

September 2008

Media Release

Clock up the Ks with Goodyear's new KMax tyres

Get more kilometres with Goodyear's new Regional RHS II steer tyre that includes its latest truck tyre technology, KMax.

Designed for the broad range of trucks used in regional haul service, the KMax technology combines a new compound, construction materials and tread pattern that allows excellent mileage without compromising other characteristics.

Ken Brackley from bulk fuel transporter, Mortimer Petroleum, is impressed with the condition of the KMax RHS II steer tyres after exclusively using a competitor product.

"For around seven months, we've been running the KMax RHS II 295/80R22.5 steer tyres on a few semi-trailers travelling long haul between the ports and the area around Mildura," Mr Brackley said.

"We've also take the trucks on gravel and stone roads around the Timboon and Simpson area of south west Victoria, which is tough on tyres – we certainly give them a hard time.

"We are extremely happy with how the tyres have worn, especially in the tough conditions," he said.

Regional haul is very demanding on tyres with frequent stop-start traffic conditions, high lateral forces on twisty roads, a variety of road surfaces in regional areas and increasingly high powered engines.

The newly developed tread compound of the tyre which contains silica at higher loadings than previous medium radial truck silica compounds, improves wet braking performance while lowering rolling resistance. The RHS II tread is also up to 10mm wider than previous models resulting in improved wet braking, grip and handling with pressure distribution more evenly spread across the entire footprint pattern.

As Goodyear Commercial Product Manager David Hamilton explains, testing reveals significant improvement on the RHS II's predecessor.

"Developed at our Technical Centre in Luxembourg, this tyre went through a rigorous and extensive development process before testing in Australia," Mr Hamilton said.

Goodyear's customer engineering team tested the tyre against its predecessor, the RHS G359. In one test the team used identical trucks, completing refrigerated deliveries, from shopping centre to shopping centre in metropolitan Melbourne. Once worn, the average mileage result of the KMax RHS II was 37% higher than the previous RHS G359.

"Our in-field assessments over the past year have been extremely positive," explains Hamilton.

"The KMax RHS II provides a fantastic opportunity for many current and potential customers to better the mileage they are receiving from their current steer tyres," he said.

Ends...