sourcing, market access, and investment flows in natural rubber by shifting the industry toward more transparent, traceable, and deforestation-free production, while countries with slower readiness may face higher compliance costs or reduced EU market access. Investment flows will follow this shift, channelling capital into sustainable replanting, traceability infrastructure, and low-risk jurisdictions, thereby reshaping global competitiveness in the rubber sector.

What is your perspective on integrating natural rubber into global climate discussions such as COP?

Natural rubber, being a climate-resilient crop, should absolutely be part of global climate discussions such as COP. It is a renewable resource with a negative carbon footprint, and its production supports millions of smallholder farmers in developing economies. However, its sustainability depends on responsible cultivation practices that prevent deforestation and biodiversity loss. Integrating natural rubber into climate dialogues can help align industry standards with global decarbonisation goals, promote sustainable supply chains, and unlock climate finance for smallholders—making it a win for both environmental and socio-economic objectives.

Natural rubber was spotlighted at COP 30, held in Belém, Brazil, in 2025, marking the first concerted effort to advance sustainability and amplify the voice of smallholders in the global climate dialogue. By positioning natural rubber within the global climate agenda, the session not only showcased its green credentials but also reinforced the importance of empowering smallholders as agents of sustainability. This milestone marks a significant step forward in ensuring that natural rubber is recognised as a strategic contributor to both environmental stewardship and socio-economic resilience.

National Policies & Regional Governance

How do the national rubber policies of leading producers—Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, India, and Vietnam—differ in balancing production, replanting, and sustainability goals?

Across the major rubber-producing countries, the balance between production, replanting, and sustainability reflects different national priorities. Thailand and Indonesia emphasise high output and farmer income, using replanting schemes to boost yields while adding sustainability measures mainly in response to export market pressure. Malaysia focuses on smallholder welfare and sustainable cultivation through strong institutional support. India prioritises domestic supply security and farmer welfare within a more regulated land-use context, relying on structured replanting and rubber area expansion with public–private partnerships. Vietnam, after rapid growth, is now shifting from expansion to compliance, using replanting and traceability to meet tightening deforestation-free trade rules.

How can governments design farmer-centric and climate-smart policies that promote value addition, domestic industry growth, and environmental protection simultaneously?

Governments can design farmer-centric, climate-smart policies by pairing strong farm-level support with market and industrial incentives that strengthen value addition and domestic processing, while embedding sustainability and traceability standards into national quality frameworks. Targeted finance—such as concessional credit and carbon payments—can reward low-emission, deforestation-free production, while investments in infrastructure, digital tools, and inclusive farmer cooperatives ensure smallholders benefit directly. This integrated approach raises farmer incomes, boosts domestic industry competitiveness, and protects the environment simultaneously.

Global Cooperation & International Rubber Organisations' Experience

While spearheading economics and statistics in the international rubber organisations, what key advances did you introduce in data reliability, forecasting, and stakeholder collaboration?

Data reliability was strengthened by standardising reporting formats across countries, introducing validation checks, and integrating climate indicators into routine analysis. Forecasting improved through the adoption of scenario-based models that incorporated climate risks, macroeconomic shifts, and cross-sector demand drivers rather than relying on linear trends. Stakeholder collaboration was enhanced to share data, align methodologies, and co-develop insights. Together, these advances helped build a more transparent, consistent, and forward-looking analytical foundation for the rubber sector.

How did initiatives such as the climate-scenario project improve understanding of long-term risks and sustainability integration?

Climate-scenario initiatives improved understanding of long-term risks and sustainability integration by translating climate change uncertainties into concrete strategic, financial, and operational impacts across different future pathways. By incorporating scenario-based modelling, climate risk variables, and cross-sectoral demand drivers, these initiatives moved the industry beyond linear projections, enabling more resilient, forward-looking analytics that capture uncertainty and long-term sustainability risks.

"Farmer-centric, climate-smart policies succeed when sustainability, value addition, and competitiveness are designed together—using data-driven insights, traceability, and scenario-based thinking to build resilient supply chains that protect livelihoods, industries, and the environment."

Leadership, Mentorship & Future Vision

You often speak about mentoring young professionals and women leaders. What advice would you give to the next generation of economists and sustainability advocates, and what is your vision for the global rubber economy by 2035?

Young professionals and women entering economics and sustainability should recognise their perspective as a source of strength, not a deviation from the norm. My advice to the next generation of economists and sustainability advocates is to embrace interdisciplinary and systems-based thinking and research that reflects the complexity of our interconnected world. By bringing diverse experiences and insights, they can challenge conventional thinking and drive innovation. Be comfortable working with uncertainty and real-world stakeholder engagement, and use scenario-based analysis to make resilient, informed decisions that prepare for multiple futures.

The rubber industry, long shaped by monoculture and fragile supply chains, must be reimagined to withstand price volatility and climate shocks. By 2035, the global rubber economy can evolve into a transparent and climate-resilient system if guided by smart data, regenerative agriculture, and circular economy principles. In this future, traceability is standard, deforestation is no longer tolerated, and smallholders —especially women—gain stronger bargaining power through cooperatives, digital tools, and fair pricing mechanisms. Climate-smart agroforestry, circular rubber recycling, and low-carbon synthetic alternatives reshape supply and demand. If these shifts align, rubber could become a model for how commodity systems transition toward resilience and sustainability.

Technical Article

Tyre Curing: A Heat Engineer's Perspective

Part - 4

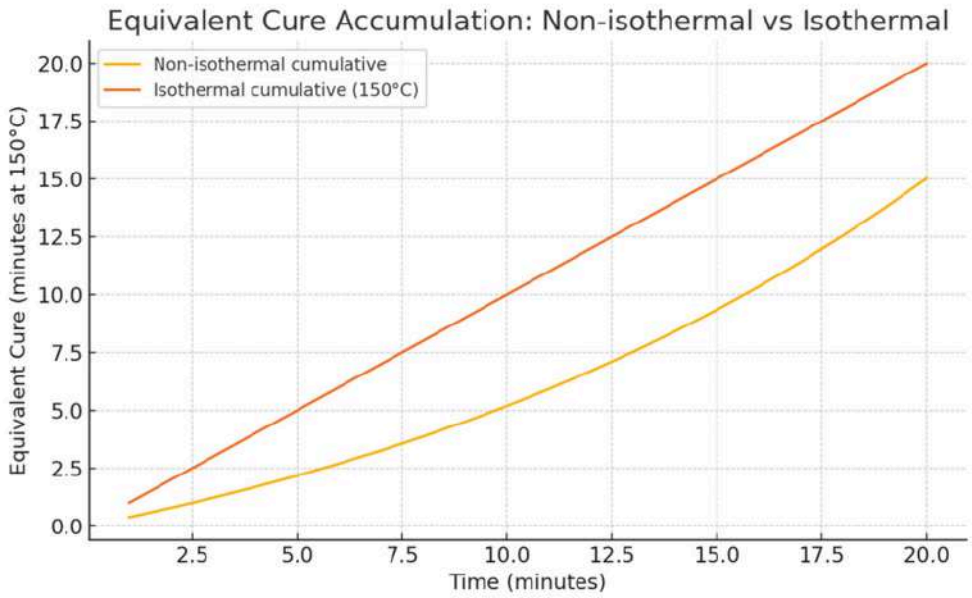
Simon Jacob, Managing Director
TopNotch Tyres and Rubber Consultancy Pvt. Ltd

Mr. Simon Jacob *is a senior professional in the global tyre and rubber industry with over three decades of experience. A B.Tech Chemical Engineering graduate, he worked 36 years with a leading Indian multinational tyre company, holding senior roles in Technology and R&D and contributing significantly to product development, process optimisation, and technology advancement. He is the Managing Director of TopNotch Tyres and Rubber Consultancy Pvt. Ltd., Cochin, providing specialised technical consultancy, including tyre technology, compound development, R&D support, and guidance for greenfield and brownfield tyre manufacturing projects worldwide. He currently serves as Chairman, Indian Rubber Institute (IRI), Kerala Chapter.*

Suppose a tyre compound attains its 20% cure (t_{20}) at 15 minutes in lab condition- 150-degree centigrade isothermal heating.

The heat engineer knows that, t20 is the blow disappearing point for this compound which is in the tread portion of the tire. So, the tire is heated in press and the temperature is measured at the PLC and the intensity factor or cure "equivalents" are calculated and tabulated. Also, the iso thermal heating in Rheo is given. To get 15 equivalents or the amount of cure for 15 minutes in iso thermal condition, it takes 20 minutes in the non-isothermal heating in the press. A graphical representation is also given for better understanding

Reference temperature :150 Deg C						
	Non iso thermal heating in press			Iso thermal condition		
	Temp(Actual -Ti)	Intensity	Cumulative	Ti	Intensity	Cum
1	135	0.378	0.378	150	1	1
2	136	0.405	0.783	150	1	2
3	137	0.433	1.216	150	1	3
4	138	0.462	1.678	150	1	4
5	139	0.494	2.172	150	1	5
6	140	0.527	2.699	150	1	6
7	141	0.563	3.262	150	1	7
8	142	0.601	3.863	150	1	8
9	143	0.641	4.504	150	1	9
10	144	0.684	5.188	150	1	10
11	145	0.729	5.917	150	1	11
12	146	0.777	6.694	150	1	12
13	147	0.828	7.522	150	1	13
14	148	0.882	8.404	150	1	14
15	149	0.939	9.343	150	1	15
16	150	1.000	10.343			
17	151	1.064	11.407			
18	152	1.132	12.540			
19	153	1.205	13.744			
20	154	1.281	15.025			



The graph compares:

1. Non-isothermal curing in the press

- Tyre temperature starts at 135 °C and slowly climbs to 154 °C.
- Cure intensity is low initially (0.37–0.50) because the compound is cold.
- Cure accumulates slowly at first, then accelerates.

2. Isothermal lab curing at 150 °C

- Cure intensity is fixed at 1.0 (100%).
- Cure accumulates at a constant rate:
- 1 min → 1 equivalent minute
- 2 min → 2 eq minutes
- 15 min → 15 eq minutes

15 Minutes in Lab = 20 Minutes in Press

The gap between the curves represents heat-up losses
This is pure heating time where the compound is warming but not curing efficiently.
We will talk about efficiency soon.

Reality Check: Why Exact Calculation Is Impossible

In theory, cure equivalent calculations are accurate.
In practice, several unavoidable variations force engineers to add safety margins:

- *Utility fluctuations*: steam pressure drops, hot water temperature variations
- *Compound variability*: cure rate changes due to polymer or filler variation
- *Material thickness deviations*: tread gauge, shoulder gauge, skim stock variations
- *Bladder thickness and age*
- *Ambient temperature/humidity*

Because all these factors accumulate, tyre manufacturers never run at the theoretical cure time. A statistically determined safety factor(is added to ensure every tyre receives adequate cure.

The Statistical Tolerancing

When several independent variables each contribute to variation in a result (say, tire cure time, tread gauge, or any quality parameter), the total variation is not the simple sum of the individual variations — instead, it is the square root of the sum of the squares of individual variations:

$$\sigma_{total} = \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_3^2 + \cdots}$$

This comes directly from the law of propagation of variances (or the addition rule for variances) in statistics.

In tire curing
Minimum cure equivalents required for pressure release= Equivalents for critical compound to reach 20% cure (t20) or the level fixed by compounder+ safety margin

The safety margin is determined by tolerancing principles as described above.
In tyre curing we have to consider Rheo meter equivalent variation (R), Thickness variation (T), equivalent variation due to utilities (U), ambient variation (A) , bladder thickness variation etc.so we need to take RSD or root squared deviation to minimise error in estimation.

So minimum cure equivalent(E) = Theoretical equivalent (TC)+RSD as described above.
(note that bladder thickness variation is normally taken out of square root)
$E = TC + \sqrt{(R^2 + T^2 + U^2 + A^2)}$ + Bladder Thickness Variation(in terms of cure equivalents)
Bladder thickness variation (in terms of cure equivalents) is taken out as the same bladder is used to cure many tires

Thus, final press time =
(Required cure time from Arrhenius analysis) + (Safety margin)

As a rule of thumb an additional 10-15% time is added to theoretical cure time

Continued in next issue

RUBBER Review

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Rubber & Tyre Consultants Spotlight

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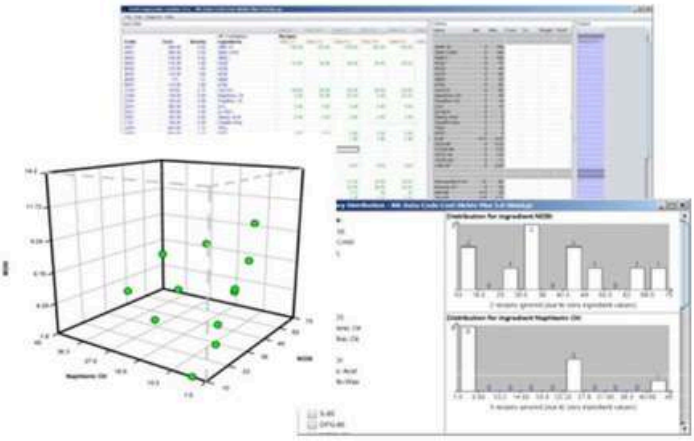
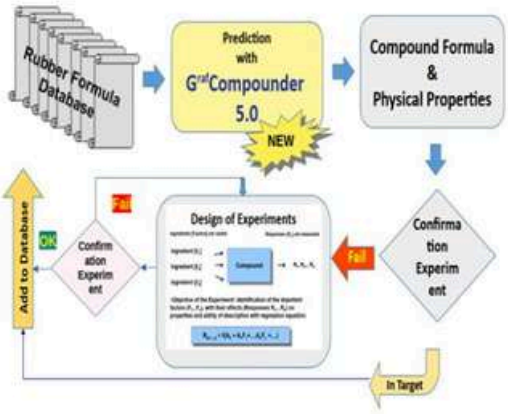
GrafCompounder 5.0

AI-Driven Innovation in Rubber Formulation



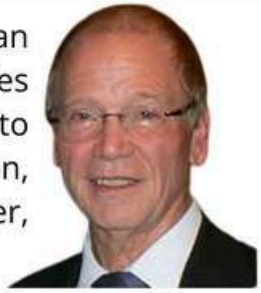


- AI-powered assistant for faster, more accurate compound development.
- Combines data intelligence and decades of formulation know-how.
- Reveals optimized recipes for tires, seals, hoses, and other applications.
- Reduces lab time, waste, and costs through predictive design.
- Supports collaboration and preserves valuable R&D insights.
- A true catalyst for smarter, data-driven innovation in rubber compounding.

Empowering Rubber Chemists for Intelligent Compound Design

"Adopted globally by hundreds of compounders and researchers."

GrafCompounder 5.0 has been developed by ***Dr. Hans-Joachim Graf***, an experienced rubber technologist and formulation expert with five decades of rubber industry and research experience. He has dedicated his career to advancing rubber compound design through data analytics, automation, and AI-based tools, helping chemists and engineers achieve faster, smarter, and more reliable formulation results.



www.grafcompounder.de

For a demonstration, please contact: ***Dr. Hans-Joachim Graf*** (h-jg_consulting@t-online.de)

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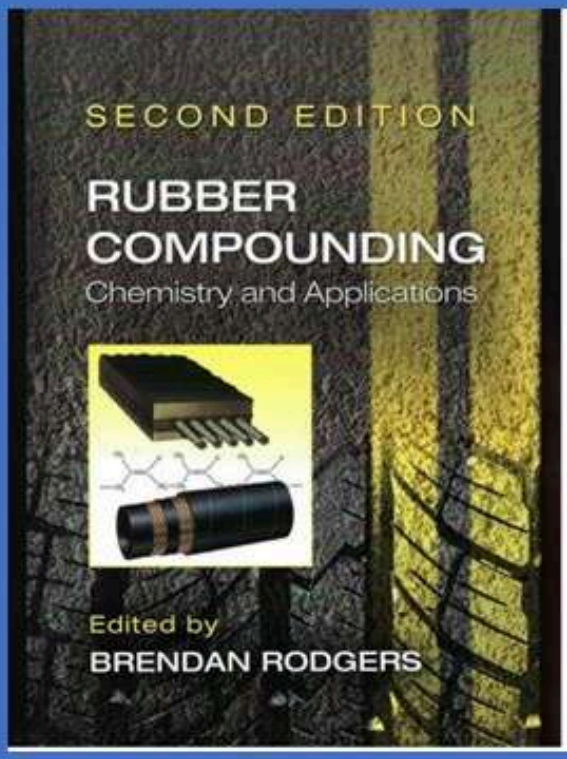

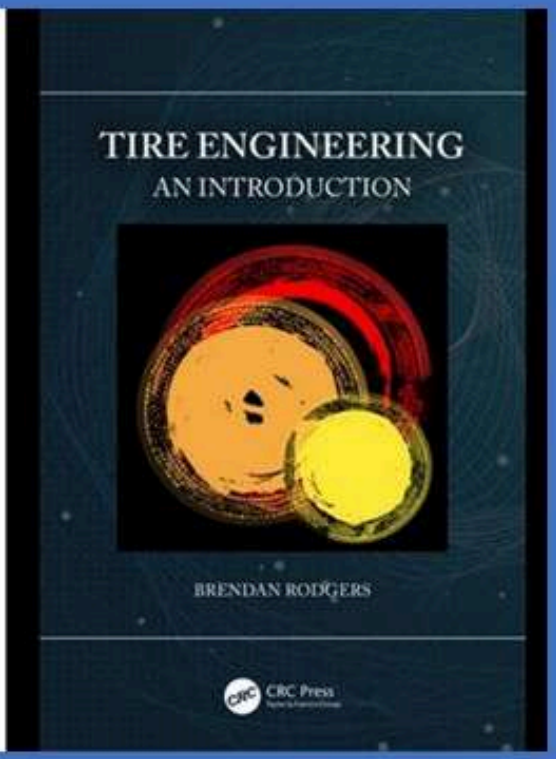

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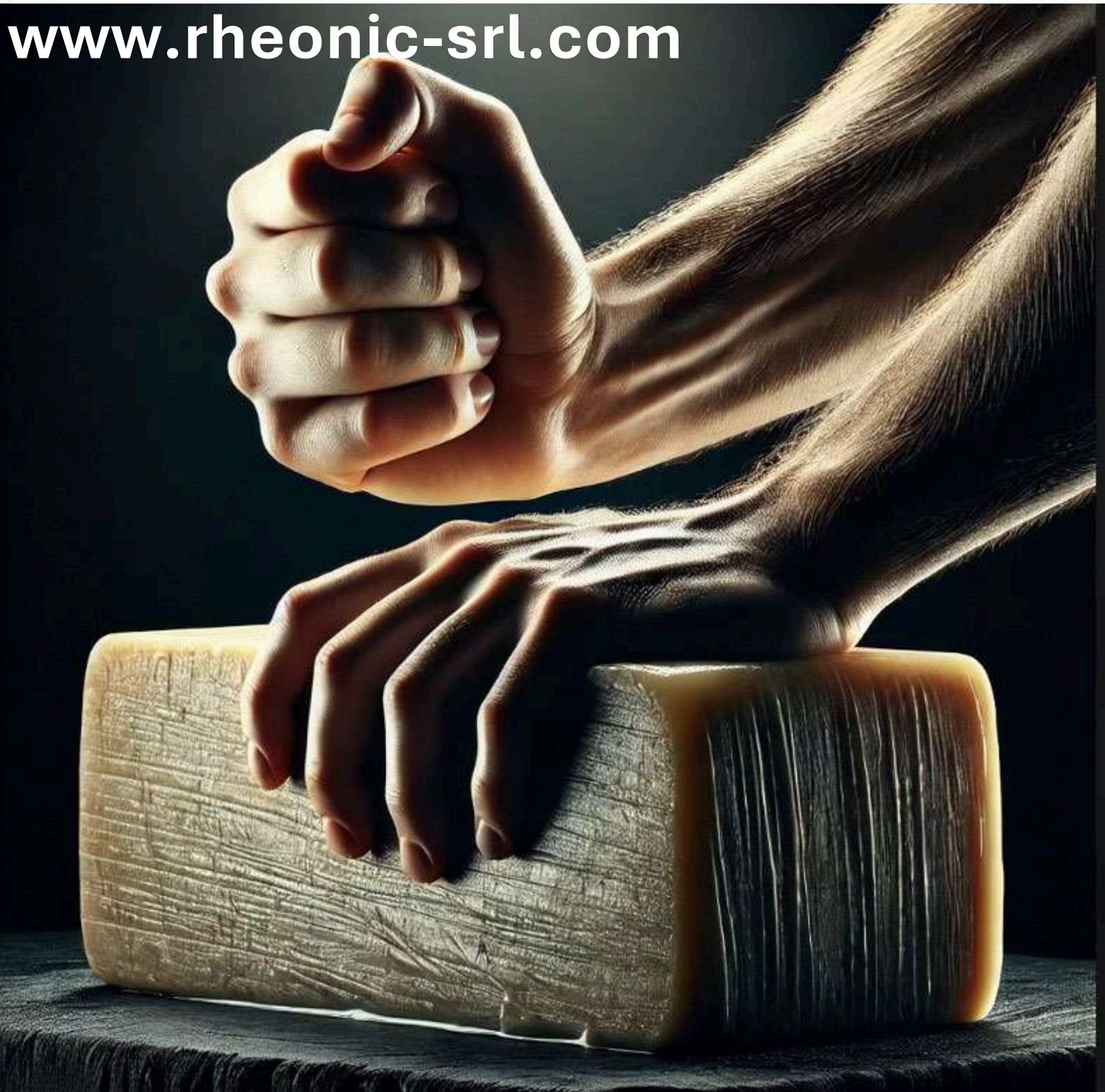
Formulation giving you headaches?

Rheonic is an Italian engineering company founded in 2015 with a clear mission: to provide consulting services and technical partnerships to the rubber industry in the following areas:

It

- Rubber compound formulation
- P rocess optimization through numerical simulation techniques
- Vulcanization cycle development
- Rheology and viscoelastic characterization



RUBBER Review

Issue-31 | 19-25 January 2026

IRMRI Spotlight

INDIAN RUBBER MATERIALS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Formerly known as Indian Rubber Manufactures Research Association(IRMRA)
An Autonomous Institute, Under DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India
254/1B Road No 16V, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane West, Maharashtra 400604.
Email: info@irmra.org /www.irmri.org/022 6787 3200 (19 Lines)

Indian Rubber Materials Research Institute (IRMRI) formerly known as Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association (IRMRA), which was established in 1958 is an internationally well-known Centre of Excellence for providing technological services to both Non-tyre & Tyre sectors.

It is an autonomous institute under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India.

IRMRI Facilities Covers

1. Testing of Polymeric Matrials and Products
2. Research & Development on Rubber & Allied Products
3. Reverse Engineering & Failure Investigation
4. Academic & Sponsored Research
5. ARISE - Incubation Centre
6. Training & Skill Development
7. Industrial Consultancy
8. Third Party Inspection
9. Tyre Testing Facilities - Centre of Excellence

INDIAN RUBBER MATERIALS RESEARCH INSTITUTE REGIONAL CENTRE'S

IRMRI - South Center 1 (Andhra Pradesh)
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info.south@irmra.org
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Strategic Product Development Center
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Oragadam, Sriperumpudur (Tk.),
Kancheepuram (Dt.)
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irmra.nc1@irmra.org
Mob No.:+91 9716230295

Registrations Open for IRMRI's One-Year Online Course in Rubber Materials Science & Technology

IRMRI (Indian Rubber Materials Research Institute), under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, has opened registrations for its One-Year Online Certificate Course in Rubber Materials Science & Technology (RMST). The program offers comprehensive learning on rubber science, compounding, processing, product manufacturing, testing, latex, tyre technology, and more. It is ideal for engineers, R&D professionals, QC staff, production supervisors, sales teams, students, and anyone seeking foundational rubber industry knowledge. Eligibility requires either 10+2 with one year of industry experience or a Diploma/Graduate degree in Engineering or Science. The course includes online live classes twice a week, a flexible learning format, and an industry-oriented curriculum. Registration and brochure links are provided, along with contact details for further information.

IRMRI-East Centre Conducts Technical Training on Recovered Carbon Black and Circularity in Rubber

IRMRI-East Centre successfully conducted a one-day customized technical training program for Worth of Waste Private Limited on "Technicalities and Future Aspects of Recovered Carbon Black (rCB) in Rubber Products – from Performance to Circularity Trends" on January 21, 2026, at Imagine Tech Park. The program was led by Dr. Debdipta Basu, Deputy Director & Centre Head (East Centre), along with Suman Acharya, Technical Officer. The sessions provided in-depth insights into rCB material performance, sustainability benchmarks, and emerging circular economy pathways in rubber applications. The training saw active participation and engaging technical discussions, highlighting the growing industry emphasis on bridging performance requirements with circularity and sustainable rubber material solutions.

ARISE - ASSOCIATION FOR RUBBER INNOVATION AND START-UP ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Promoted by INDIAN RUBBER MATERIALS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Formerly known as Indian Rubber Manufactures Research Association
An Autonomous Institute, Under DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India
B-88, Road No 24U, Wagle Institute Estate, Thane West, Maharashtra
Email: arise@irmra.org Web: www.ariseindia.net.

ARISE Incubation Centre:

ARISE – Association for rubber Innovation and Start up Entrepreneurship Incubation Centre Promoted by Indian Rubber Materials Research Institute has swiftly developed as a pivotal platform for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in the rubber and allied industries. With a mission to nurture start-up ecosystems, ARISE is helping aspiring entrepreneurs transform their innovative ideas into viable businesses, especially in the niche domain of rubber products and technologies.

Vision and Objectives

ARISE aims to be the breeding ground for future industrial leaders by providing startups and innovators with the resources, mentorship, and industry-specific expertise they need to succeed. The centre is particularly focused on promoting in rubber and allied industries, encouraging sustainable solutions, and fostering technological advancements that cater to both domestic and global markets.

The centre operates with the primary goal of bridging the gap between academia and industry, by enabling innovation-driven enterprises to evolve from ideation to commercialization. By aligning with national missions like 'Make in India' etc. ARISE plays an active role in building a self-reliant and globally competitive ecosystem.

Support Ecosystem at ARISE

ARISE offers a comprehensive support system, which includes

- *Mentorship and Networking*: The centre facilitates connections with industry experts, academicians, and business leaders, offering startups invaluable mentorship. Startups benefit from the extensive network IRMRI has built over the years, including collaborations with global companies, research institutions, and government agencies.

- *Access to Cutting-Edge Facilities*: ARISE - Promoted by IRMRI, startups at ARISE gain access to advanced R&D labs and testing facilities, enabling product development, innovation, and validation. This is a significant advantage, particularly for startups focusing on rubber technologies, which can quickly iterate and refine solutions.

- *Capacity Building through Training Programs*: ARISE offers a series of workshops and training programs covering diverse aspects of entrepreneurship such as financial management, legal compliances, intellectual property rights, business development, and marketing strategies. These programs will make ensure that entrepreneurs are well-equipped with the necessary skills to navigate the challenges of running a business.

- *Funding and Investment Opportunities*: Recognizing that financial backing is a critical component for the growth of startups, ARISE helps entrepreneurs connect with potential investors and funding agencies. The centre also advises startups on availing government schemes, grants, and subsidies designed for MSME's.

- *Industry Collaborations*: ARISE promotes partnerships between startups and established players in the rubber industry. These collaborations offer startups an opportunity to pilot their innovations, gain market insights, and even secure early customers.

ARISE - ASSOCIATION FOR RUBBER INNOVATION AND START-UP ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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B-88, Road No 24U, Wagle Institute Estate, Thane West, Maharashtra
Email: arise@irmra.org Web: www.ariseindia.net.

ARISE Impact

The centre has already started creating a tangible impact through its flagship Entrepreneurship Development Programme - Conducted from 20th August 2024 till 20th September 2024, the EDP has provided participants with critical insights on topics like HR compliances, funding opportunities, sales strategies, and legal frameworks. This structured training has enabled aspiring entrepreneurs to refine their business models and align their startups with market needs. Participants were motivated to take their ideas forward and register as incubatees under ARISE, thanks to the visionary leader Dr. K Rajkumar, Director, IRMRI, who has been a driving force behind this initiative.

Moreover, ARISE has succeeded in fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial spirit among its participants by regularly inviting experts from sectors such as MSME Mumbai, legal professionals, founders, and chartered accountants to offer personalized guidance and share their experiences. This multi-disciplinary engagement ensures that startups at ARISE are not only technically sound but also business-savvy, ready to scale up their innovations.

ARISE - Future Outlook

ARISE is poised to play a significant role in shaping the future of the Indian rubber industry. With a commitment to fostering innovation and sustainable business practices, ARISE incubation centre is expected to expand its reach by onboarding more startups and diversifying into other sectors allied to rubber.

As the world shifts towards greener technologies, ARISE is well-positioned to lead the way in promoting sustainable and eco-friendly rubber solutions. With its robust infrastructure, expert mentorship, and industry collaborations, ARISE is a beacon of hope for entrepreneurs looking to make a mark in the competitive world for the industries of rubber and allied materials.

In summary, ARISE represents more than just an incubation centre—it's a platform for empowerment, providing entrepreneurs with the tools, resources, and network they need to succeed. Through its visionary leadership and robust support ecosystem, ARISE is truly nurturing the next generation of innovators and business leaders in the rubber industry.

For Details, Please Connect with
V.Karthikeyan, Business Development Manager, IRMRI
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9361324212, 7045086164.

Weatherometer

Introduction about Weatherometer : A Weatherometer is a sophisticated laboratory instrument designed to simulate long-term environmental exposure in a controlled setting. By replicating conditions such as sunlight, moisture, and temperature fluctuations, it accelerates the aging process, enabling manufacturers to assess material durability and performance under harsh weathering conditions. This ensures products meet stringent quality standards and perform reliably in real-world applications across various industries. In IRMRI, the Q-SUN Xe-3 machine is used.

Standards and Their Purpose

- ASTM D 4587-11: defines UV and condensation testing procedures to assess paint and coating durability under weathering.
- ASTM G 151-10: guides accelerated weathering tests using artificial light for plastics and other materials.
- ISO 4892-2: Outlines xenon-arc exposure methods for plastics and coatings to simulate sunlight and weathering effects.
- ISO 16474-2: Defines xenon-arc testing protocols for paints and varnishes, focusing on UV resistance and color stability.
- ISO 105-B02: Tests color fastness of textiles under artificial light, simulating sunlight exposure.
- ISO 105-B04: Evaluates textile color fastness under artificial weathering, including UV and moisture.
- ASTM 750-12: Standard Practice for Rubber Deterioration using artificial weathering apparatus.

Uses and Benefits: The Q-Sun Xenon Test Model Xe-3 measures color fading, gloss retention, surface degradation, mechanical strength, and flexibility in materials such as rubbers, plastics, coatings, paints, leather, and textiles under UV light, moisture, and temperature cycles, by ASTM and ISO standards. It predicts long-term performance, identifying issues such as cracking or discoloration, thereby benefiting industries like automotive, textiles, coatings, plastics, and leather by ensuring durable, high-quality products.

Sectors Benefits: Rubber, textiles, paints &coatings, plastics, and leather industries.

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Contact no: 9361324212 / 90220547
Location: 254/1B Road no 16 V, Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane, Maharashtra 400604 India

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Qingdao Zhongyiweiye Machinery Manufacture Co., Ltd. was established in 1997 and is a professional equipment manufacturing enterprise that integrates research and development, manufacturing, and sales services.It has obtained multiple product patents and technical certificates, and has passed ISO9001 quality management system and ISO14001 environmental management system certifications in management. It has been awarded the title of "Qingdao Specialized, Refined, and New Technology" enterprise.

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Wire braiding machine

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Jiujiang DoWell Rubber Technology Co., Ltd.

DoWell Tech is dedicated to the R&D, production and sales of chemical raw materials, and provides expert advice on their application solutions for our global customers.

Our core products are primarily divided into **acrylic rubber (ACM)** and modified acrylic water-based adhesives. ACM products are classified into four major types of rubber products: i. e. active chlorine, carboxyl, double cross-linking and epoxy types, while the and water-based emulsion adhesive types are available in five different categories which are broadly used in industries such as automobile, new energy technology, electric power , and related electronics, and environmental protection.

We are committed to product R&D and continuously manufacturing products which are consistently reliable, stable, and environmentally friendly, to meet our customers' evolving needs. This commitment is reflected in our corporate motto or mission of becoming a:

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We pledge to be a model corporate citizen, a trusted partner, and an honest, reliable enterpriser that fosters long-term relationships with our customers worldwide while helping our customers to create value.

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9)Silicone production line;
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USAGE

The production line is used to produce rubber sealing strip,hose,profile,water,stop and other products,widely used in automotive doors and windows,aluminum doors and windows,building curtain walls, container doors, ships, high-speed rail,roads and bridges and other fields.

