

## **Cooper Tire Europe moving forward with proposal to cease light vehicle tyre production in Melksham**

**MELKSHAM, UK, 18 JANUARY 2019** – Following collective consultation with Unite, its recognised trade union, as well as other employee representatives, Cooper Tire & Rubber Company Europe Ltd. (CTE) today announced it will move forward with its previously announced proposal to end light vehicle tyre production in Melksham. It is expected that production will be phased out over a period of approximately 10 months. Cooper Tire Europe will obtain light vehicle tyres to meet customer needs from other sites within Cooper's global production network.

With this decision, approximately 300 roles, primarily manufacturing and support positions related to light vehicle tyre production, will become redundant at the site. Proper notice will be provided, and employees whose roles are being made redundant will be paid 150 percent of statutory entitlement as well as other separation pay. Expert career services will continue to be offered to impacted employees, including partnering with Wiltshire Council and Melksham Town Council to provide career counselling, job fairs and a career centre.

Approximately 400 roles will remain to support functions that will continue in Melksham, including motorsports and motorcycle tyre production, the materials business, CTE headquarters/sales and marketing, and the Europe Technical Centre.

"This has been a time of uncertainty for our colleagues in Melksham and we appreciate their professionalism and cooperation throughout the collective consultation process," said Jaap van Wessum, General Manager – Cooper Tire Europe. "Now, with the collective consultation concluded and plans for the future confirmed, there is more certainty for the workforce, and we are helping those who will be leaving us over the coming months to do so in the best possible way for their future. Cooper Tire Europe will remain in Melksham and we will continue to implement plans designed to grow our business in a way that supports a long-term, sustainable future."

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### **Notes for Editors**

#### **About Cooper Tire & Rubber Company Europe Ltd.**

Cooper Tire Europe (CTE) has been a subsidiary of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company since 1997. CTE is based in Melksham, Wiltshire, with facilities that include a 30-acre tyre manufacturing plant, materials business, headquarters offices, sales and marketing operations, and Europe Technical Centre. CTE also operates a warehouse in Swindon. CTE has a rich history, with Melksham becoming part of the story in 1890, when the organisation that ultimately became CTE moved to its current location from Bradford on Avon. CTE markets a full range of summer and winter tyres for passenger car and 4x4 applications as well as specialised motorsports and motorcycle tyres. For more information visit [www.coopertire.co.uk](http://www.coopertire.co.uk)

#### **About Cooper Tire & Rubber Company**

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company (NYSE: CTB), founded in 1914, is the parent company of a global family of companies that specialises in the design, manufacture, marketing and sale of passenger car, light truck, medium truck, motorcycle and racing tyres. With 2017 total revenue of \$2.85 billion, Cooper is the 13th largest tyre company in the world and the fifth largest in North America. The company is headquartered in Findlay, Ohio, USA, with manufacturing, sales, distribution, technical and design operations within its family of companies located in more than one dozen countries around the world. Approximately 9,200 people work in Cooper facilities worldwide. For more information, visit [www.coopertire.com](http://www.coopertire.com), [www.facebook.com/coopertire](https://www.facebook.com/coopertire) or [www.twitter.com/coopertire](https://www.twitter.com/coopertire).

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