



Bridgestone, ARLANXEO and Solvay launch TECHSYN to give tyres unrivalled strength and environmental performance

- TECHSYN combines chemically optimised synthetic rubber with tailor-made silica to create tyres with up to 30% better wear efficiency and a rolling resistance that is reduced by up to 6%.¹
- As a result, TECHSYN reduces overall fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions², enhances tread mileage³ to extend a tyre's designed life and cuts raw material consumption in the long term.
- TECHSYN went from concept to reality in just 24 months, thanks to the unique expertise and close collaboration between partners Bridgestone, ARLANXEO and Solvay.

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Bridgestone, a global leader in sustainable mobility and advanced solutions, ARLANXEO, a world-leading synthetic rubber producer, and Solvay, one of the world's top science companies and worldwide leader in Highly Dispersible Silica (HDS), both for innovation and for manufacturing, have today announced the launch of TECHSYN, a new, co-developed tyre technology platform enabling tyres to deliver unrivalled strength and environmental performance.

Unlocking a new era of sustainable mobility

TECHSYN combines chemically optimised synthetic rubber with tailormade silica, interacting at a molecular level, to deliver outstanding performance with no trade-offs.

Each material found in TECHSYN was developed in parallel by the three companies to create a tyre technology platform that provides unrivalled performance. TECHSYN enables tyres to achieve up to 30 per cent better wear efficiency and a rolling resistance that is reduced by up to six per cent, compared to other conventional Bridgestone EMIA⁴ summer products, without compromising any

other performance areas. With the goal of ensuring less tyre wear material loss, extra focus was placed on performance improvements in tyre wear throughout the development of TECHSYN.

As a result of these improvements, TECHSYN augments the sustainable performance of the tyres it's applied to by reducing overall fuel consumption and CO2 emissions and enhancing tread mileage.² TECHSYN's durability extends the designed lifespan of tyres made with it by approximately 30 per cent³, to ultimately result in a tyre that needs to be changed less frequently and reduces the consumption of raw materials in the long-term.

As Bridgestone transforms to become a sustainable solutions company by 2050 – guided by its Sustainability Business Framework and a series of mid-long term sustainability-focused goals – the launch of TECHSYN, a solution created with the environment front of mind, marks a significant breakthrough on this journey.

Made possible by the combined expertise of three industry leaders

Demonstrating what can be achieved through close collaboration and an open-minded approach, TECHSYN is the result of an established three-way partnership between industry leaders Bridgestone, ARLANXEO and Solvay. Transformed from concept to reality in just 24 months, TECHSYN was made possible thanks to the unique cooperation and understanding between the three companies and a profound combined knowledge of molecular mechanisms.

TECHSYN has the unique ability to balance a tyre's performance across rolling resistance, wear and wet grip, and can be further adapted to meet varying needs. For example, TECHSYN's wear advantage can be converted to instead enhance the wet grip of a tyre. The flexibility TECHSYN provides is made possible thanks to Solvay's unique advanced silica developments, ARLANXEO's expertise in developing, manufacturing and delivering novel tyre polymers and Bridgestone's innovative compound technology.

TECHSYN has been designed to bring its benefits to various tyre categories and vehicles and, thanks to the unique flexibility it enables, can do so in combination with Bridgestone's other leading tyre technologies. For example, when used alongside Bridgestone's lightweight ENLITEN Technology, it's possible for the tyre's weight to be further reduced while retaining its performance.

Bridgestone is preparing implementation of TECHSYN for mass production, with various tyre categories and vehicles in mind. Bridgestone, ARLANXEO and Solvay have developed a roadmap of technologies where close collaboration will be essential to move along the pattern identified with TECHSYN and create even more effective synergies.

Commenting on the announcement, Laurent Dartoux, President & CEO, Bridgestone EMIA said: "At Bridgestone, we fundamentally believe that ground-breaking innovation and the future of mobility can't be achieved without collaboration. The partnership in which TECHSYN is rooted has evolved

to become one of the most unique we have ever been part of. As a global leader in advanced solutions and sustainable mobility, we're moving forward with innovation and sustainability at the core of everything we do at Bridgestone. Through developing environmentally-driven solutions like TECHSYN, we're making great progress on delivering against that ambition."