FEATURES

1.German technology
2.High efficiency, energy conservation, environmental protrction, good stability.
3.The product vulcanize evenly and the vulcanization speed is quick.
4.Controlled by PLC,variable frequency speed regulation, stable operation , reduce manpower.

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Wuxi Double Elephant Rubber & Plastics Machinery Co., Ltd

双象集团
DOUBLE ELEPHANT GROUP

公司介绍 Company introduction

Wuxi Double Elephant Rubber & Plastics Machinery Co., Ltd （DE） affiliated with Jiangsu Double Elephant Group, covering an area of 100, 000 square meters , with over 40 years of history , is a modernized technology enterprise which is engaged in R&D, manufacture and sales and after-sales service in the field of Rubber & Plastics Machinery .

We are specialized in the production of rubber and plastics machinery equipment: calender and auxiliary machine series, open mill series, mixing kneader series, rubber extruder series, rotary curing series, wide rubber sheet extrude calendering line, rubber conveyor belt calendering line, tire inner liner calendering line, PVC artificial leather/ film/rigid sheet calendering line, PVC flooring calendering line etc.

Our Products are very popular in China and have been exported all over the world, such as Europe, the United States , Japan, Southeast Asia, India, Turkey, South America, etc. In rubber machinery field, DE has established a good partnerships with domestic R&D institute , large scale tire enterprise, rubber product manufacturers such as Beijing R & D Institute of Rubber Industry , Guiling rubber industry R&D institute, Bridgestone (Japan), Toyo Tire (Japan), Yokohama(Japan), Continental Tire (Germany),Michelin (France), Trelleborg (Sweden),Camso(Canada),Kumho Tire (Korea), Apollo(India),MRF （India） ,CST Tire(Taiwan), Kenda Tire(Taiwan),Linglong Tire, Triangle Tire, General Science Technology, Wanli Tire, Boton Technology , etc.

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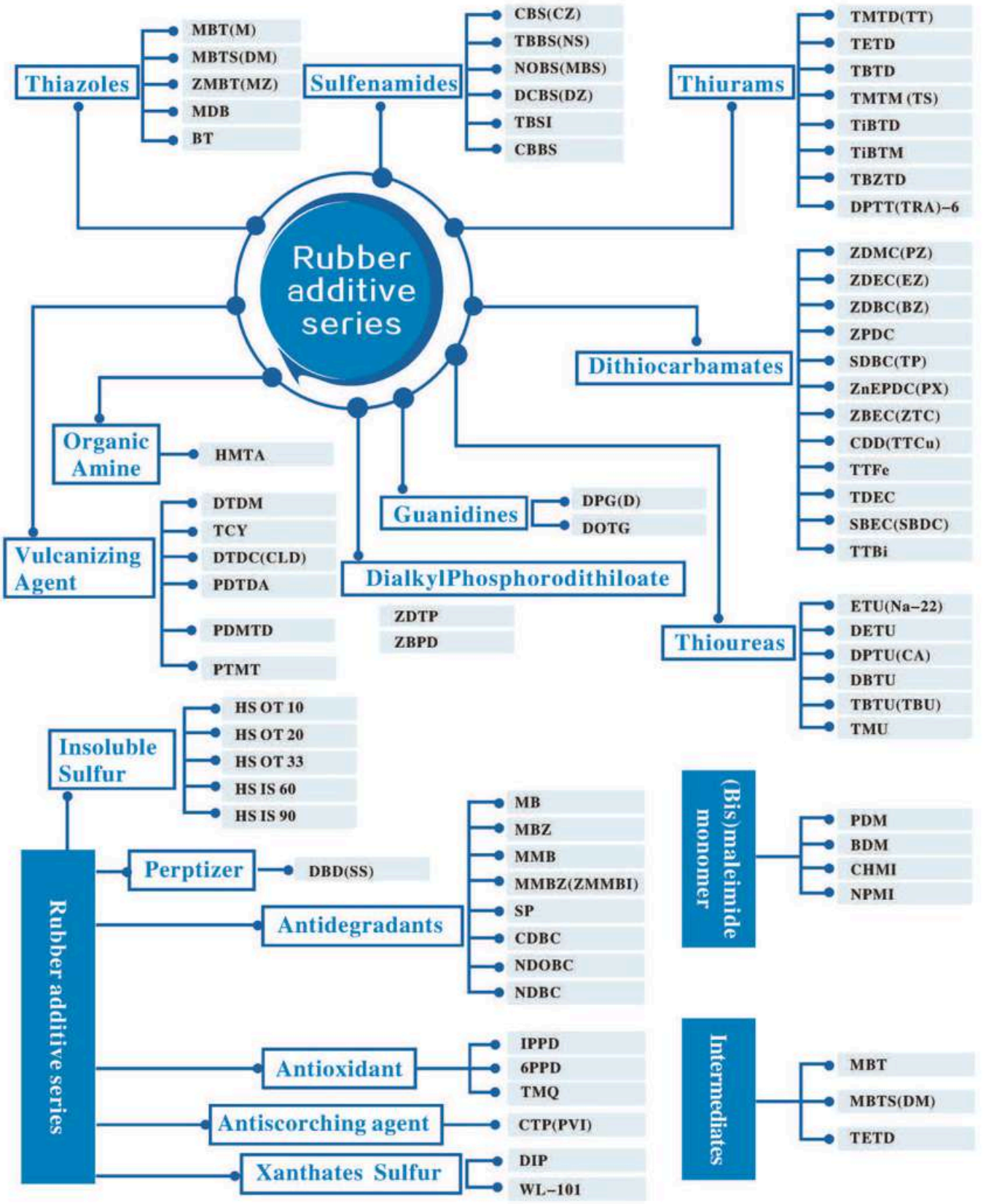

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Email: walter@willingchem.com
Url: www.willingchem.com

QINGDAO XIANG RUN HAO IMPORT AND EXPORT CO.,LTD

XIANG RUN HAO

About Us

QingDao Xiang Run Hao Import and Export Co., ltd (Former name is Qingdao RuiTongFa rubber machinery works, which is founded in 2003) is a professional manufacturer for rubber machinery and rubber moulds such as rubber injection machine, vacuum plate vulcanizing press and automatic plate vulcanizing press, rubber joint machine. We exported rubber machine and rubber moulds to many countries such as India, Chile, Belarus, South America, South korea, South-East Asia, Japan and Russia etcs.

The total export amount is up to more than ten million US dollars.

Through many year's development, constant research and inovation, we became a bigger company with several factories to producing Automatic Vulcanizing Machine, Rubber Injection Molding Machine, Mixing Mill kneader, many kinds of rubber moulds and rubber products. We also supply technology service, rubber compound formula and moulds designing according to custmers requirements and production samples. We wish to co-operate with all customers on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Three years ago, we have manufactured a ultra large fully automatic plate vulcanizing press (2400T, 1600*3600) with a mould in and out for our loyal foreign customers in Chile, which is used to produce mining rubber machinery sapre parts.

We dispatch our technicians were on site to supervise installation and train their worker. The machine are received good remarks from our Chilean customers.

Web1: www.xiangrunhao.com **Web2: https://rubbermachineryltd.com** **Email1: ruitongfafa888@163.com**

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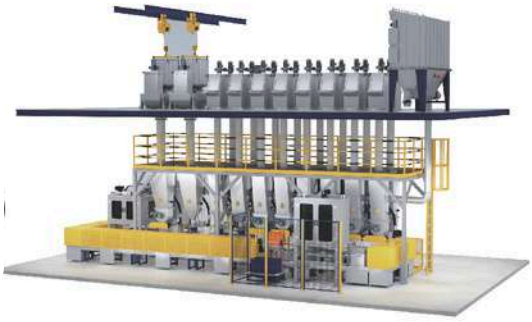

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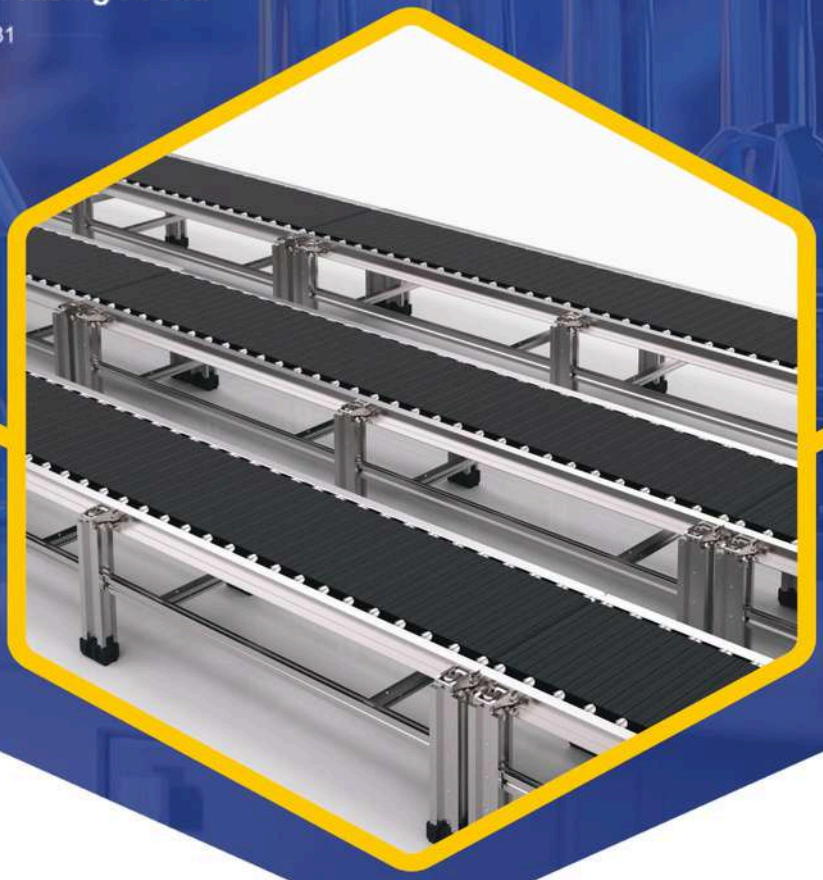

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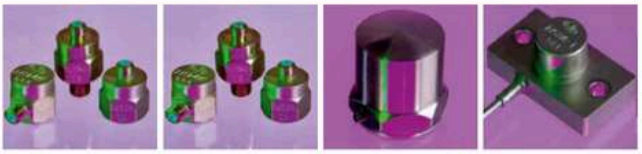

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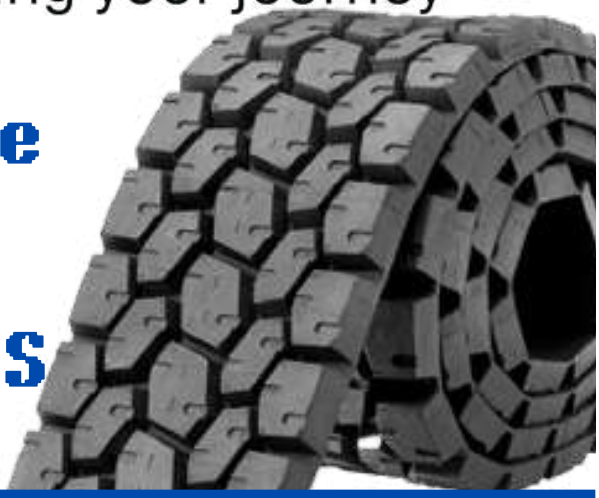

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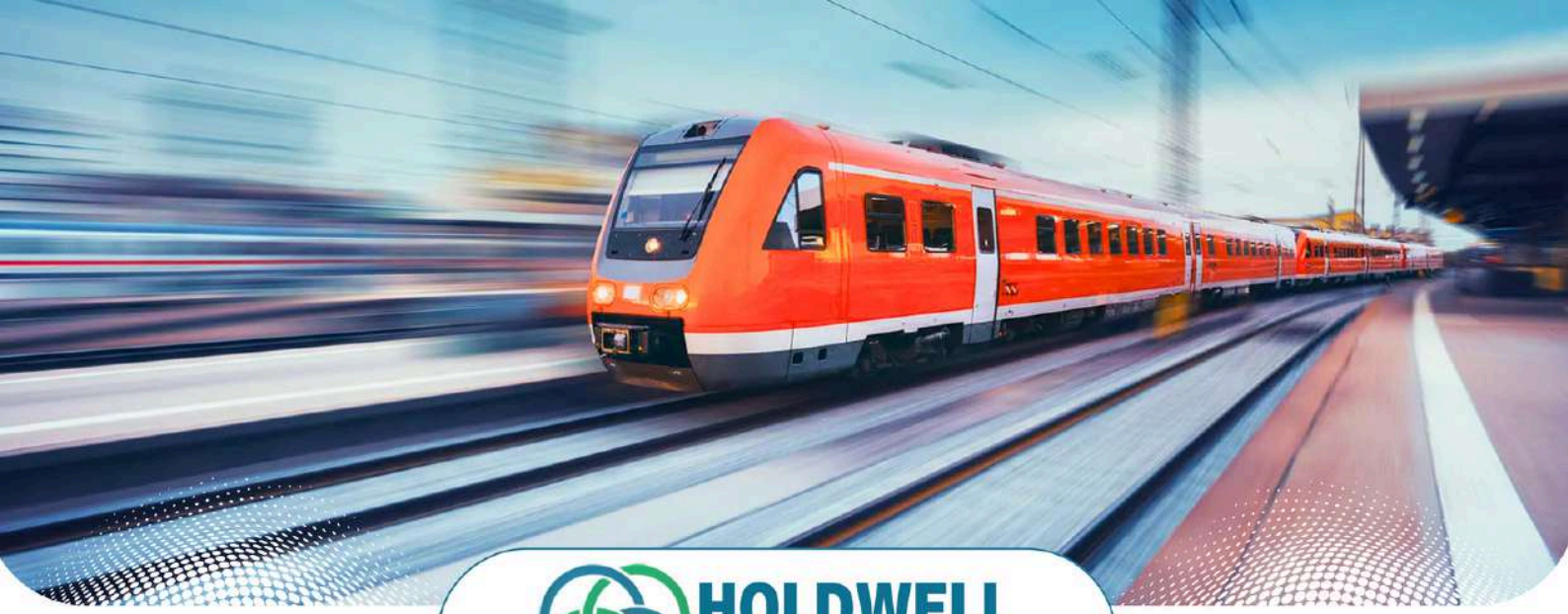

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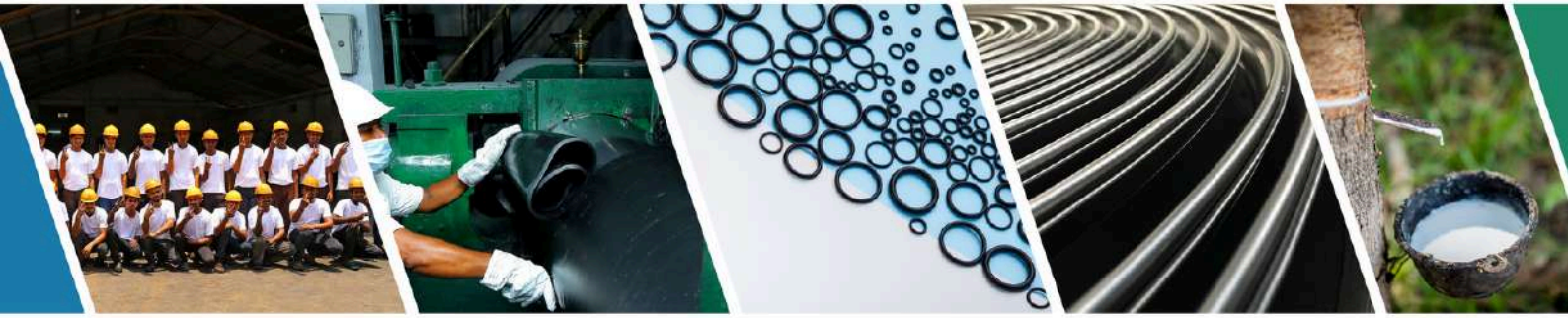

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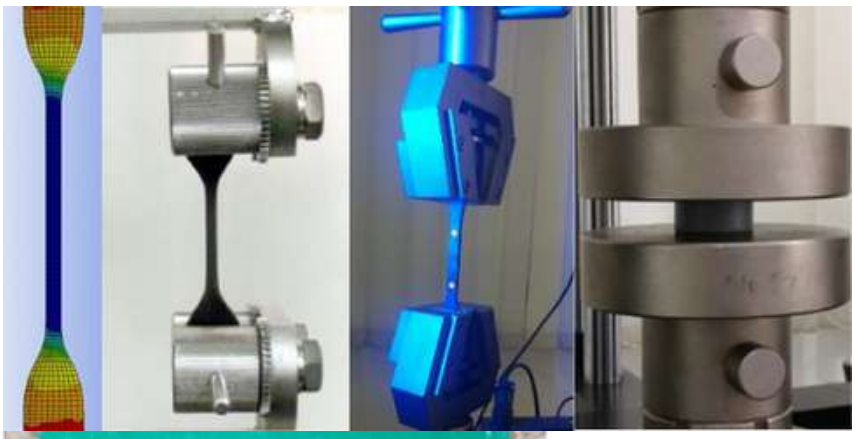

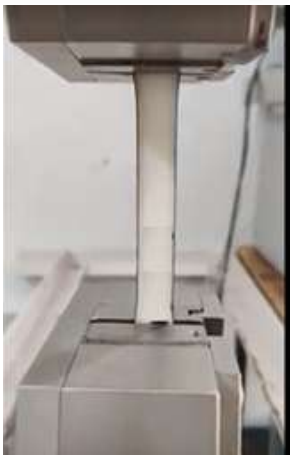

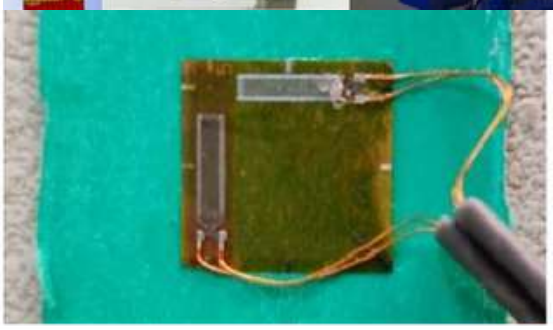

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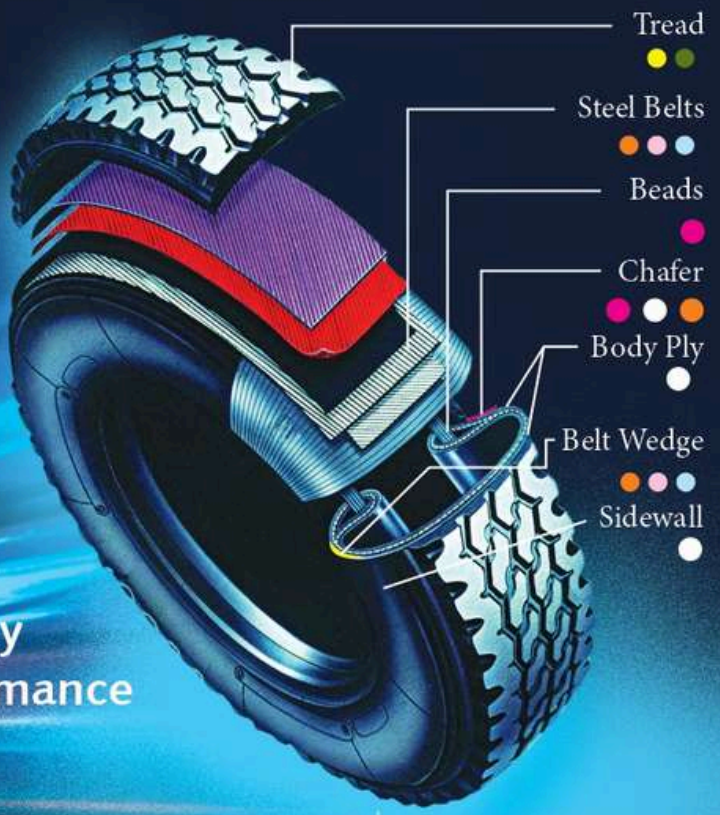

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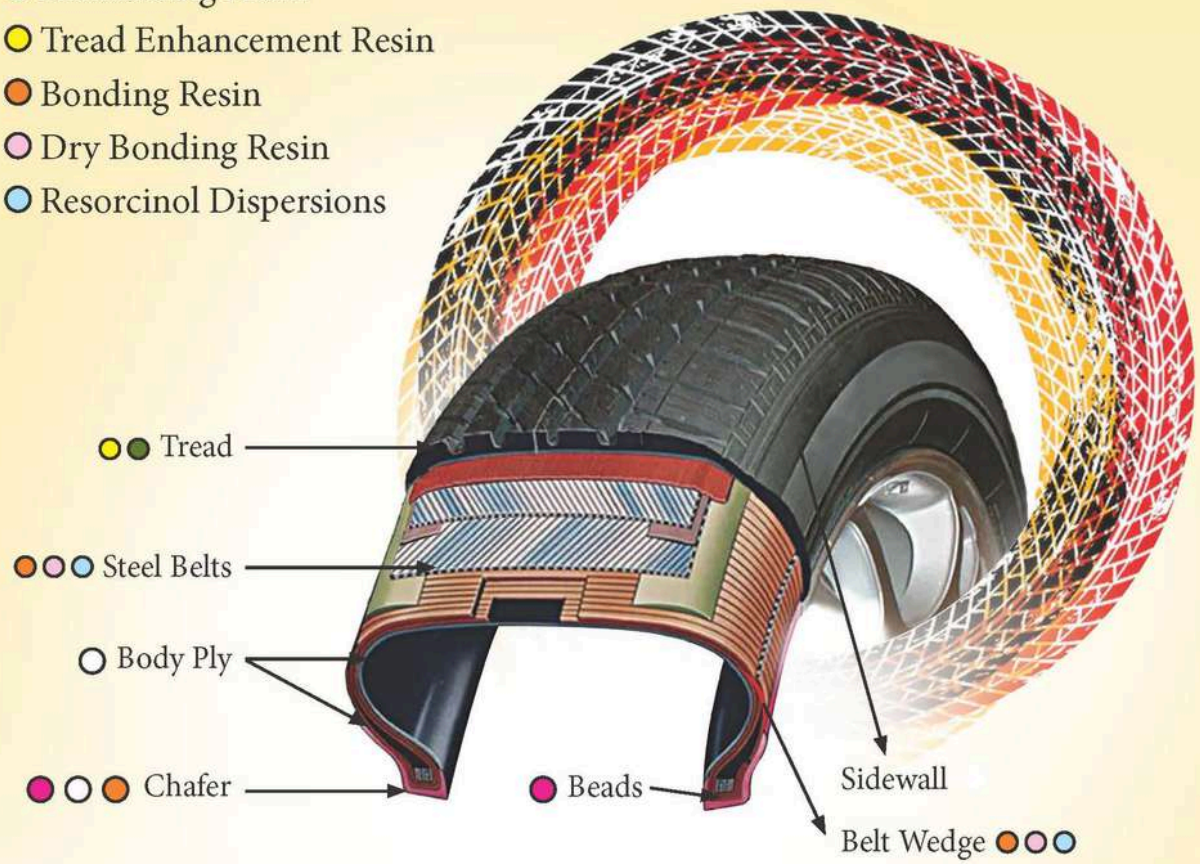

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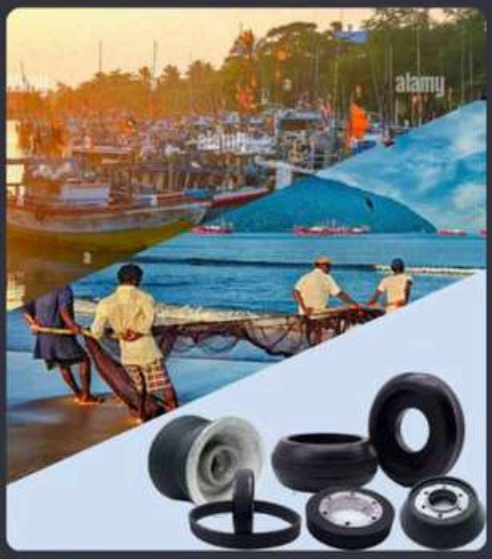

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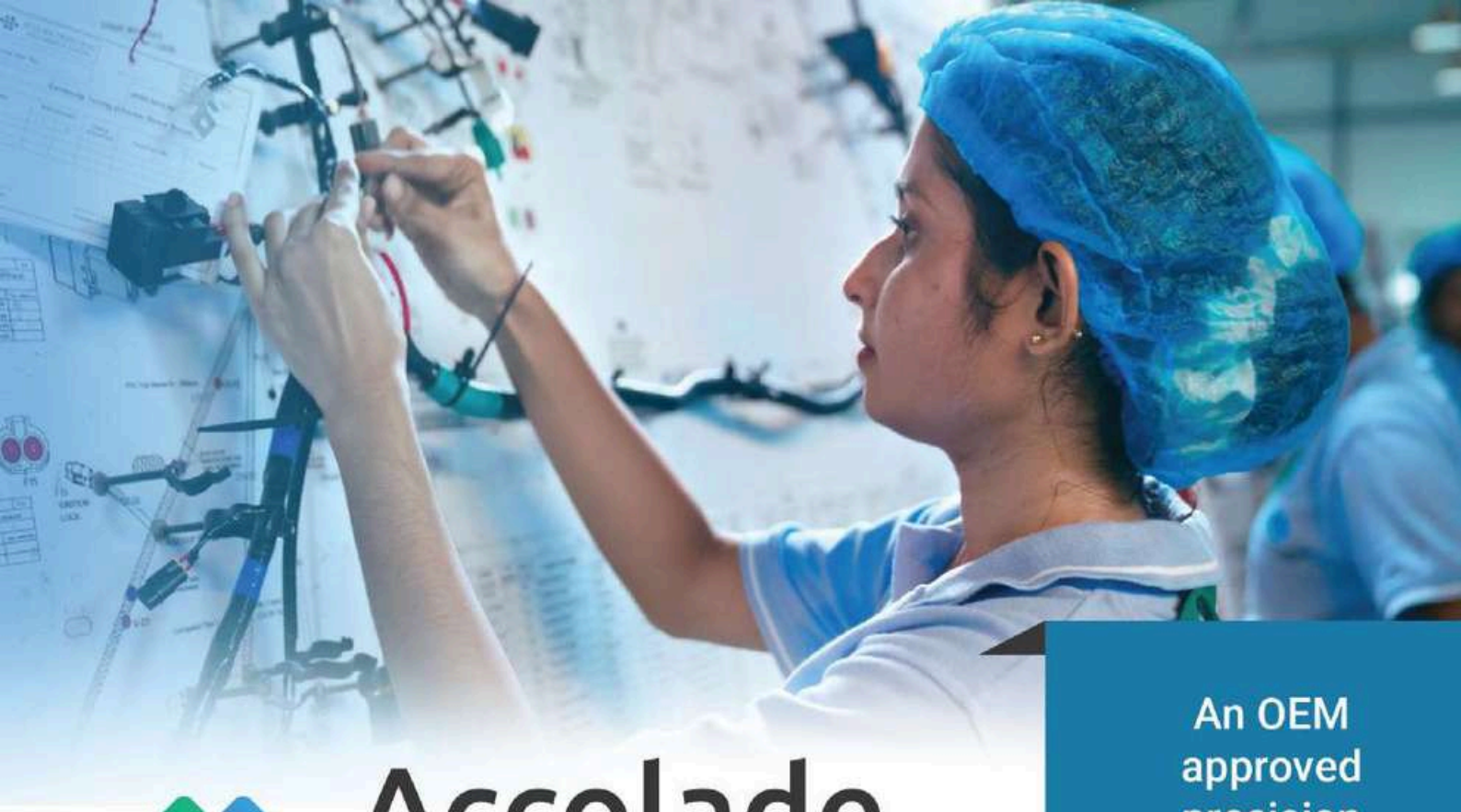

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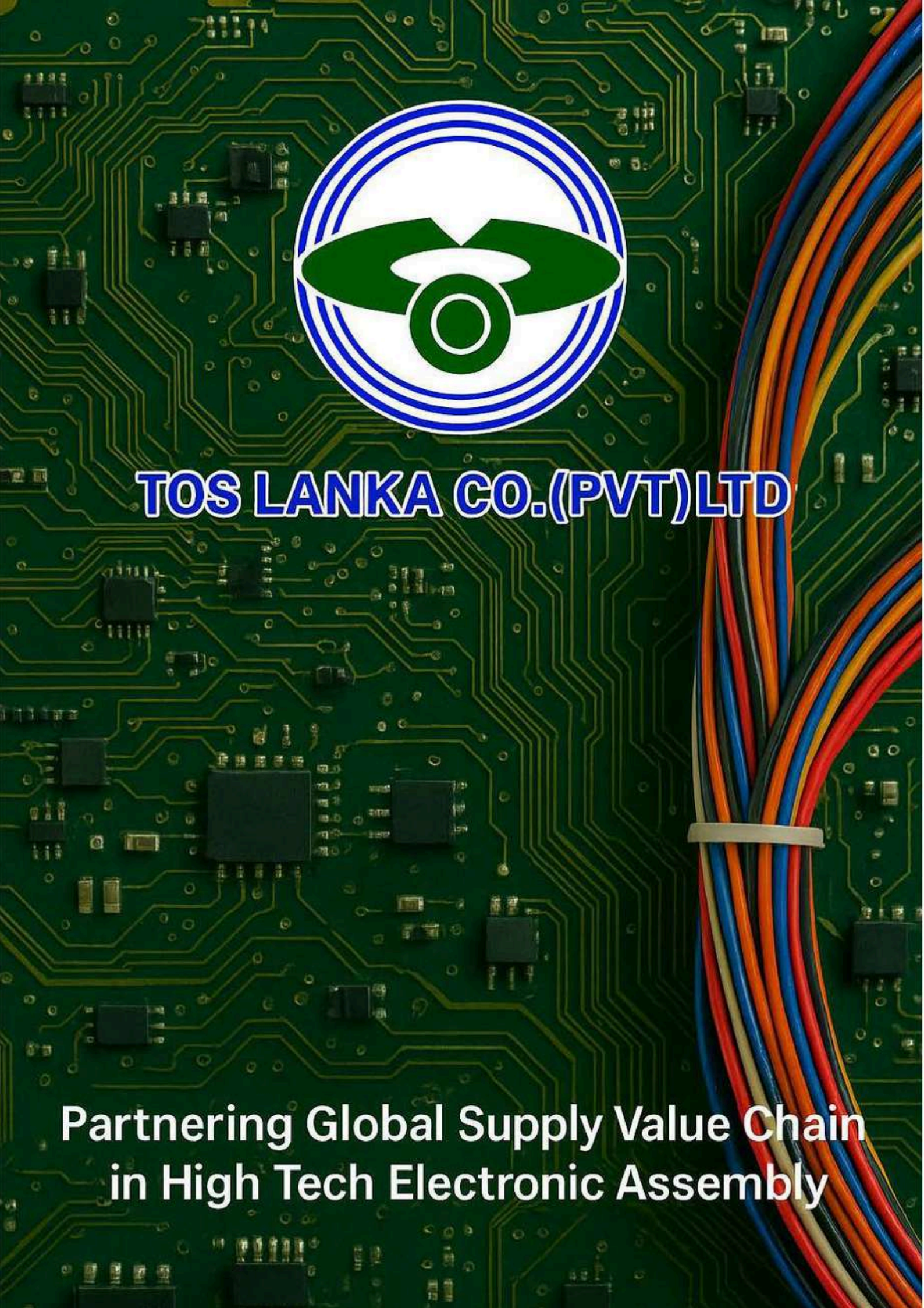
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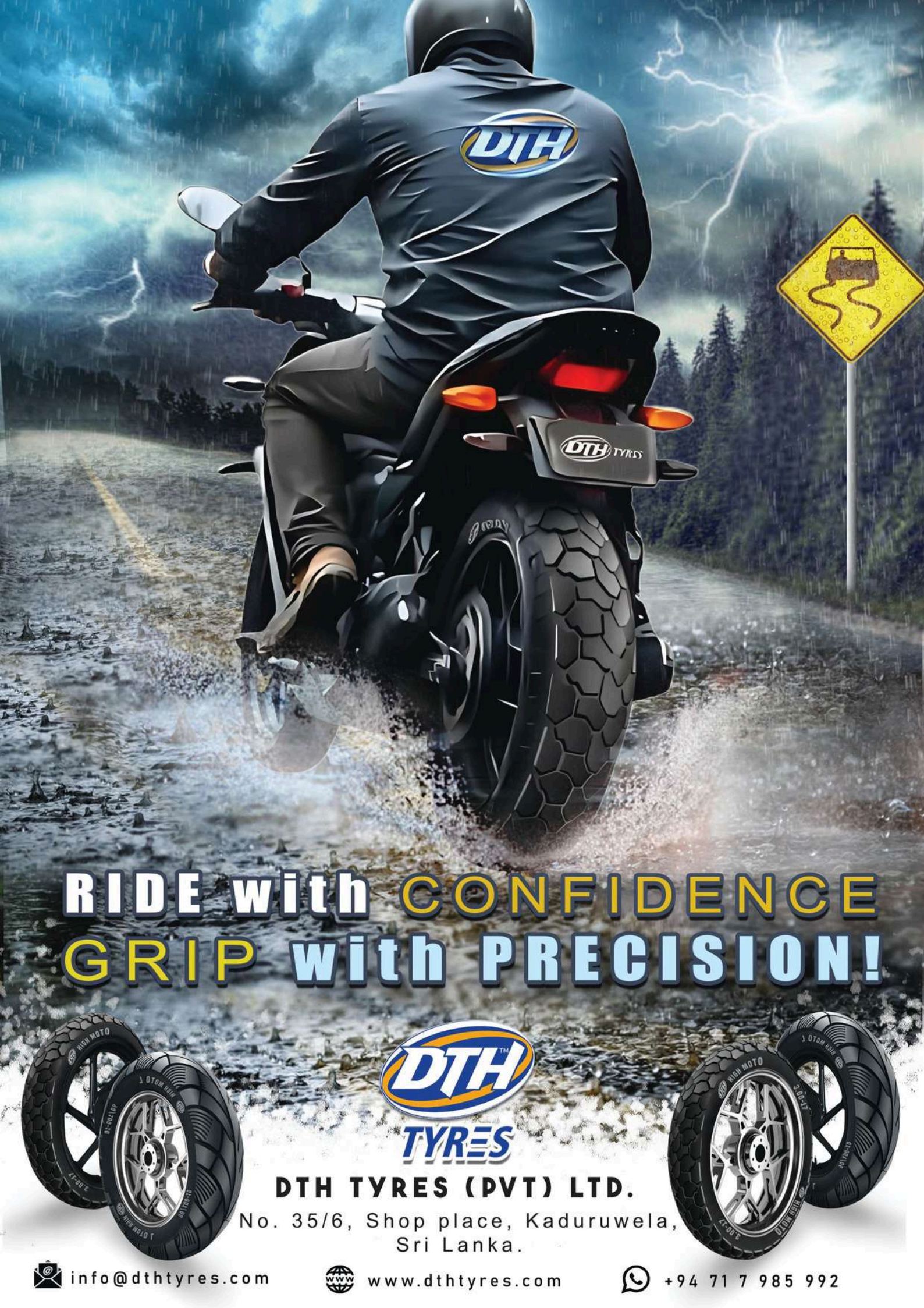
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RUBBER BUSINESS NEWS

