



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TCI TIRE CENTERS OPENS NEW BIRMINGHAM MRT RETREAD PLANT

DUNCAN, S.C. – Sept. 2, 2005 – TCI Tire Centers commercial and retread divisions have announced the opening of a new Michelin Retread Technologies (MRT) facility in Birmingham, Ala. The new facility, located at 3200 7th Avenue North, is scheduled to begin operation by the end of August 2005. This facility will increase the total number of MRT retread plants operated by TCI to 15.

“The Birmingham and surrounding area retread market is continually growing in strength,” said Larry White, vice president of manufacturing, TCI Tire Centers commercial division. “By adding this MRT plant, there will be added flexibility and reduced logistics concerns. This will enable TCI to improve its Southeastern Region’s capability to respond to TCI customers’ needs.”

Jason Shoe has been named plant manager for this new facility. He has more than seven years of retread operations experience at TCI’s Statesville, N.C., and Nashville, Tenn., locations.

TCI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Michelin North America, Inc., specializing in commercial truck tire sales and service solutions, as well as wholesale distribution of passenger and light truck tires. TCI supports its truck and earthmover customers from its 113 commercial locations with a fleet of 700 equipped service vehicles. The company also operates 15 state-of-the-art Michelin Retread Technologies[®], Inc. (MRT) shops in 12 states. Headquartered in Duncan, S.C., the company employs more than 2,300 in 39 states. Visit TCI online at www.tirecenters.com.

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