



INTERNATIONAL LONG-DISTANCE FLEET TARGETS ENHANCED TYRE SUPPORT

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Panalpina World Transport, one of the world's leading providers of supply chain solutions, has adopted a new tyre policy for its UK-based road fleet, which operates as far afield as mainland Europe, Scandinavia, Russia, Cyprus and Africa.

It sees ATS Euromaster appointed to supply, service and maintain Michelin tyres fitted across the company's 40 trucks and 80 trailers, which are split between depots in Aberdeen and Great Yarmouth. The move is aimed at further increasing vehicle reliability and reducing instances of unexpected tyre-related downtime.

As part of the new agreement Panalpina benefits from 24/7 access to ATS Euromaster's nationwide roadside rapid response fleet – the largest of its type in the country. On the Continent this is backed up by Michelin EuroAssist, adding more than 3,000 tyre breakdown specialists across 25 European countries.

Brian Pirie, Panalpina World Transport's Area Head of Overland Transport Operations Oil & Gas Northwest Europe, who is based in Aberdeen, said: "Reliability runs through the heart of everything we do and our tyre policy needs to reflect this; it's why we've always fitted predominantly Michelin tyres.

"By appointing ATS Euromaster we're looking to combine the benefits of a one-stop-shop supplier offering a fully-managed tyre service, complete with Europe-wide roadside support via a single point of contact. We are also targeting increased brand fitment adherence," he adds.

The agreement will see ATS Euromaster technicians proactively working to ensure all Michelin tyres in the fleet follow the complete 'four lives' process; with tyres being regrooved, Remixed and then regrooved again to deliver maximum longevity.

This will be backed up by monthly tyre safety inspections performed by the local ATS Euromaster centre, each designed to maximise safety and reduce the risk of tyre related breakdowns. In addition to regrooving, technicians will be twinning and turning tyres on the rim, plus monitoring tread wear patterns to look for signs of faulty wheel alignment or incorrectly inflated tyres.

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About ATS Euromaster

ATS Euromaster is part of the Euromaster Group, which operates in fifteen European countries with 10,700 employees in more than 1,800 service centres. Established in the UK since 1961, ATS Euromaster has 370 service centres (comprising a mixture of retail, comprehensive and truck sites), approximately 1,000 mobile service vans and employs over 2,700 people, providing national coverage of the UK. It is the largest comprehensive tyre distributor supplying tyres for everything from cars and vans to trucks, coaches, forklifts, agricultural tractors and even construction plant. In 2010 ATS Euromaster became the first national tyre expert to be accredited by both SAFE Contractor and the Contractors Health and Safety Scheme (CHAS). The company's technicians are amongst the most highly trained in the fast-fit industry, offering a comprehensive range of products and services including tyres, fleet inspections, nitrogen inflation, brakes, batteries, shock absorbers, oil, exhausts, fault diagnostics, air-conditioning servicing and MOT testing. Further information is available from www.atseuromaster.co.uk

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About the Panalpina Group

The Panalpina Group is one of the world's leading providers of supply chain solutions, combining intercontinental Air and Ocean Freight with comprehensive Value-Added Logistics Services and Supply Chain Services. Thanks to its in-depth industry know-how and customized IT systems, Panalpina provides globally integrated end-to-end solutions tailored to its customers' supply chain management needs. The Panalpina Group operates a global network with some 500 branches in more than 80 countries. In a further 80 countries, it cooperates closely with partner companies. Panalpina employs approximately 15,000 people worldwide. Further information is available from www.panalpina.com