RUBBER Review

Mearthane Products Corporation appoints Jim Herlihy as CEO

Mearthane Products Corporation (MPC) announced today the appointment of Jim Herlihy as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), following the retirement of Pete Kaczmarek at the end of 2025. With six years of experience as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at MPC, Herlihy's appointment ensures a seamless transition and continued focus on the company's growth strategy and customer commitments.

With more than 25 years of financial leadership experience across manufacturing, technology, and software industries, Herlihy brings a distinguished record of driving growth, operational excellence, and strategic transformation in both public and private equity-backed companies. He first joined MPC in 2016 as CFO, leading six strategic acquisitions, the implementation of standard ERP systems, and the deployment of robust financial processes. Herlihy holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Stonehill College in North Easton, Massachusetts. "MPC has a remarkable history of innovation, disciplined growth, and customer partnerships," said Herlihy. "I'm excited to lead the next chapter of that journey and continue to develop the strong foundation Pete has built."

Kaczmarek led MPC starting in 2016, guiding the company through a period of significant expansion and transformation. Under his leadership, MPC completed seven strategic acquisitions, broadened its technology portfolio, and strengthened its position as a trusted partner to customers across diverse industries. His people-focused leadership style and commitment to Rhode Island's manufacturing base have left a lasting impact on the company and community. "Jim's appointment underscores our commitment to continuing our growth and operational excellence focus," said Kaczmarek. "His proven ability to scale businesses, integrate systems, and lead teams, coupled with his deep understanding of MPC's people and business, will ensure MPC's continued success. I am filled with confidence and optimism in MPC's future." Kaczmarek will continue to serve on MPC's Board of Directors and will act as Senior Advisor to MPC's Leadership Team.

As MPC enters this next chapter, the company remains committed to advancing its polyurethane technologies, supporting customers across diverse industries, strengthening its six full-service regional manufacturing facilities, and with its headquarters in Rhode Island, solidifying its leadership within the state's manufacturing and business community. With a seasoned leadership team and a clear strategic vision, MPC will continue investing in its people, capabilities, and local operations to deliver the reliability, innovation, and partnership that customers and regional stakeholders have trusted for more than 50 years.

Nokian Tyres Betula concept tire features raw material made from residue birch bark

Nokian Tyres launches the Nokian Tyres Betula concept tire containing groundbreaking raw material made from birch bark. The renewable material by Swedish company Reselo utilizes the residue of the global pulp, paper and plywood industry.

The Nokian Tyres Betula represents the first time the material has been used in a tire. The material is included in the tread compound of the concept tire, bringing the amount of renewable and recycled material content to 93% of all materials used on the tread.

The new material is seen primarily as a performance-enhancing addition. The concept tire, that has the tread design of the Nokian Tyres Hakkapeliitta R5 non-studded winter tire, has been tested in the Nokian Tyres test centers in Ivalo, Finnish Lapland as well as in Nokia, Finland with promising results.

"*Since the early stages, the potential of the material to be used in tires has been evident. The Nokian Tyres Betula concept tire confirms its applicability and highlights the material's potential for commercial use in the future. Furthermore, the material is not only sustainable but according to our testing it also shows promise to improve tire performance*," says Teemu S., Vice President, Innovations & Development from Nokian Tyres.

The Nokian Tyres Betula concept tire represents a significant step toward Nokian Tyres' goal to increase the share of recycled and renewable materials in tires to 50% by 2030. By pioneering sustainable solutions, Nokian Tyres seeks to set new benchmarks for environmental responsibility across the tire industry. Achieving this ambition depends on strong partnerships, such as the collaboration with Reselo.

"*For Reselo, this partnership represents much more than a technical development project. The tire industry's sheer scale and traditionally conservative approach make it a challenging but vital space for rubber innovation and seeing the collaboration with Nokian Tyres continue to the next level is something we're especially proud of. Birch bark is a high-volume forestry side-stream abundant in the Nordics, and step by step we are working together towards better-performing and more sustainable products with circularity at the core*," says Josefin Larsson, CEO from Reselo.

The cooperation between Nokian Tyres and Reselo started already in 2023, when the biomaterial science company won Nokian Tyres' FAST RACE BIG CHANGE sustainable tire innovation challenge. In 2024, Nokian Tyres signed a development agreement with Reselo to further develop their renewable material for tire production. The development project continues together with Reselo after the launch of the concept tire.

Rubber Division, ACS Announces 2026 Science & Technology Award Winners

The Rubber Division, ACS has announced the recipients of its prestigious 2026 Science & Technology Awards, honoring outstanding global contributions to rubber and elastomer science, technology, education, sustainability, and innovation. The awardees will be formally recognized and celebrated at a special banquet sponsored by Alpha Technologies during the Global Polymer Summit in September 2026.

The Charles Goodyear Medal, the division's highest honor, has been awarded to Dr. Greg McKenna, sponsored by HF GROUP, recognizing transformative innovation in the rubber industry. The Melvin Mooney Distinguished Technology Award goes to Dr. William Mars (sponsored by Lion Elastomers) for exceptional technical contributions to rubber science.

The George Stafford Whitby Award for Distinguished Teaching and Research has been conferred on Dr. Rigoberto Advincula (sponsored by Cabot Corporation) for inspiring leadership in education and research. The Sparks-Thomas Award recognizes Dr. Clément Robin (sponsored by Endurica) for impactful innovations by an early-career scientist.

Honoring advances in materials chemistry, the Chemistry of Thermoplastic Elastomers Award has been presented to Dr. Tim Lodge (sponsored by Renkert Oil). The Fernley H. Banbury Award recognizes Dr. Gerard Nijman (sponsored by HF GROUP) for major innovations in rubber processing equipment and technology. Emphasizing sustainability, the Sustainability in Elastomers Award has been awarded to Dr. Rabindra Mukhopadhyay, sponsored by ACE Laboratories.

These honors celebrate excellence across the full spectrum of rubber and elastomer science —from foundational research and teaching to processing innovation and sustainability— highlighting the global impact of the 2026 award recipients.

RETYRE SECURES €7 MILLION INVESTMENT FROM HATCH AND FUNDRACER TO SCALE SUSTAINABLE TYRE MANUFACTURING – ENTERS A CO-DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP WITH VITTORIA

Norwegian deep-tech company reTyre has successfully closed a €7 million investment round, led by Hatch Blue's Blue Revolution Fund, with participation from Fundracer and existing investors, marking a significant step toward reshaping the global bicycle tyre industry. The funding will enable reTyre to scale up production, deliver on its large order book, and reach profitability.

After more than a decade of R&D, *reTyre* has developed a patented injection moulding technology that fundamentally changes how bicycle tyres are produced. The process reduces CO_2 emissions by 80%, allows for 100% recyclability, is dust-free and fully automated. This breakthrough enables decentralized, clean tyre production close to OEM assembly lines—dramatically cutting transport emissions and costs. With this funding, reTyre will install its first fully automated production cell in Norway, followed by a second facility in Asia in 2026.

Currently, reTyre supplies bicycle tyres to a wide customer base, but the company is now preparing to enter the performance utility tyre market through a co-development partnership with Vittoria, the world leader in high-performance bicycle tyres. The two companies have signed a Strategic Collaboration Agreement to co-develop and bring to market a new generation of performance tyres based on reTyre's proprietary injection-moulding technology.

Paul Magne Amundsen, CEO & founder at reTyre commented: "*After a decade of focused R&D, we're proud to disrupt the industry with a technology that delivers a new level of performance while enabling true circularity and a sustainable solution in tyre manufacturing. Support from Hatch Blue, Fundracer, and our co-development partnership with Vittoria, reflects deep confidence in both our vision and the breakthrough potential of our platform as we continue to scale*."

René Wiertz, Managing Partner at *Fundracer B.V.*, said: "*We are proud to support reTyre and to work alongside their team in scaling this groundbreaking technology. reTyre's deep-tech platform enables clean, local, and automated production of all types of tyres. It aligns perfectly with Fundracer's mission to back sustainable, high-performance innovations that will redefine the future of mobility*."

Georg Baunach, Managing Partner at *Hatch Blue*, added: "*I'm excited to work with Paul and the rest of the reTyre team over the next few years. It is rare to come across truly disruptive innovation, and we are convinced that reTyre can completely change the way the multi-billion-dollar tyre market is structured. As reTyre scales, incorporating side and waste streams from regenerative aquaculture could meaningfully improve the economics and sustainability of aquaculture production*."

Stijn Vriends, Chairman & CEO of Vittoria, commented: "*We've followed reTyre for many years and are convinced that their unique production method can successfully be applied to utility bicycle tyres. Vittoria stands for performance and sustainability, and reTyre's technology delivers both. We're excited to collaborate and bring this next generation of sustainable performance tyres to market*."

This collaboration between reTyre, Hatch Blue, Fundracer and Vittoria represents a turning point in the global bicycle tyre industry, combining deep technology, sustainable production, and market-leading performance.

Rubber World welcomes Brendan Rodgers as technical editor

Akron, OH – Brendan Rodgers has been named technical editor for Rubber World magazine. Rodgers, who is based in Austin TX, has spent 42 years working in the tire and rubber industry with both Goodyear Tire & Rubber and ExxonMobil. He has worked on a broad range of tire and industrial rubber products, including hydraulic hose and conveyor belts, as well as materials technology and product design.

Rodgers has had work assignments in the United States, China, Ireland, Italy and Luxembourg, working on original equipment automobile tires, truck tires, industrial rubber products and new tire materials technologies. He is the originator of a broad range of patents in tire and rubber technology, as well as many industry publications.

Rodgers received a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland, where he studied thermodynamics, heat transfer through large rubber sections and vulcanization kinetics. He has a master's degree in polymer technology from Queen's University Belfast, and a B.Sc. in biological chemistry from Ulster University. You can contact Brendan at brendan@rubberworld.com

SMX expands traceability platform into global latex and rubber gloves market

New York, NY – SMX has expanded its industrial rubber traceability platform into the global latex and rubber gloves market, extending its circular materials strategy into one of the world's largest post-use rubber waste streams. The move marks the sixth application of SMX's circular-rubber program and targets a sector where recovery and reuse have historically been limited.

Latex and rubber gloves are used extensively across healthcare, laboratories, food handling, pharmaceuticals, and industrial settings. Despite sustained high demand, most gloves are discarded after use due to contamination risks and the lack of reliable methods to identify material type, origin, or use history-making recycling impractical at scale.

By embedding invisible molecular identifiers directly into glove materials during manufacturing, SMX enables each product to carry a persistent, verifiable digital identity. This material-level "memory" allows gloves to be authenticated, categorized, and managed throughout their lifecycle, including at end of use, supporting safer recovery and potential circular reuse.

Industry data indicate the global rubber gloves market was valued at approximately $13.8 billion in 2024 and is expected to exceed $21.6 billion by 2030, with annual consumption surpassing 330 billion units. SMX's expansion aims to address the traceability gap in this growing market by enabling accountability at the material level rather than relying on external labels or documentation.

Michelin announces two projects of acquisition, aiming at reinforcing its Polymer Composite Solutions business

In line with its “Michelin in Motion 2030” strategy, the Group is leveraging its know-how and expertise to expand into new high value-added markets. Over the past two months, Michelin has reached agreements to acquire Cooley Group, a specialist in industrial coated fabrics, and Tex Tech Industries, a premier designer and manufacturer of specialty textiles and fabrics. These two companies represent strong strategic fits with the Group, as both share the same commitment to innovation and high-quality products, while operating in complementary geographies.

Celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2026 and headquartered in Rhode Island (USA), Cooley is globally recognized for its expertise in high performance polymer coated fabrics. The company is vertically integrated, with capabilities in weaving, knitting, and polymer extrusion. Cooley Group designs and manufactures innovative and sustainable polymeric solutions for a wide range of applications including healthcare devices, waterproofing, water and chemical containment, and other custom mission-critical environmental solutions.

Founded in 1904, in Maine (USA), Tex Tech Industries is a premier designer and manufacturer of specialty textiles, fabrics and coatings for a wide range of industries and niche applications. The company has created solutions for some of the most demanding applications including Thermal Protection Systems (TPS) for space vehicles, fuselage burn-resistant aircraft materials, aircraft seat fire-blocking textiles, and custom fabrics for composite applications.

Michelin is already a leader in coated fabrics in Europe with brands such as Orca. These two acquisitions would substantially accelerate its expansion into new markets & regions and would increase Michelin’s Polymer Composite Solutions revenue by c.20% (~280 million USD).

Both transactions are expected to close during H1 2026, subject to customary closing adjustments and merger control clearances in relevant jurisdictions. They would be paid for in cash, for undisclosed amounts at this stage.

As Polymer Composite Solutions are reaching a material size in Michelin’s business, the Group plans to create a dedicated reporting segment from 2026 onwards.

Lummus Invests in InnoVent Renewables to Advance Global Tire Recycling Technology

Lummus Technology, a global provider of process technologies and value-driven energy solutions, announced a strategic investment in InnoVent Renewables to accelerate deployment of its proprietary tire recycling technology. "*Investing in InnoVent reinforces our commitment to advancing sustainable, circular technologies that solve real environmental challenges*," said Leon de Bruyn, President and CEO of Lummus Technology. "Our collaboration has already demonstrated strong technical and commercial synergy, and this investment will accelerate global adoption of a proven recycling solution."It is estimated that over one billion tires end up in landfills every year. To address this, InnoVent's technology offers a scalable, end-to-end solution for converting end of life tires into high-value products such as tire pyrolysis oil, recovered carbon black, pyrolysis gas and steel, from pre-processing through purification.

"InnoVent is thrilled to expand our strategic partnership with Lummus," said Vibhu Sharma, CEO of InnoVent Renewables. "*Lummus' global reach and technology leadership will help us scale rapidly and bring our solution to markets that urgently need sustainable, high value alternatives to traditional tire disposal*."

In 2025, Lummus and InnoVent first established their partnership with Lummus serving as the exclusive global licensor of InnoVent's tire pyrolysis technology. Lummus also leverages its extensive licensing network, advanced process technologies and engineering expertise to globally scale the technology. InnoVent currently operates a commercial facility in Monterrey, Mexico capable of processing up to one million passenger tires annually. Lummus' investment will help increase production capacity at the facility and enhance the technology's commercial viability.

Triangle Tyre to Invest US$460 Million in New Tyre Manufacturing Plant in Cambodia

Triangle Tyre is investing about US$460 million to build its first overseas tyre manufacturing plant in Svay Rieng province, Cambodia. The facility will have an annual capacity of 6 million semi-steel radial tyres for passenger vehicles and 1 million all-steel radial tyres for commercial and engineering vehicles, mainly for export to North America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Construction is set to begin in March and will take around 17 months. The project leverages Cambodia's natural rubber supply, lower land and labour costs, and tariff advantages, with expected annual revenue of CNY 2.6 billion and a return rate of 15.1%, strengthening Triangle Tyre's global production footprint and supply resilience.

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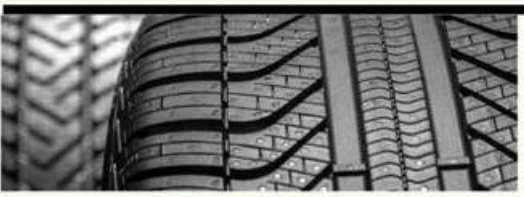

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Prof. Ulrich Giese, Director, Managing Director, German Institute of Rubber Technology

- Silanization Technology in Rubber: Chemistry, Mixing Effects, and Property Development

Dr. Fabian Peters, Technical Sales Manager, Schill+Seilacher "Struktol" GmbH

- From Evolution to Revolution – functional additive chemistry adapted to extreme processing challenges

Dr. MN Aji, Senior Manager Process Technology, HF Group

- Silica Addition Sequence Errors That Destroy Dispersion
- Rotor Design, Fill Factor & Ram Pressure: Hidden Limits in Silica Mixing
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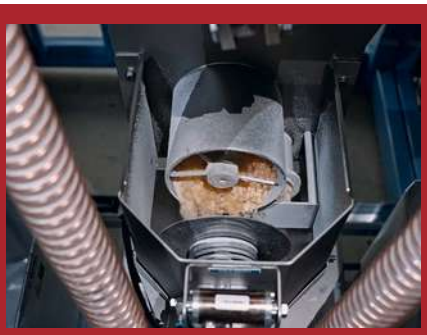

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24th

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RubberTech China 2026
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The 24th International Exhibition on Rubber Technology

Rubber Machinery	Rubber Chemicals	Rubber and Framework Material	Tire and Non-tire Rubber Products	Rubber Recycling & Tire Retreading

More Information

Sept.15-17, 2026
Shanghai New International Expo Centre
Hall W5 | N1-N5

73000m²	1000+	50000+	120+
Exhibition Space	Exhibitors	Visiting Arrivals	Presentations

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27-29 OCT 2026

BOGOR, INDONESIA

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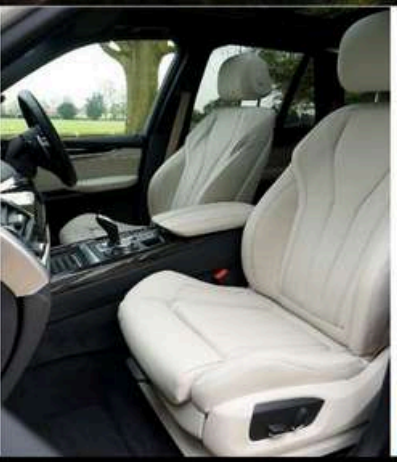
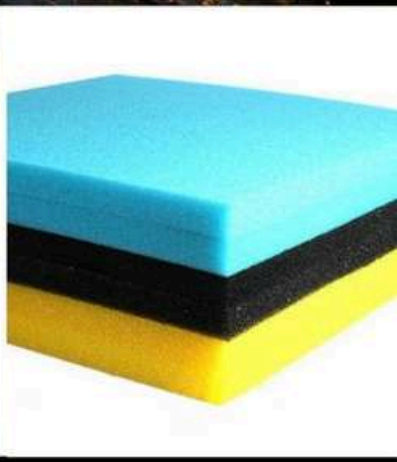
ASIA POLYURETHANE & ADHESIVE EXPO

30-31 MARCH 2026, KUALA LUMPUR

Putra World Trade Centre

A TechnoBiz Trade Exhibition for Polyurethane & Adhesive Companies in Asia





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PU WEEK

A TechnoBiz Executive Forum on Polyurethane Technology and Industry

30 Mar-2 Apr 2026
Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

https://expo.technobiz.org

ASIA POLYURETHANE & ADHESIVE EXPO

30-31 March 2026
Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

Putra World Trade Centre
10am-6pm

APBA CONFERENCE

30-31 March 2026
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
World Trade Centre, 10am-6pm

Sustainable PU Industry FORUM

1 April 2026
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Seri Pacfic Hotel | 9am-5pm

Polyurethane Executive Dinner

30 March 2026
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Seri Pacific Hotel, 7pm-10pm

POLYURETHANE TRAINING

1-2 April 2026
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Seri Pacfic Hotel | 9am-5pm

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A TechnoBiz Executive Forum on Tyre Science, Technology & Industry

TechnoBiz Tyre Tech WEEK

10-12 FEB 2026

CHENNAI, INDIA | GREEN PARK HOTEL

Edition - 2 | Hybrid Event




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Why You Must Join Tyre Tech Week 2026

(Please Scan QR Code to learn about highlights & benefits)

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A TechnoBiz Executive Forum on Tyre Science, Technology & Industry

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Key Components of Tyre Tech Week 2026

- Technical Presentations on materials, design, EV tyres, manufacturing, and sustainability.
- Leadership Sessions offering strategic insights and industry perspectives.
- Educational Sessions or both technical and non-technical participants.
- Panel Discussions/ Round Table on EV tyres, sustainability, and Indian regulations.
- Tyre Manufacturing Clinic for practical troubleshooting and Q&A.
- Smart Tyre Manufacturing Theatre (Technology Videos Screeing)
- Research Poster Fair showcasing new tyre science and innovations.
- Table-Top Expo featuring advanced materials, machinery, and testing systems.
- Networking Opportunities with industry leaders and solution providers.

Why You Should Attend Tyre Tech Week 2026

- Stay updated on the latest tyre technologies, EV trends, and sustainability innovations.
- Learn from global experts sharing high-impact technical and leadership insights.
- Gain knowledge across the full tyre value chain—from materials to manufacturing to recycling.
- Join interactive sessions like panel discussions, the Tyre Clinic, and the Research Poster Fair.
- Network with industry leaders, researchers, suppliers, and decision-makers.

TechnoBiz RoundTable | Panel Discussions:

The panel discussions at Tyre Tech Week 2026 will bring together experts from across the tyre value chain to address key priorities for the Indian tyre industry, focusing on:

- EV Tyres for India: Design, Materials & Performance Challenges
- Sustainable Materials, Circularity & Tyre Recycling: Roadmap for India
- Evolving Indian Tyre Regulations: BIS Standards, Rolling Resistance, Wet Grip & Labelling

These focused sessions foster practical insights, policy dialogue, and collaboration to support the industry's technological advancement, sustainability goals, and global competitiveness.

TechnoBiz Clinic - Tyre Manufacturing

As part of Tyre Tech Week 2026, TechnoBiz will host a special Clinic Session on Tyre Manufacturing, offering an open platform for interactive discussion and problem-solving. Participants can ask questions related to any aspect of tyre manufacturing—from materials and processes to quality control and technology. Expert speakers and industry professionals will engage in practical, experience-based discussions to share insights and workable solutions.

To guide the conversation, the Clinic will focus on three key areas of tyre manufacturing:

1. **Tyre Compounding & Materials** – Mixing practices, raw material selection, dispersion challenges, batch consistency, and rheological behavior.
2. **Component Preparation & Tyre Building** – Extrusion, calendering, bead and ply preparation, splicing, and green tyre building challenges.
3. **Curing, Quality Control & Troubleshooting** – Vulcanization issues, mold performance, defect analysis, uniformity testing, and field-return investigations.

TechnoBiz

Tyre Tech WEEK

Edition - 2 | Hybrid Event

10-12 FEB 2026

CHENNAI, INDIA

GREEN PARK HOTEL

PROGRAM AGENDA

10 FEB 2026, TUESDAY (DAY 1)

	Room: Vijaya (1st Floor)	Room: Vauhini (1st Floor)
08:30-09:30	Delegate/ Speaker Registration	
09:30-09:40	Opening Remarks & Program Introduction	
09:40-10:30	***Keynote Speech***: ***Digital Transformation and Data Advancement in Tyre Industry*** Amarnath SKP, Vice President (R&D), Apollo Tyres Ltd, India	
10:30-11:00	***Advanced Extrusion Head Design for Multi-Compound Tyre Treads*** *Dr. Gerard Nijman, KraussMaffei Extrusion GmbH, Germany*	
11:00-11:30	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK (Networking)**	
11:30-12:00	**Covering agents for Silica Reinforcement of NR/SBR |** *Prof. B. Kothandaraman, Emeritus Professor, Department of Rubber & Plastics Technology, Madras Institute of Technology, Anna University, India*	**Responsible Tyre and Rubber Industry: Driving Standards for a Sustainable Future** | *Dr. K. Rajkumar, Expert Member, ISO TC 45 Committee; Former Director, IRMRI*
12:00-12:30	**High-speed, Large-FOV 3D Surface Scanner for Tyre–Road Interaction and Bitumen Mapping** | *Francesco Laus, Director, Laus Engineering Ltd., UK*	***Recent Advances in Rubber Devulcanization: Technologies, Challenges, and Future Outlook.*** | *Dr. Vaishak Nambiathodi, Mahatma Gandhi University, India*
12:30-13:00	**Advanced Rubber Nanocomposites for High-Performance and Sustainable Tyre Applications** | Prof. Honey John, Cochin University of Science and Technology,India	**Material Innovations & Testing Regulations Shaping Next-Generation Tyres** | *Dr. Bharat Kapgate, Deputy Director, Indian Rubber Materials Research Institute (IRMRI)*
13:00-14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**	
14:00-14:30	**Advancements in Silica Technology and Optimized Dispersion for Rubber Compounds** | *Sujoy Bhattacharyya, Assistant General Manager (Technical Sales), TATA Chemicals Ltd., India*	**Recent Advances in Organic Fiber Tyre Reinforcements** | *KS Loganathan, Rubber & Tyre Industry Consultant*
14:30-15:00	**Performance and Sustainability in the Modern Tyre Sector** |*Dr. Fabio Bacchelli, Head- Global Technical Support, Versalis SpA, Italy*	**Innovations in Carbon Black and Nano-Carbons for Tyre Performance Enhancement** | *Dr. Amit Chakrabarti, General Manager (R&D), PCBL Chemical Ltd, India*
15:00-15:30	**Pragmatic Role Of FES For Improving Tyre Performance** | *Prof. Abhijit Bandyopadhyay, Department of Polymer Science & Technology, University of Calcutta, India*	**AI as critical enabler of added value across the tire lifecycle** | *Arthur Mayer, Zephyr Research Partners LLC, USA*
15:30-16:00	**Building a Sustainable Tyre Industry: Learnings from FLEXIBILITY - the Innate Trait of a Tyre. Lessons from 50 Years in the Rubber Industry** | *V Srinivasan, Partner, 6T Services*	**Balancing Performance and Environmental Impact - Holistic Validation of 6PPD Replacements for Tyres** | *Josh Guilliams,, Vice President (Consulting), Smithers USA*
16:00-16:30	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK (Networking)**	
16:30-17:00	**Beyond Carbon Black and Silica: The Reinforcing Potential of Lignin for Future Tyre Compounds** | Dr. Amit Das, Scientist, (IPF) Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden, Germany	**Bangladesh Tyre Industry: Market Trends, Investments, and Future Outlook** | *Md. Miraj Rahman , Director, Rupsha Tyres & Chemicals Ltd, Bangladesh*
17:00-17:30	**Graphene in Tyre Engineering: Real-World Lessons from Innerliners, Bladders, and Tread Compounds** | *Dr. Brendan Rodgers, ELL Technologies, USA*	**DMA, Life-Prediction, and Time-Temperature Superposition for Tyre Performance Predictor Analysis** |*Toby Samples, President & CTO, Akron Rubber Development Laboratory (ARDL), USA*
17:30-18:15	**Panel Discussion** **EV Tyres for India: Design, Materials & Performance Challenges** **Tyre Manufacturing Clinic:** **Tyre Compounding & Materials** – Mixing practices, raw material selection, dispersion challenges, batch consistency, and rheological behavior	

Delegate Registration FORM : https://events.technobiz.org

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Tyre Tech WEEK

Edition - 2 | Hybrid Event

10-12 FEB 2026

CHENNAI, INDIA

GREEN PARK HOTEL

11 FEB 2026, WEDNESDAY (DAY 2)

	Room: Vijaya (1st Floor)	Room: Vauhini (1st Floor)
09:00-09:30	**Engineering EV Tyres for Load, Noise, and Energy Efficiency: Design Innovations and Challenges** | *Dr. Brendan Rodgers, ELL Technologies, USA*	**Young Researcher's Session** ***Effect of Partial Silica Substitution with Carbon-Based Fillers on the Durability and Fatigue Performance of SBR Compounds.*** | *Julita Sadurska, Lodz University of Technology, Poland* **Exploring Agro-Waste in Tyre Tread: Waste-to-Wealth Approach** | *Dibyendu Dey, Research Scholar, Rubber Technology Centre, IIT Kharagpur, India* **Functionalized Emulsion-SBR for Better Silica Dispersion and Tyre Performance** |Atif Ansari, Research Scholar, Rubber Technology Centre, IIT Kharagpur, India **Role of Life Cycle Assessment in Tyre industry** | Yogesh Jadhav, Research Scholar, BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus, India
09:30-10:00	**Latest Trends in Mixer Design & Process Control for Improving Silica Mixing** | *Ajesh KP, Manager Mixing Process Development, Kobelco Industrial Machinery India Pvt., Ltd.*	
10:00-10:30	**Precision Dosing: Driving Quality & Sustainability in Tyre Manufacturing** | *Luca Mariuzzo, Sales Director, Lawer S.p.A., Italy*	**Low Rolling Resistance & EV-Optimized Tyres** | *Madan Saini, CEO, NIROM Inc., India*
10:30-11:00	**Electrical Curing: The Next Frontier in Sustainable Tyre Manufacturing** | *Anil Nair, Director of Business Development, HF GROUP , Germany*	**Process Additives – overcoming the stick to slip challenges "Managing polymer interface interaction** | *Colin Clarke, Director Technical Sales, Schill+Seilacher "Struktol" GmbH, Germany*
11:00-11:30	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK (Networking)**	
11:30-12:00	**Compound Formulation Design for Silica-Reinforced Rubber** | *Dr. Kannika Sahakaro, Associate Professor, Prince of Songkla University, Pattani Campus, Thailand*	**Natural Fillers in Modern Tyre Technology: Bridging Green Materials and Industrial Performance** | *Dr. Sreekala M. S, Director, School of Polymer Science and Technology, Mahatma Gandhi University, India*
12:00-12:30	**New Technology for Efficiency and Material Saving in Tyre Production (TRP / Two-Roll Plasticizer)** | *Manuel Bessler General Manager, Uth GmbH, Germany*	**Rubber Reinforcement with Bio-Fillers for "Green Tire" Application : Chemistry & Practice** | *Prof. Nadras Othman, Universiti Sains Malaysia*
12:30-13:00	**Peptiser Selection & Mixing Strategies for High-Performance Natural Rubber Compounds** | *Colin Clarke, Director Technical Sales, Schill+Seilacher "Struktol" GmbH,Germany*	**Process Stability and Variation Control in Tyre Component Extrusion** |*Dr. Gerard Nijman, KraussMaffei Extrusion GmbH, Germany*
13:00-13:20	***Re-Engineering of Tyre Reinforcement for Low Environmental Impact and Reduced Carbon Footprint: An Approach via Nanocellulose-Enabled Sustainable Tread Compounds*** | *Tapas Ranjan Mohanty, Lead Scientist-RM, Apollo Tyres Global R&D Centre, Asia*	***Latex–Graphene Nano-Composites for Advancing Tyre Technology*** | *Dr. Anumon V. Divakaran, Assistant Professor, School of Polymer Science and Technology (SPST), Mahatma Gandhi University, India*
13:00-14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**	
14:00-14:30	**University of Twente, Netherlands - Session** **How to Reach a Fully Sustainable Compound?** ○ Bio-oils and Resins (*Dr. Pilar Bernal Ortega*) ○ Re-think Sulfur Curing (*Dr. Fabian Grunert*) ○ Alternative Coupling (*Prof. Dr. Anke Blume*) ○ Recycling of Rubber (*Dr. Javier Araujo Morera*) **How to Predict In-Rubber Properties in the Best Way?** ○ Prediction of Wear Behavior (*Prof. Dr. Anke Blume*) ○ Use of Machine Learning (*Dr. Dengpeng Huang*)	**Ultra–Low Rolling Resistance Tread Formulation for PCR Tyres: Materials and Design Strategies** | *Yu Xueyong, Material & Compound Consultant, Jining Junhong Rubber Technology Co., Ltd., China*
14:30-15:00		**Thermal Management of Tyres to Improve Heat Resistance and Prevent Premature Wear** | *C. Jayachandran, Business Development Manager - Asia, Akron Rubber Development Laboratory, Inc (ARDL)*
15:00-15:30		**Effect of Thermal and Thermo-Oxidative Aging on Tyre Rubber Compounds** | *Aruna Aravindakshan, Associate Manager - Compound Development, Apollo Tyres Global R&D Centre Asia*
15:30-16:00		**Integrating 100% Bio-Based Process Oils into Tire Compound Formulations: A Sustainable Approach** | *Muge METINOZ, R&D Director, Skyhem Chemicals, Turkey*
16:00-16:30	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK (Networking)**	
16:30-17:00	**Effect of Vegetable Oil in Natural Rubber Compounds** |*Vivek KT, Senior Product Manager, Raj Petro Specialities Pvt. Ltd., India*	**Silica-Reinforced Natural Rubber for Energy-Saving Tyres: From Mixing Optimization to Rolling Resistance Reduction** | *Dr. Wisut Kaewsakul, Walailak University, Thailand*
17:00-17:30	**Panel Discussion:** • Sustainable Materials, Circularity & Tyre Recycling: Roadmap for India • Evolving Indian Tyre Regulations: BIS Standards, Rolling Resistance, Wet Grip & Labelling	
17:30-18:00	**Tyre Manufacturing Clinic: Component Preparation & Tyre Building** – Extrusion, calendering, bead and ply preparation, splicing, and green tyre building challenges.	

