

NTDA and TyreSafe welcome 'Guilty' verdict for illegal part worn tyre seller, *but campaign continues*

The NTDA and its members were elated to hear that a Lincolnshire part worn tyre retailer faces up to 12 months in prison along with a £20,000 fine after being found guilty of supplying unsafe part-worn tyres to the public.

After just one hour's deliberation, the jury at Lincoln Crown Court unanimously found defendant Luke McKenzie, trading as Moss Tyres in Grantham, guilty on 16 accounts of being in possession to supply dangerous products, namely unsafe part-worn tyres, to consumers.

Stefan Hay, NTDA director said, "We are delighted by the court's decision to take this matter so seriously and act accordingly. We believe this demonstrates how essential the work of TyreSafe and the NTDA, to support Trading Standards in their investigations, has been in combatting non-compliant, illegal and unsafe part worn tyres. This is just one of many cases we hope to see publicised this year".

Mr McKenzie also pleaded guilty on two other accounts – one account of supplying a spare tyre of the incorrect size during a Trading Standards test purchase operation; and one account of providing false information stating that that tyres fitted by the business had been balanced when they had not.

"We are extremely pleased that a significant number of dangerous part worn tyres have been successfully removed from sale," comments Stuart Jackson, chairman, TyreSafe. "It is also very encouraging that both the Courts and Trading Standards recognise the gravity of this safety issue and are prepared to prosecute offenders to the full extent of the law. Other retailers should pay close attention to this verdict and ensure that if they are selling part-worn tyres, they are fully compliant with the relevant legislation."

Andy Wright, Principal Trading Standards Officer, said, "The fact that this case was heard by the Crown Court and the judge has indicated he is considering a custodial sentence shows just how serious this is. Many of the tyres had serious defects and exhibited accident damage which undermined the basic structure of the tyres. This could have had life-threatening consequences for innocent consumers and their families.

Following the trial, Luke McKenzie was released on conditional bail until 7th April 2015, where he will be sentenced at Lincoln Crown Court. Each of the 16 accounts of possession of dangerous products carries a maximum sentence of 12 months imprisonment and/or a £20,000 fine.

Stefan Hay continued: "We are awaiting further results from on-going investigations all over the UK, early indications are, that the results of the Lincolnshire investigations are certainly not an isolated incident and sadly non-compliant, illegal and unsafe part worn tyres continue to be sold, openly, to unsuspecting motorists".



Obituary – Graham W. H. Parfitt

The NTDA Directorate team was very saddened to hear that long standing South and West Wales member Graham Parfitt of Parfitt Tyre Company Limited, Cardiff died on Wednesday 18th February. The news was received from former Executive Council member Derek Evans of Heath Tyres, Cardiff, who will be attending Graham's funeral together with other tyre retailers in the region. Graham was an ardent and loyal supporter of the NTDA and our thoughts and best wishes go to Graham's family and loved ones at this difficult time.

NTDA announces first confirmed Tyre Industry Conference speakers

The NTDA is pleased to announce the first confirmed speakers for the Tyre Industry Conference to be held at the International Conference Centre, Birmingham, on Thursday 1st October 2015, they are Stuart Jackson, TyreSafe Chairman, Graham Wilson Secretary of the Tyre Industry Federation and CEO of the BTMA and Raymond Clarke CEO of UKAS certification body IQ Verify. Stefan Hay, NTDA Director said: "The conference speaker programme is really starting to take shape. We will have a range of speakers who will address both tyre industry topics and a range of key business topics".



Stuart Jackson

Under the title *Driving UK Tyre Safety – A model for success*, Stuart Jackson will be presenting the progress that is being made by TyreSafe and using the opportunity to promote activities that will take place throughout October, which, thanks to TyreSafe and its partners, is now firmly established as Tyre Safety month.

Graham Wilson will be presenting *One voice, one strategy - Leading the tyre industry forward*, highlighting the work of the Tyre Industry Federation (TIF) with specific emphasis on its recent strategic review and plans to position TIF as the principal consultee of choice to Government and other agencies in all matters tyre related.



Graham Wilson

Raymond Clarke will be looking at a range of topics under the title *How secure is your business* and will be highlighting areas such as the need for companies to ensure they have adequate Risk Management, Corporate Resilience, Business Continuity, Supply Chain Integrity and Employee Management processes in place.

Stefan Hay continued: "These speakers are just a taste of things to come. We are negotiating with a number of further excellent speakers to address topics such as brand protection, waste management, product innovation and much more. The conference bookings are coming in thick and fast and we have already sold over 550 tickets for the Annual Dinner and Tyre Industry Awards, so the team at Aylesbury is buzzing with excitement over what we believe will be yet another exceptional event for the tyre industry. At this rate, we may even have to move to a larger hall at the ICC for the dinner".

NTDA Executive Officers join TIF delegation in Tyre Ageing debate

In episode 3 of *Inside the Commons – Party Games*, which was broadcast on BBC2 on 17th and 18th February, the work of Steve Rotheram MP and safety campaigner Frances Molloy to introduce new legislation regarding the age of tyres used on buses and coaches was covered extensively. There was coverage of the roundtable meeting attended by NTDA Chairman Roger Griggs, Immediate Past Chairman Stephen Callow and NTDA Director Stefan Hay, together with Graham Wilson of the BTMA and TIF.



Frances Molloy's 18 year old son Michael, together with driver Colin Daulby, 63, and passenger Kerry Ogden, 23 were killed in the tragic A3 coach crash in 2012.

Although not broadcast, the TIF delegation presented tyre industry best practice at the meeting and highlighted some of its work to engage with the Traffic Commissioner's office and PSV operators to further encourage them to improve tyre management on buses and coaches. These presentations were

met with a very positive response from Steve Rotheram MP and Richard Burdon MP (Shadow Minister for Transport).

More information on the work of TIF in this area will be presented throughout 2015. The Tyres (Buses and Coaches) Bill had its second reading in the house on 27th February.