

**Press release**  
**Boulogne-Billancourt, April 2015**

**Michelin unveils five new sizes  
of its MICHELIN X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> Z and X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> D tyres  
for light truck users**

**Tests conducted by TÜV SÜD certify safety benefits**



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## Five new sizes added to the MICHELIN X® Multi™ tyre range

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### 2 key pieces of information

- 1- The MICHELIN X® Multi™ Z and X® Multi™ D tyre ranges for light trucks up to 16 tonnes are being extended in 2015 with 5 new sizes. In total, 14 separate tyres are now being offered, covering 80% of the size requirements of light truck users.
- 2- At the same time as presenting its extended range, Michelin is publishing the results of a study conducted by an independent organization, TÜV SÜD, which demonstrates that MICHELIN X® Multi™ tyres maintain their performance even when worn.

Presented in 2013 and 2014, the MICHELIN X® Multi™ Z tyres (all position) and the X® Multi™ D (drive axle) ranges for trucks up to 16 tonnes have been extended with 5 new sizes. Michelin's comprehensive range for hauliers now has 14 different sizes (*see the size table below*)

In 2015 **MICHELIN X® MULTI™ Z** tyres will include the following 5 new sizes:

- 225/75 R 17.5
- 235/75 R 17.5
- 245/70 R 17.5
- 245/70 R 19.5
- 265/70 R 19.5

### Safety validated by an independent body: TÜV SÜD

At the same time that the MICHELIN X® Multi™ Z and X® Multi™ D tyre ranges are being significantly expanded, Michelin is unveiling the results of a comparative analysis conducted by an independent body, TÜV SÜD. The tests, conducted in December 2014, show that the MICHELIN X® MULTI™ Z and X® MULTI™ D tyres stand out from their main competitors, when 2/3 worn, with on average a **13 metre shorter stopping distance** on a wet, low-grip surface<sup>1</sup>.

With the introduction of EU tyre labelling in the last quarter of 2012, objective information on three tyre performance criteria is available: energy efficiency, braking distances on wet roads and noise. The assessments are made using new tyres. Although the major premium market players get comparable results for braking on wet surfaces when the tyres are new, the TÜV SÜD study proves that when worn, the tyres do not all perform equally well.

Michelin, which makes the safety of its customers its top priority, has had its capability to maintain the performance of its tyres over time - even in low-grip, wet conditions - confirmed.

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<sup>1</sup> Test conducted and certified by TÜV SÜD in December 2014, with tyre sizes 215/75 R 17.5 on 2/3 worn tyres. Comparison between the CONTINENTAL Hybrid LS3/Hybrid LD3, BRIDGESTONE R227/ M729, GOODYEAR RHS II+/RHD II+, PIRELLI FR85 Amaranto/TR85 Amaranto and MICHELIN X® MULTI™ Z / D ranges.

## Additional advantages with Michelin technology

The MICHELIN X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> range of tyres provides both safety and operating economy for light truck users. The range is marketed as original equipment on new trucks, and as replacement equipment on existing vehicles. The market for new trucks is 50 to 70,000 vehicles per year in Europe, and the fleet of light trucks already operating in Europe is estimated at about one million vehicles. The performance characteristics the MICHELIN X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> delivers are:

- **versatility** on all roads, and in all weathers
- easy to use all year round because the range is certified for winter use, as shown by its **3PMSF<sup>2</sup>** sidewall marking
- **compliance with the strictest environmental standards** to control fuel consumption and reduce noise. The rolling noise of the MICHELIN X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> tyre is 5 dB lower than the average for its competitors; a saving of 3 dB halves the amount of noise emitted
- an optimised **total cost of ownership**

## The MICHELIN X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> range meets a complex set of specifications

The MICHELIN X<sup>®</sup> Multi<sup>TM</sup> range of tyres is intended primarily for users for whom transport is not their core business but an extension of it.

In the great majority of cases, users of trucks up to 16 tonnes are tradespeople with a single vehicle, who are self-employed and deliver on a large variety of roads, including in urban and suburban areas.

These users ask a lot of their tyres, often judging them by the number of months of use and whether the tyres are able to ensure their mobility. They also need the reassurance of the knowledge and expertise provided by a premium brand.

Users of light trucks have to work with stringent demands: they often have to deliver everywhere, on all types of roads, in all weathers, and have to meet punctuality deadlines too. For them, tyres are much more than an accessory fitted to their vehicle: when they are reliable they are an essential partner - one that guarantees mobility.

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<sup>2</sup> 3PMSF: 3 Peaks Mountain Snow Flake

## **Listening to our customers is central to Michelin's innovation strategy**

Innovation is the cornerstone of Michelin's development strategy. It consists of providing its customers with solutions that create value by delivering better performance. Understanding their needs, and identifying and analysing their uses are prerequisites for all research and development. With more than 5,300 people dedicated to marketing, Michelin organises as many encounters and exchanges with its customers as possible.

Michelin also listens to its customers via the main social networks by means of the various studies it conducts every year. In 2014, for example, a user satisfaction survey produced 7,200 testimonials from 12 European countries.

With this knowledge from the real world, research teams are able to mobilize their knowledge and expertise and bring together the most relevant tyre performance requirements on the basis of use. Michelin's Research and Development activity has an annual budget of more than €640 million and employs the combined efforts of 6,600 people worldwide.

The MICHELIN X® Multi™ Z ranges (all position) and MICHELIN X® Multi™ D (drive axle) are both available in 7 sizes each, giving a total of 14 dimensions in all:

- 215/75 R 17.5
- 225/75 R 17.5
- 235/75 R 17.5
- 245/70 R 17.5
- 245/70 R 19.5
- 265/70 R 19.5
- 285/70 R 19.5

## **Michelin on all networks... both road and the internet:**

<http://trucks.michelin.eu/>



[www.youtube.com/michelintrucktyres](http://www.youtube.com/michelintrucktyres)