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Tyre Tech WEEK

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10-12 FEB 2026

CHENNAI, INDIA

GREEN PARK HOTEL

12 FEB 2026, THURSDAY (DAY 3)

	Room: Vijaya (1st Floor)	Room: Vauhini (1st Floor)
09:00-09:30	**Cost-Effective Tyre Compounding Using Modified Kaolin Technology** | *Yu Xueyong, Material & Compound Consultant, Jining Junhong Rubber Technology Co., Ltd., China*	**Epoxidized Palm Oil as a Performance Modifier in Green Tyre Tread Compounds for Improved Wear, Skid, and Rolling Resistance** | *Dr. Nur Raihan Mohamed, Universiti Teknologi MARA (Perlis Branch), Malaysia*
09:30-10:00	**Modified Stearin Fraction from Crude Palm Oil as Bioprocessing Oil in Tyre Tread Compound** | *Dr. Mohamad Irfan Fathurrohman, PT. Riset Perkebunan Nusantara, Indonesia*	**Reverse Engineering of Tyre Compounding Formulations Using Advanced Analytical and Field Evaluation Techniques** | *Sabarinadha Prasad, Managing Director, Revotech Treads Pvt., Ltd., India*
10:00-10:30	**Latest Developments in Green TMQ and 6PPD Replacement for Rubber & Tyre Industries** | *Dr. Mahaveer Singh Chouhan, R&D Manager (RheinChemie), LANXESS India Pvt. Ltd.*	**Optimizing Rubber Curing with Active ZnO Technologies** | *Joe Jose Thoppil, Technical Consultant, Florate Polychem, India*
10:30-11:00	**Cured Tyre Defects: Causes, Diagnosis, and Control Strategies** | *N Srikrishnan, Tyre Industry Consultant*	***Upgrading Reclaimed Carbon from Tyre Pyrolysis for Tyre Rubber Applications*** | *Tanumoy Das, Manager Technical Services, CABOT India Pvt., Ltd.*
11:00-11:30	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK (Networking)**	
11:30-12:00	**How data mining can help you solving tyre component extrusion issues** | *Dr. Gerard Nijman,KraussMaffei Extrusion GmbH, Germany*	**Functional Additive Approach to Achieve Ultra High Tyre Performances** | *Jionghao HE, R&D Director, Otsuka Material Science and Technology (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., China*
12:00-12:30	**Advanced Release Agents & Coating Technologies for Modern Tyre Manufacturing** | *Ranjit Nandurkar, Director – Technical, AM Lubricants & Chemicals Pvt., Ltd., India*	**Better Sorting, Better Recycling: How Automation, Traceability & Data Are Shaping the Future of Tyre Recycling** | *Arthur Wagner, CEO, REGOM, France*
12:30-13:00	**Development of Silica–Ceramic Reinforced Liquid Silicone Rubber Composites for Advanced Tyre Applications** | *Prof. Pulla Sammaiah, SR University, India*	**New Formulation Approaches for Improved Processing and Performance in Passenger Car Tire Tread Compounds** |*Dr. Dharmesh Chotalia, Business Director (High Performance Polymers), EVONIK India*
13:00-13:20	***AI based Predictive Maintenance in Tyre Manufacturing*** | ***agendra Prasad Kumble,*** *Founder & CEO, Radome Technologies & Services Pvt. Ltd., India*	**Rethinking Tire Wear Particle Collection: Why Simplified Laboratory Studies Are Essential for Emission Reduction** | Dr. Radek Stocek, Tomas Bata University, Czech
13:20-14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**	
14:00-14:30	**The Science of Tyre Wear: Chemical and Physical Mechanisms Driving Tread Degradation** | *Nick Molden, Founder & CEO, EMISSIONS ANALYTICS, UK*	**New Developments in Silica Reinforcement of Natural Rubber** | *Dr. Benny George, Scientist (Rtd.) Rubber Research Institute of India*
14:30-15:00	***Calendar Optimization in Tyre Manufacturing*** | *Thomas Fisher, Owner & Founder, Facts Inc. USA*	**Stabilizing Silica-Filled Natural Rubber: Suppression of Mixing-Induced Degradation** | *Dr. Ammarin Kraibut, Prince of Songkla University, Pattani, Thailand*
15:00-15:30	**Rubber for future Mars Tyre** | *Dr. Rafal Anyszka, Assistant Professor, Lodz University of Technology, Poland*	**Euro 7 and Tyre Wear: New Indoor Testing Requirements for C1–C3** | *Michael Müller, Senior Sales and Key Account Manager, ZF Test Systems, Germany*
15:30-16:00	**Tyre Testing & Compliance Regulations: India and International Requirements Driving Technology Upgradation** | *Sudershan Singh Gusain, General Manager (Technical Training and S&R), Bridgestone India Private Ltd*	**Driving Sustainability in Synthetic Rubber: Pathways to a Greener Tyre Industry** | *Marjolein Groeneweg, Global Marketing & Sustainability Director, Synthos Group*
16:00-16:30	**COFFEE/TEA BREAK (Networking)**	
16:30-17:00	**Tyre Manufacturing Clinic: Curing, Quality Control & Troubleshooting** – Vulcanization issues, mold performance, defect analysis, uniformity testing, and field-return investigations.	
17:00-17:30	**CLOSING SESSION**	

Remark: TechnoBiz reserves the right to adjust the program without prior notification. Some speakers will be making presentation online. This is a Hybrid Event.

A TechnoBiz Executive Forum on Tyre Science, Technology & Industry

TechnoBiz Tyre Tech WEEK

Edition - 2 | Hybrid Event

10-12 FEB 2026

CHENNAI, INDIA

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SPECIAL SESSIONS


University of Twente, Netherlands Session on "Science of Sustainable Tyre Compounding: Design, Curing & Predictability"

Session Agenda

Introduction ETE, University of Twente (*Prof. Dr. Anke Blume*)

How to Reach a Fully Sustainable Compound?

- Bio-oils and Resins (*Dr. Pilar Bernal Ortega*)
- Re-think Sulfur Curing (*Dr. Fabian Grunert*)
- Alternative Coupling (*Prof. Dr. Anke Blume*)
- Recycling of Rubber (*Dr. Javier Araujo Morera*)

How to Predict In-Rubber Properties in the Best Way?

- Prediction of Wear Behavior (*Prof. Dr. Anke Blume*)
- Use of Machine Learning (*Dr. Dengpeng Huang*)

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ETE

Smart Tyre Manufacturing Theatre

At Tyre Tech Week 2026 in Chennai, TechnoBiz is organizing a special session titled "*Smart Tyre Manufacturing Theatre*", showcasing video demonstrations of advanced tyre manufacturing technologies. We invite interested technology suppliers and solution providers to submit short videos (maximum 5 minutes) highlighting innovations in mixing, tyre building, curing, automation, digitalization, and quality control. This is an excellent opportunity to present your solutions to global tyre professionals. For participation details, please contact Peram Prasada Rao. Participation fee is 200 US$/Video

Training Program

Advanced Rubber Extrusion: Design, Rheology & Troubleshooting

13 Feb 2026, Chennai, India

Instructor : Dr. Gerard Nijman

- *Module 1* – Principles of Rubber Extrusion
- *Module 2* – Rubber Rheology and Process Engineering
- *Module 3* – Process Layout of a Rubber Extruder
- *Module 4* – Die Design and Flow Optimization
- *Module 5* – Process Control and Line Setup
- *Module 6* – Extrusion line layout; Cooling or Vulcanization, Booking and Finishing Operations
- *Module 7* – Common Extrusion Defects and Root Cause Analysis
- *Module 8* – Practical Case Studies & Troubleshooting Workshop

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Contact us

Email: peram.technobiz@gmail.com
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TechnoBiz Tyre Tech WEEK

Edition - 2 | Hybrid Event
10-12 FEB 2026 | CHENNAI, INDIA
GREEN PARK HOTEL

DELEGATE / SPONSORSHIP PARTICPATION

Delegate Registration Fee / Person

Tyre Tech Week 2026 (10-12 Feb 2026)
In-Person Participation
- Indian Delegates: Rs. 30,000
- Overseas Delegates: US$ 700

Online Participation
- Indian Delegates: Rs. 50,000
- Overseas Delegates: US$ 1200

Training - Rubber Extrusion (13 Feb 2026)
In-Person Participation
- Indian Delegates: Rs. 15,000
- Overseas Delegates: US$ 400

Online Participation
- Indian Delegates: Rs. 30,000
- Overseas Delegates: US$ 800

Delegate Registration Form

Remarks: GST 18% applies on above fees . Discount is Available for Group and Early-Bird Registrations from the same organization . Delegate Registration Fee subjected to increase one week before schedule. 10% discount for speaker recommended delegates.

Event Venue

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Vadapalani, Chennai
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hotelgreenpark.com/chennai

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- Recognition as a Supporter in all signage / promotional materials
- Display of Company Brochures at Display Zone
- 2 Delegate Passes - Complimentary
- Social Media Promotion of Company Advert & Videos
- 20% OFF on the Registration Fee for Additional Delegates

Remarks: GST 18% applies on above fees

Sponsor Registration Form

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GST: 37ALDPC9514F1ZB

Contact Person : Peram Prasada Rao, Project Manager
Tyre Tech Week 2026 | 10-12 Feb 2026, Chennai
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AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

Rubber Industry - Technology & Management
Time Length: 3 Months to 12 Months

Rubber Compound - Technology & Management
Time Length: 2 Months to 12 Months

Who can Apply?
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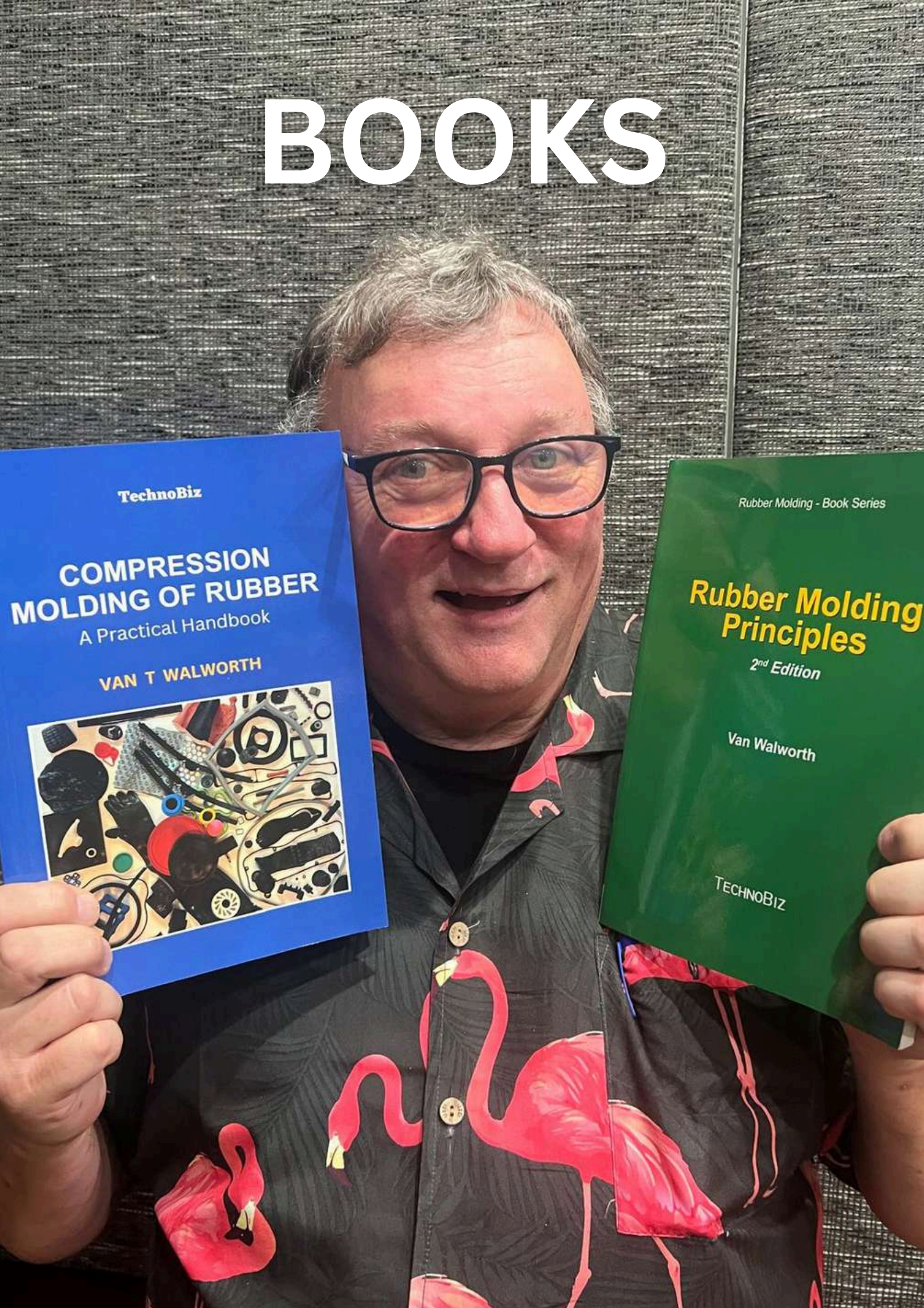
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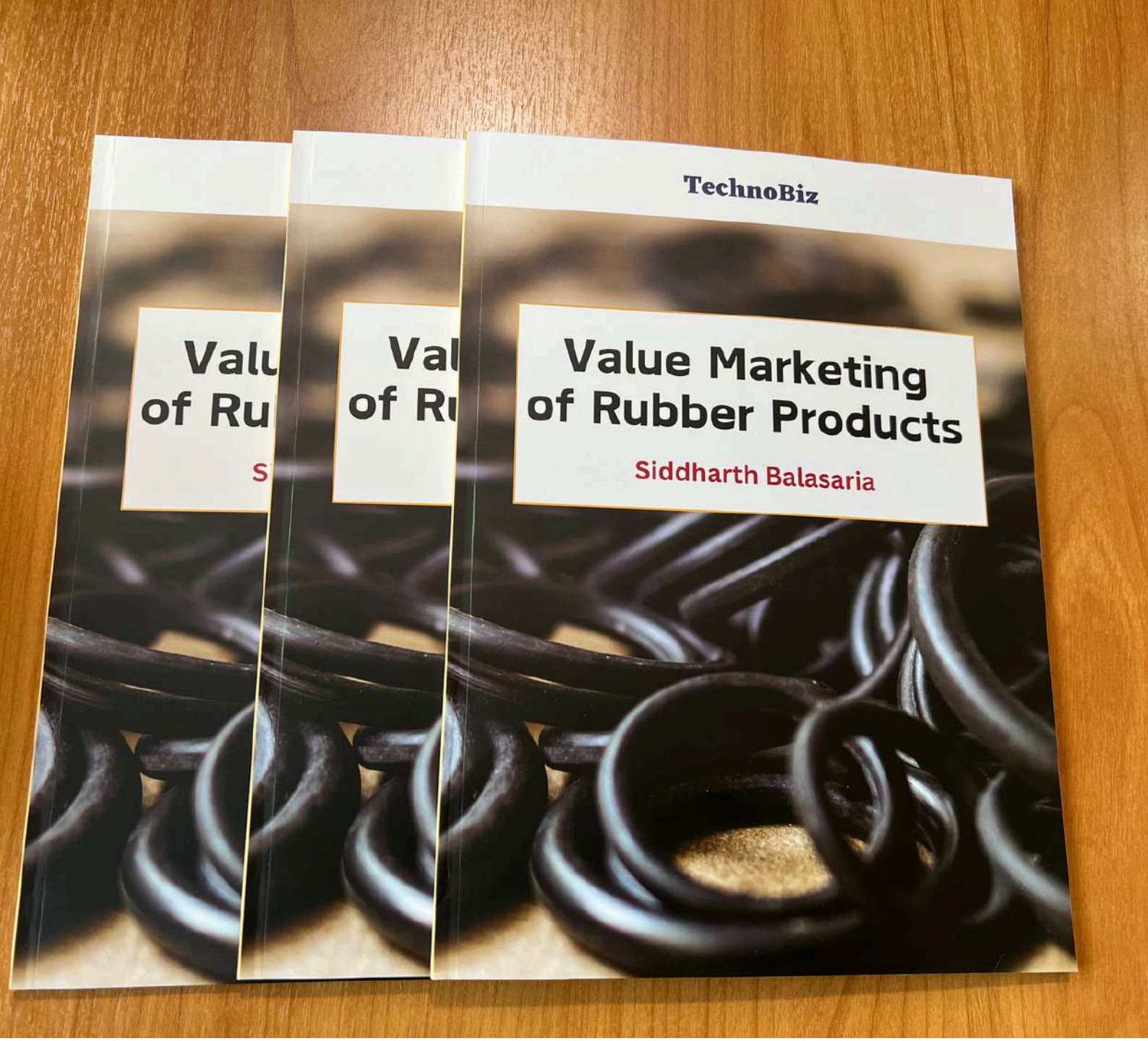