ARLANXEO's CEO, Donald Chen, also commented: "We at ARLANXEO are committed to delivering outstanding, customer-centric, elastomer solutions. By bringing together in partnership the combined know-how, skill and creativity of three world-class companies that are championing different parts of the tyre supply chain, we have been able to develop a new technology platform that offers new ways to address challenges specific to the tyre industry. TECHSYN enables improved fuel economy and tyre wear properties at the same time, with no performance trade-offs. As a result, tyres made with TECHSYN contribute to reduced CO2 emissions. Therefore this technology makes a significant contribution to improving environmental aspects, which is at the heart of the shared vision for sustainable product solutions held by the three companies that made it all happen."

Dr. Ilham Kadri, Solvay's CEO, added: "TECHSYN demonstrates what can be achieved when key actors in the value chain join forces. To protect our one and only planet, we must reinvent, collaborate and co-construct solutions to design tomorrow's cleaner mobility. I'm proud of all the teams who contributed to this project, in particular the speed with which they brought this innovation to market."

*1 Compared to conventional Bridgestone EMIA summer products.

*2 CO2 emissions relating to rolling resistance coefficient (RRC), which is measured in Bridgestone's indoor labs.

*3 Wear performance has been evaluated by Bridgestone's outdoor tests on 205/55R16 vs reference Bridgestone consumer summer tyres.

*4 Bridgestone in Europe, Russia, Middle East, India and Africa.

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About Bridgestone in Europe, Russia, Middle East, India and Africa:

Bridgestone in Europe, Russia, Middle East, India and Africa (BSEMIA), headquartered in Zaventem (Belgium), is a subsidiary of Bridgestone Corporation, a global leader providing sustainable mobility and advanced solutions. In addition to its premium tyre products, BSEMIA offers a growing portfolio

of tyre-centric and mobility solutions, and serves its customers in an extensive retail network with thousands of touchpoints.

Together with its partners and guided by its global corporate social responsibility commitment, Our Way to Serve, Bridgestone is dedicated to shaping a sustainable future of mobility and improving how people move, live, work and play.



For more information about Bridgestone in EMIA, please visit www.bridgestone-emia.com and www.bridgestoneneewsroom.eu. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

About ARLANXEO

ARLANXEO is one of the world's largest producers of synthetic rubber and a wholly owned subsidiary of Saudi Aramco, a leading producer of energy and chemicals. It develops, produces and markets high-performance rubbers with sales of around EUR 3 billion in 2019 and a presence at more than 12 production sites in 9 countries and 7 innovation centers around the world. Its products are used for a wide range of applications: from the automotive and tire industries to the electrical, construction and oil and gas industries. For more information, please visit www.arlanxeo.com. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

About Solvay

Solvay is a science company whose technologies bring benefits to many aspects of daily life. With more than 23,000 employees in 64 countries, Solvay bonds people, ideas and elements to reinvent progress. The Group seeks to create sustainable shared value for all, notably through its Solvay One Planet plan crafted around three pillars: protecting the climate, preserving resources and fostering better life. The Group's innovative solutions contribute to safer, cleaner, and more sustainable products found in homes, food and consumer goods, planes, cars, batteries, smart devices, health care applications, water and air purification systems. Founded in 1863, Solvay today ranks among the world's top three companies for the vast majority of its activities and delivered net sales of €10.2

billion in 2019. Solvay is listed on Euronext Brussels (SOLB) and Paris and in the United States, where its shares (SOLVY) are traded through a Level I ADR program. Learn more at www.solvay.com.

Media information: Liesbeth Denys, Director Public Affairs and Communications EMIA: +32 478 78 26 22

Solvay Contacts

Media relations

Nathalie van Ypersele
+32 478 20 10 62
nathalie.vanyperselle@solvay.com

Brian Carroll
+32 471 70 54 72
brian.carroll@solvay.com

Peter Boelaert
+32 479 309 159
peter.boelaert@solvay.com

Investor relations

Jodi Allen
+1 (609) 860-4608

Geoffroy d'Oultremont
+32 2 264 2997

Bisser Alexandrov
+32 2 264 3687

Valérie-Anne Barriat
+32 2 264 1622

investor.relations@solvay.com

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Dit persbericht is ook in het Nederlands beschikbaar.