

Think Globally, Act Locally: Continental is Committed to Sustainable Business Worldwide

- **With its annual Energy & Environment Days, Continental encourages mindful awareness of environmental topics at its Tires production sites worldwide**
- **Continental aims to achieve 100 percent carbon-neutrality along its entire value chain by 2050**
- **Solar plants already make a significant contribution to electricity production at Continentals tire plants today**

Hanover, Germany, June 4, 2021. Setting an example, promoting ecological courage and drawing attention to the numerous environmental problems – since the first United Nations World Environment Summit in Stockholm in 1972, June 5 of each year has been the official World Environment Day. The international day of action is intended as a reminder that humanity itself holds the key to preserving the diversity and stability of the environment. In order to sensitize its employees to the responsible use of resources in their daily lives, Continental has been encouraging mindful awareness of environmental topics at all tire locations worldwide since 2013 with its annual Energy & Environment Days (EE Days). The internal initiative focuses on energy efficiency, water conservation, and the efficient use of natural resources to prevent waste.

"We understand sustainable business as our responsibility and are convinced that the contribution of each individual is important to enable Continental to be the most progressive tire company in terms of environmental and social responsibility by 2030," explains Claus Petschick, Head of Sustainability of the Tires business area at Continental. He adds, "The Energy & Environment Days are an important internal platform for us to highlight and honor our strategic initiatives, achievements, and the personal contribution we make to achieving our environmental goals locally."

The Energy & Environment Days of Continental's Tires business are dedicated to a specific focus topic each year. The aim is to encourage the commitment and knowledge of employees as well as to highlight the importance of environmental protection. In 2021, the EE Days will be held under the motto "Heating, Ventilation, Air, Conditioning & Electricity." In this way, Continental aims to highlight the various options for energy-efficient heating and cooling and to draw attention to the effects of climate change.

By focusing on environmentally relevant topics such as energy and water consumption, CO₂ emissions, waste reduction, and increasing the recycling rate, the EE Days support important areas of the premium tire manufacturer's comprehensive sustainability strategy. Continental aims to achieve 100 percent carbon-neutrality along its entire value chain by latest 2050. As a result of years of hard work, today Continental already consumes 55 percent less water and 17 percent less energy than the industry average per metric ton of tires produced. By 2030, the aim is to achieve savings of an additional 20 percent in each case.

Solar plants make a significant contribution to electricity production for tire plants

The Tires business area is already an industry leader in the efficient and sustainable use of water and energy. For example, Continental has been operating photovoltaic systems at its plants in Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth, South Africa), Camacari (Brazil), Hanover (Germany), and Modipuram (India) for several years. In 2014, the tire plant in Hefei (China) was also equipped with a solar plant with a capacity of 6.1 megawatts and expanded to 13.9 megawatts in June 2020. Around 13 million kilowatt hours of green electricity can thus be generated here annually. This corresponds to a reduction in carbon emissions of 12,000 tons per year. Solar panels were also installed at the tire plant in Rayong, Thailand, in February 2021 on two plant buildings, a parking garage and a water retention pond, with a total area of 27,400 square meters and a total output of 4.2 megawatts. Since then, carbon emissions there have been reduced by 319 tons. The individual Continental sites are thus already making a decisive contribution to fulfilling the climate protection strategy, which aims to operate in a carbon-neutral manner across the entire value chain.

2022: Continental's zero-emission mobility business worldwide completely carbon-neutral

With the "Carbon Neutral for Emission Free Vehicles" program, Continental will also make its global business for emission-free cars, buses, trains and other vehicles climate-neutral from 2022. The neutralization of CO₂ emissions will be achieved in the first step by generating equal amounts of so-called negative emissions. To this end, all emissions generated in the sourcing and supply of raw materials or materials, in the company's own production, and in recycling at the end of life will be neutralized to the same extent.

Continental develops pioneering technologies and services for sustainable and connected mobility of people and their goods. Founded in 1871, the technology company offers safe, efficient, intelligent and affordable solutions for vehicles, machines, traffic and transportation. In 2020, Continental generated sales of €37.7 billion and currently employs around 235,000 people in 58 countries and markets. In 2021, the company celebrates its 150th anniversary.

The **Tires business area** has 24 production and development locations worldwide. Continental is one of the leading tire manufacturers with more than 56,000 employees and posted sales of €11.7 billion in 2019 in this business area. Continental ranks among the technology leaders in tire production and offers a broad product range for passenger cars, commercial and special-purpose vehicles as well as two-wheelers. Through continuous investment in research and development, Continental makes a major contribution to safe, cost-effective and ecologically efficient mobility. The portfolio of the Tires business area includes services for the tire trade and fleet applications, as well as digital management systems for tires.

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Continental_PP_Petschick

Claus Petschick, Head of Sustainability Tires.



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Continental's tire plant Rayong, Thailand: solar plant.