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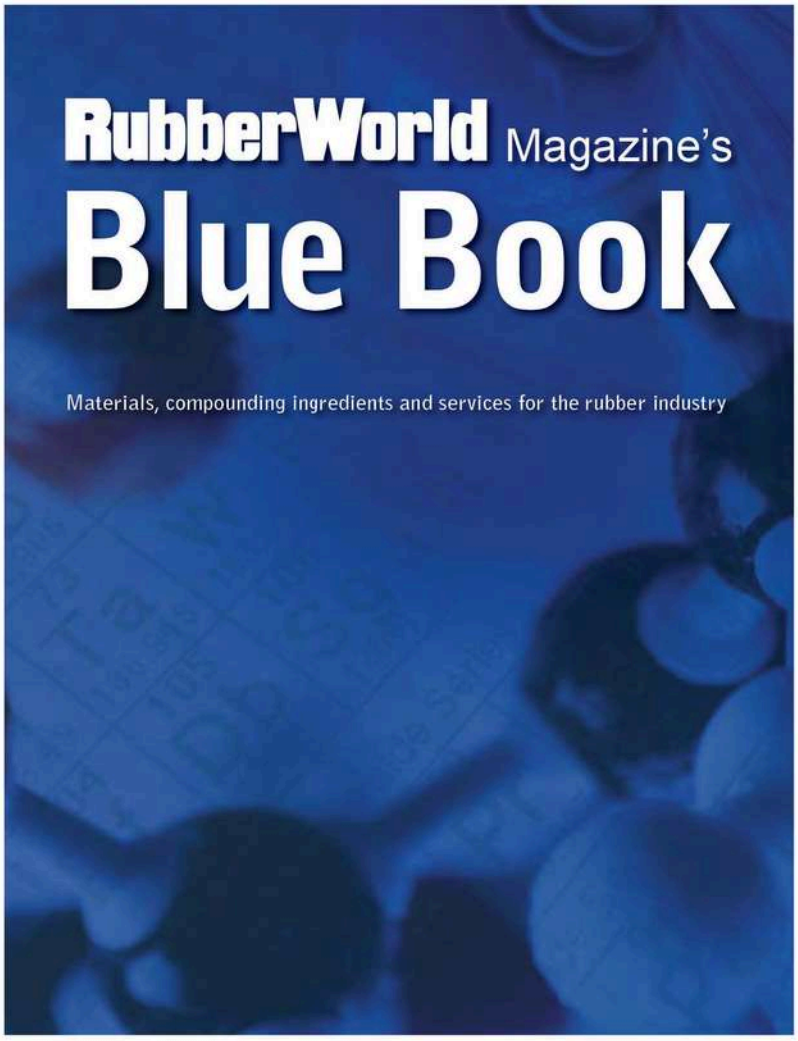

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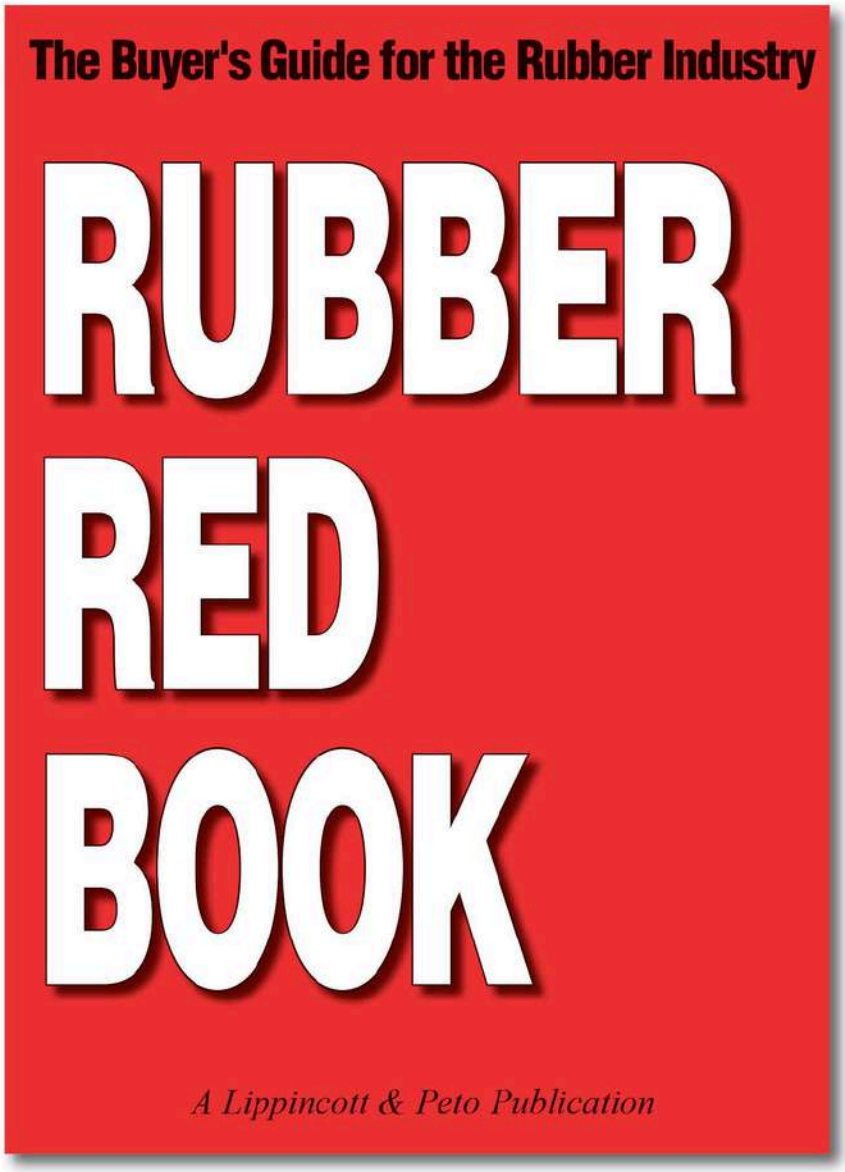

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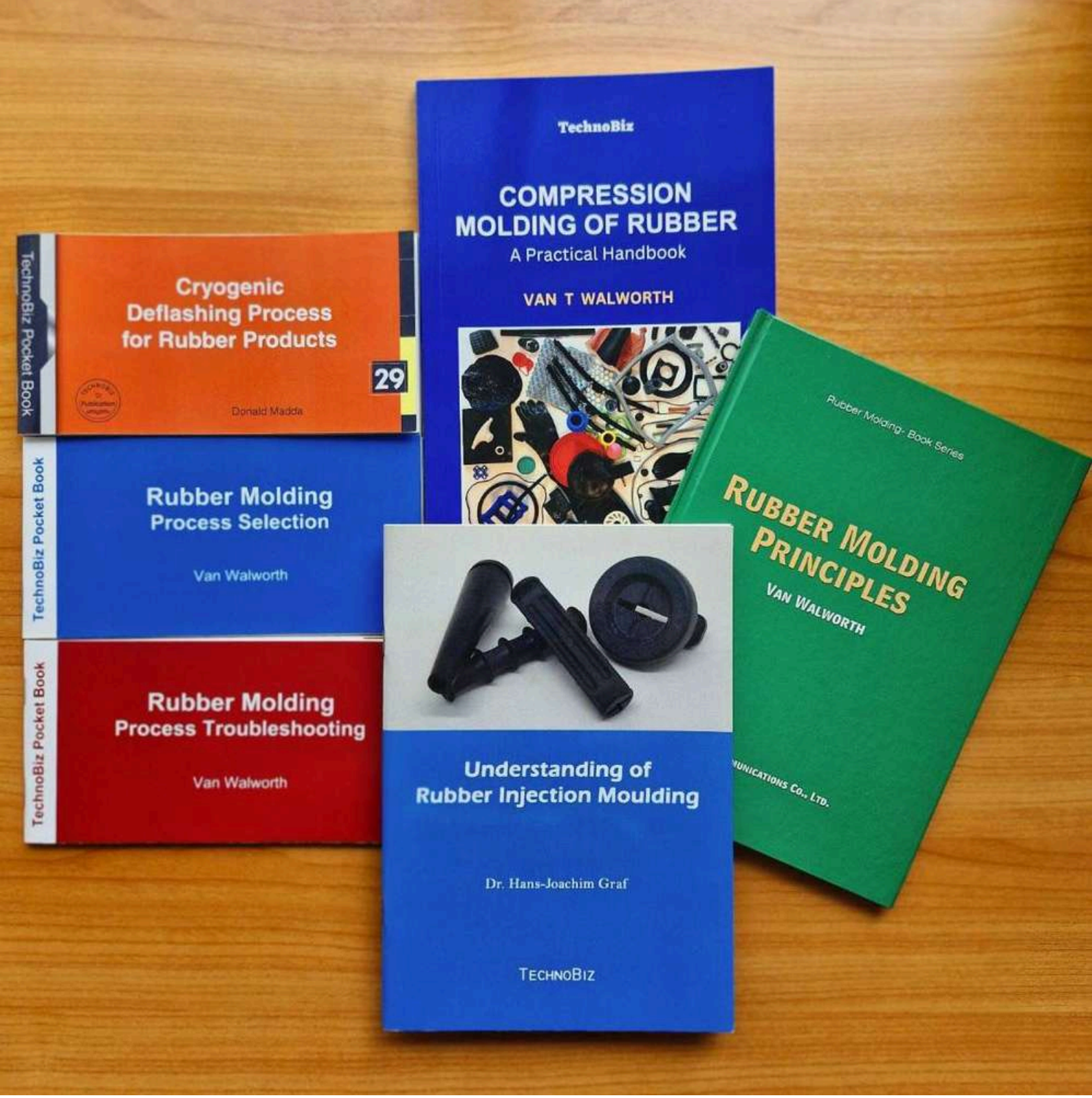

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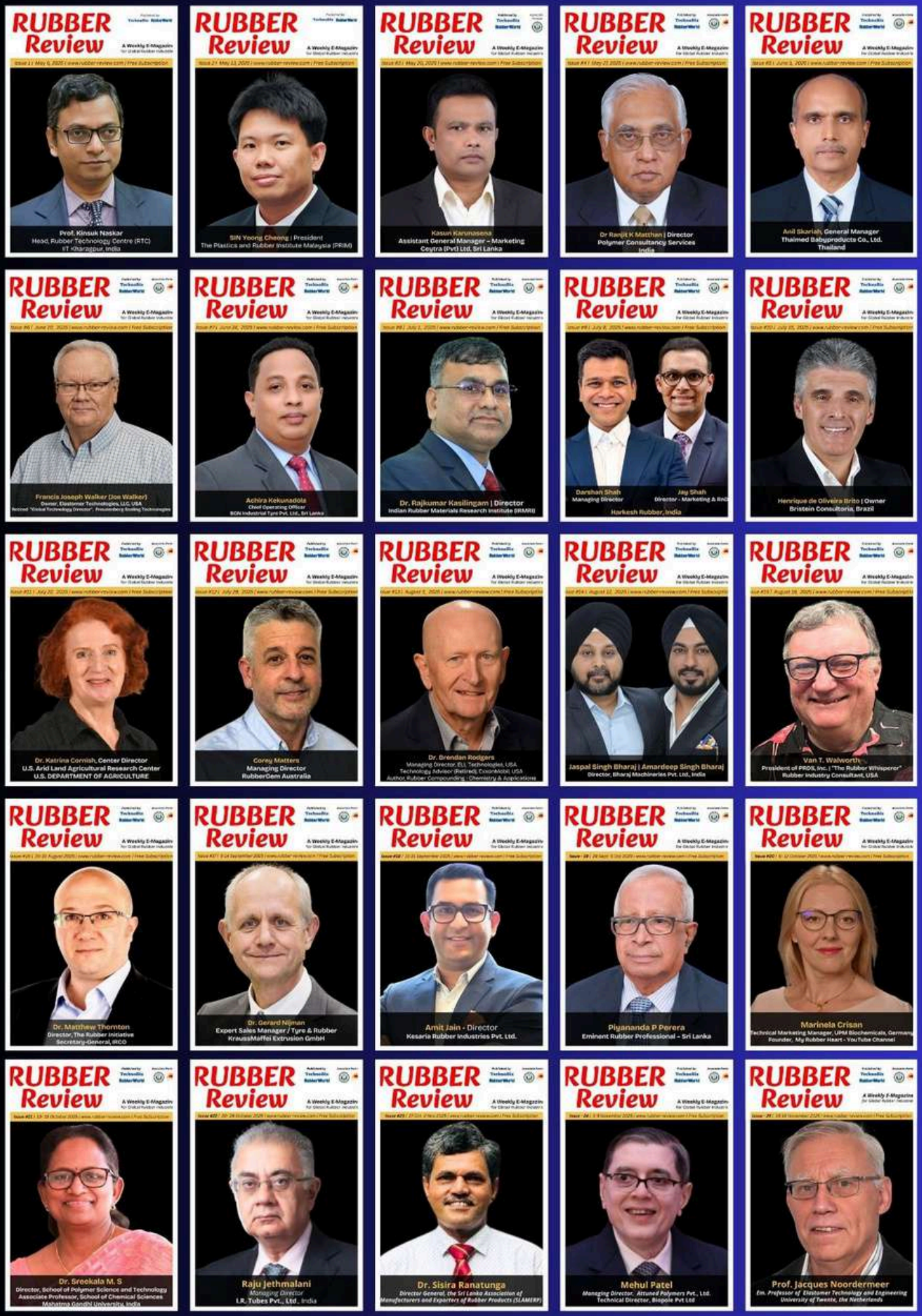

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