



MEDIA INFORMATION

March 2010

Caravan tyre check vital this Easter to stay safe on the road says Micheldever

- **Timely advice as caravans take to the road over the coming holiday period**

A high proportion of the 2 million or so caravan owners will be taking to the road for the first time this year over the Easter period and many owners will not carry out basic safety checks to ensure a trouble free break says Micheldever Tyre Services, part of the the UK's leading independent tyre dealer network.

Out of season storage conditions can sometimes have a detrimental effect on caravan and trailer tent tyres and owners are recommended to carry out some simple checks to ensure their safety and the safety of their passengers during a journey. Carefully examine tyres to ensure that there are no cuts, lumps or bulges and that the sidewalls are sound and not affected by ozone cracking or distortion through being left standing for an extended period. Tyres must also have a minimum of 1.6mm of tread, although Micheldever recommends that tyres with less than 2.5 mm of tread should be considered for replacement. Owners of trailer caravans or trailer tents are advised that if the tyres are over 7 years old that they should be replaced irrespective of their condition. And the company also recommends that the tyres on the tow car should also be checked, including the spare.

A particularly important aspect of tyre safety and often overlooked by owners is the age of the tyres fitted to the caravan or trailer. In fact determining the age of a tyre is simple and straightforward. A code is marked on the tyre sidewall with the first two numbers determining the week, with the third and fourth digits referring to the year of manufacture (see illustration). Should caravanners be in any doubt about the condition or age of tyres, Micheldever is offering a free Easter Tyre Safety Check, details of which can be found at www.micheldever.co.uk.



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Tyre pressures are equally crucial to the safety, stability and economical running of both the caravan and the towing vehicle. Under or over inflated tyres can not only affect the handling, but can at the extreme result in a tyre failure. Tyres not inflated to the correct pressures can also wear more quickly and will create more CO2 emissions. Owners should consult the vehicle handbook for the correct tyre pressures.

-ENDS-

Find your local Protyre outlet visit www.Protyre.co.uk. Or call in to your local Protyre centre for a free tyre safety check.

For further press information please contact Chris Wakley or Tom Callow at Automotive PR on +44 (0) 20 7494 8050

About Micheldever Tyre Services & Protyre

Micheldever Tyre Services (MTS) was founded in 1972 as a part-time venture providing car servicing and tyres. Today, the company is the largest independent wholesaler, distributor and retailer of tyres in the UK. Selling six million tyres in 2008/09 – 20 percent of the total UK market – annual turnover for 2009/10 is forecast to be over £283 million. In addition to offering MTS car, motorcycle and off-road tyres MTS also fits exhausts, brakes and shock absorbers.

MTS has two main business units:

- The Protyre retail chain, currently with 48 outlets including Protyre Motorsport, continues to gain geographic coverage in the UK through new acquisitions.
- MTS has established a wholesale distribution network of 12 sites around the UK supplying over 4,500 retailers nationwide. This activity has resulted in significant profitable growth for the company.

MTS is managed by a team headed by Paul Fox and Richard Sawney with backing from Graphite Capital and Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS).