

Tyre Labelling Regulation

Your obligations



➤ Tyre Labelling – Why it matters

Tyres make an important contribution to road safety and to the environmental impact of road transport. However, not all tyres are created equal when it comes to performance.

The EU tyre labelling regulation (EC no 1222/2009) enables motorists to make more informed choices when buying tyres. Under the regulation, tyres are graded according to:

- wet grip
- fuel efficiency
- external rolling noise

Buying better performing tyres helps to improve road safety and reduces the environmental impact of road transport.

Tyre 'suppliers' (i.e. manufacturers and importers) have to provide information regarding the performance of tyres they supply in the EU that were manufactured from 1st July 2012. Tyre 'distributors' (typically tyre retailers) in the EU have to provide motorists with information regarding the performance of tyres offered for sale that were manufactured from 1st July 2012. (Date of production code 2712 or greater).

➤ Who is SEAI?

SEAI is Ireland's national energy authority. We are responsible for ensuring compliance with the EU tyre labelling regulation relating to the sale of car, van truck and trailer tyres sold in Ireland.

Our role is to promote compliance with this regulation and to ensure that non-compliant tyres are brought into compliance or removed from the EU market. We regularly carry out market surveillance activities to ensure that tyre suppliers and distributors are compliant, helping to maintain a level playing field and protecting consumers and the environment.

We are also raising awareness of labels amongst motorists and encouraging them to use the information provided to inform their purchasing decision when buying tyres.

➤ What tyres does the label apply to?

The labelling regulation applies to the supply of new tyres for passenger cars (C1), light commercial vehicle tyres (C2) and heavy commercial vehicle tyres (C3). The following tyres are exempt from the regulation:

- Retreaded tyres
- Professional off road tyres
- Racing tyres
- Studded tyres
- Temporary use spare tyres
- Tyres designed to be fitted on vehicles registered for the first time before the 1st of October 1990
- Tyres whose speed rating is less than 80 km/h
- Tyres whose nominal rim diameter does not exceed 254 mm or is 635 mm or more

➤ Your responsibility as a retailer

As a tyre retailer, you must ensure:

- tyres, at the point of sale, bear the sticker provided by suppliers in a clearly visible position; or
- before the sale of the tyre, the label is shown to the customer and is clearly displayed in the immediate proximity of the tyre

If the tyres being sold are not visible to the customer (e.g. they are stored out of sight, or sold over the internet), you must provide information on the fuel efficiency class, wet grip class and external rolling noise class to the customer, before the sale is made.

For any tyres purchased (C1, C2, C3), this information must also be provided to the customer on, or with, the bill.

Some additional guidance to help you interpret the rules:

- To be sure you are complying, you should **always** tell the customer about the label parameters or show them the actual label before **every** sale is made.
- If a tyre can be seen by the customer, but they can't read the label because it is too far away to be legible, it is not considered to be in "a clearly visible position".

Manufacturers' responsibilities

It's worth knowing the responsibilities of tyre suppliers (manufacturers and their authorised representatives in the EU, and importers) in case for example, they fail to provide you with tyres equipped with a label:

- 1 Tyre suppliers are required to ensure that C1 and C2 tyres delivered to distributors are equipped with a sticker on the tyre tread displaying a label indicating the fuel efficiency, the external rolling noise class and measured value and the wet grip class for that tyre
or
each batch of one or more identical tyres delivered, is accompanied by a label in printed format indicating the fuel efficiency class, the external rolling noise class and measured value, and the wet grip class of that tyre
- 2 The format of the sticker and label provided must meet the requirements of the Regulation
- 3 For C1, C2 and C3 tyres, suppliers must state the fuel efficiency class, the external rolling noise class and measured value and wet grip class in technical promotional material, including on their websites
- 4 Suppliers must make technical documentation available to the Market Surveillance Authority on request. This should be sufficiently detailed to allow the accuracy of the information provided on the label to be assessed
- 5 Please note that tyre suppliers are not required to supply labels with C3 tyres.

Understanding the label



Fuel Efficiency

7.5% loss of fuel economy between best and worst class for a full set of tyres fitted to an average car.



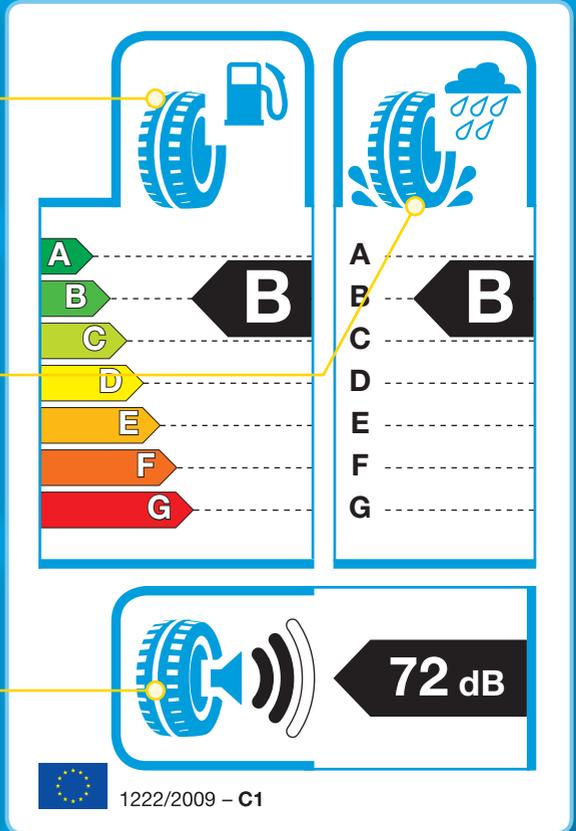
Wet Grip

30% shorter braking distance between best and worst class for a full set of tyres fitted to an average car i.e. 18m shorter when braking from 80 km/h (50 mph).



External Rolling Noise

- 1 black bar: at least 3 dB below the future EU limit
- 2 black bars: meets future EU limit
- 3 black bars: above future EU limit



Note for car, 4x4 and van tyres: class D is not used so there are only six classes for Fuel Efficiency. In addition, for Wet Grip class G is also not used so there are only five classes for Wet Grip.

For further information on tyre labelling, visit www.seai.ie