

Tyre wear measurement approaches

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Our Belief

When it comes to the pursuit for improved air quality, we believe in the power of clarity, transparency and integrity. With real-world data we can meet emissions challenges – instilling trust and confidence in our industry partners and public.

It's with our commitment and independence we are able to make a significant contribution toward positive change and to achieve enduring results.

The image shows four tires stacked on a paved road. A blue horizontal bar is overlaid across the middle of the tires. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with trees and a bright sky.

Agenda

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Research questions

- What organic chemicals are tyres currently on the market made up of?
- With what certainty can they be identified?
- How can the amounts present be quantified?
- How potentially toxic are these compounds?
- How can the total amount of these compounds released into the environment be estimated?

Concept

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{Tyre wear rate} \\ & \quad \times \\ & \textit{Chemical speciation} \\ & \quad \times \\ & \textit{Compound hazard} \\ & \quad = \\ & \textit{Potential environmental impact} \end{aligned}$$





Sampling equipment

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On-vehicle sampling – principles

- Universal fitment across vehicles
 - Fits to any and all wheels on a vehicle
 - No vehicle modification required
 - Articulates as the vehicle steers
 - Safe and road-legal
 - Low-loss sample line
 - Can be coupled with any detector
 - And collected plates/receptacle
- Mass, number and physical collection



On-vehicle sampling – measurements

- Sample point close to tyre (~1 cm) in rooster tail to minimise interferences
- Fixed with reference to tyre for consistency
- Low-loss sample line with smooth routing
- Losses must be characterised for each set-up
- Example detector – Dekati ELPI+ for real-time size distribution within certain ranges
- Example collection – size-denominated plates
- Example scales – for wheel masses



Chemical fingerprinting

- Two-dimensional gas chromatography with mass spectrometry
- INSIGHT flow modulator from SepSolve Analytical for separation
- BENCH-TOF time-of flight mass spectrometer
- Multi-stage pyrolysis method



Sampling options

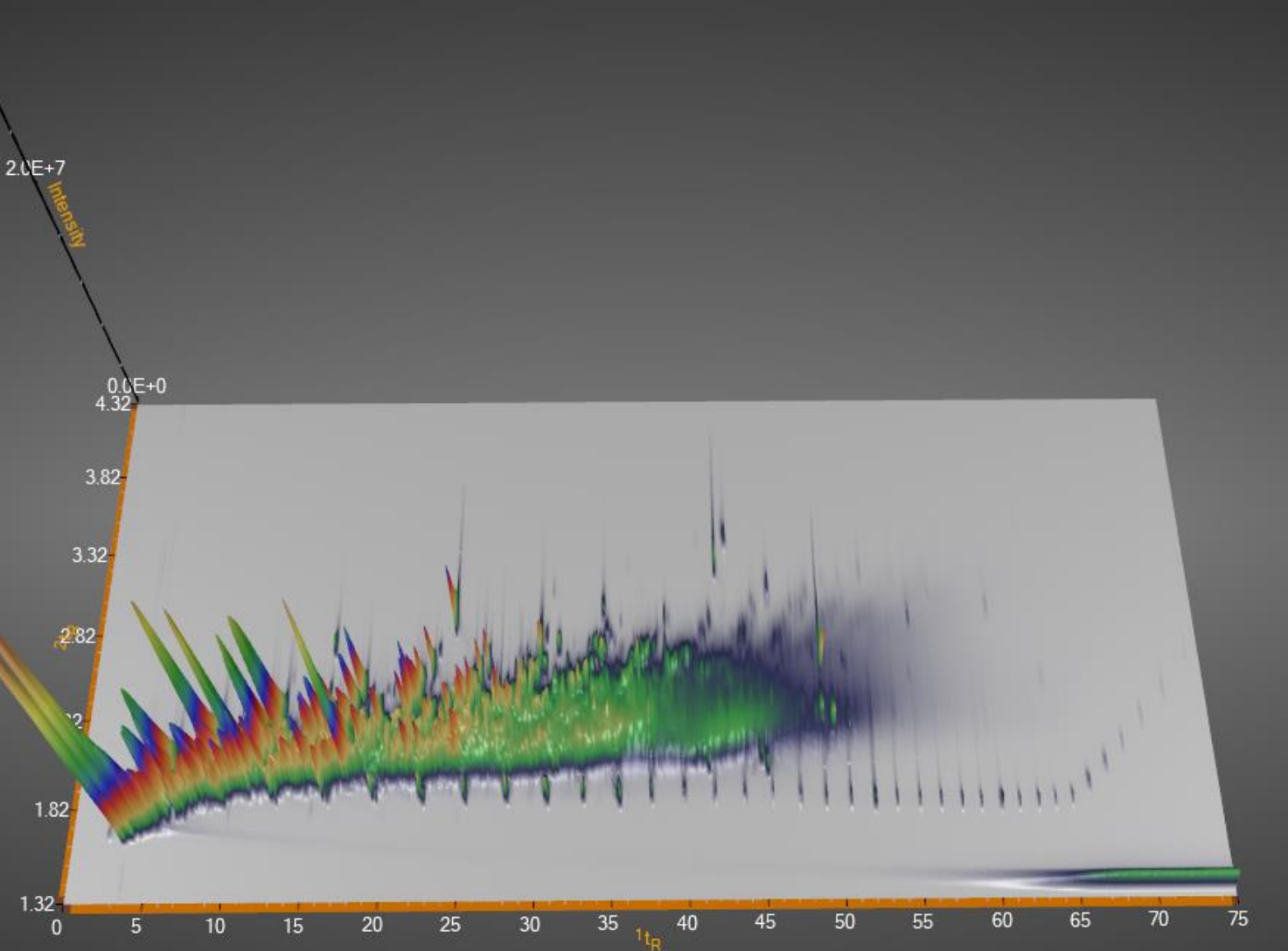
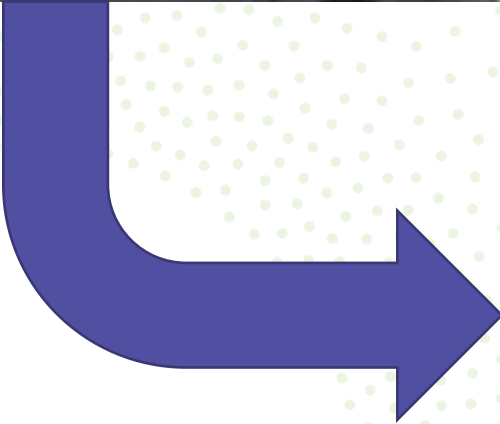
- Original tyre
 - Sidewalls
 - Inside tread
 - Outside tread
 - Central band
- Tyre wear emissions collected
- Environmental samples



Analytical methodology

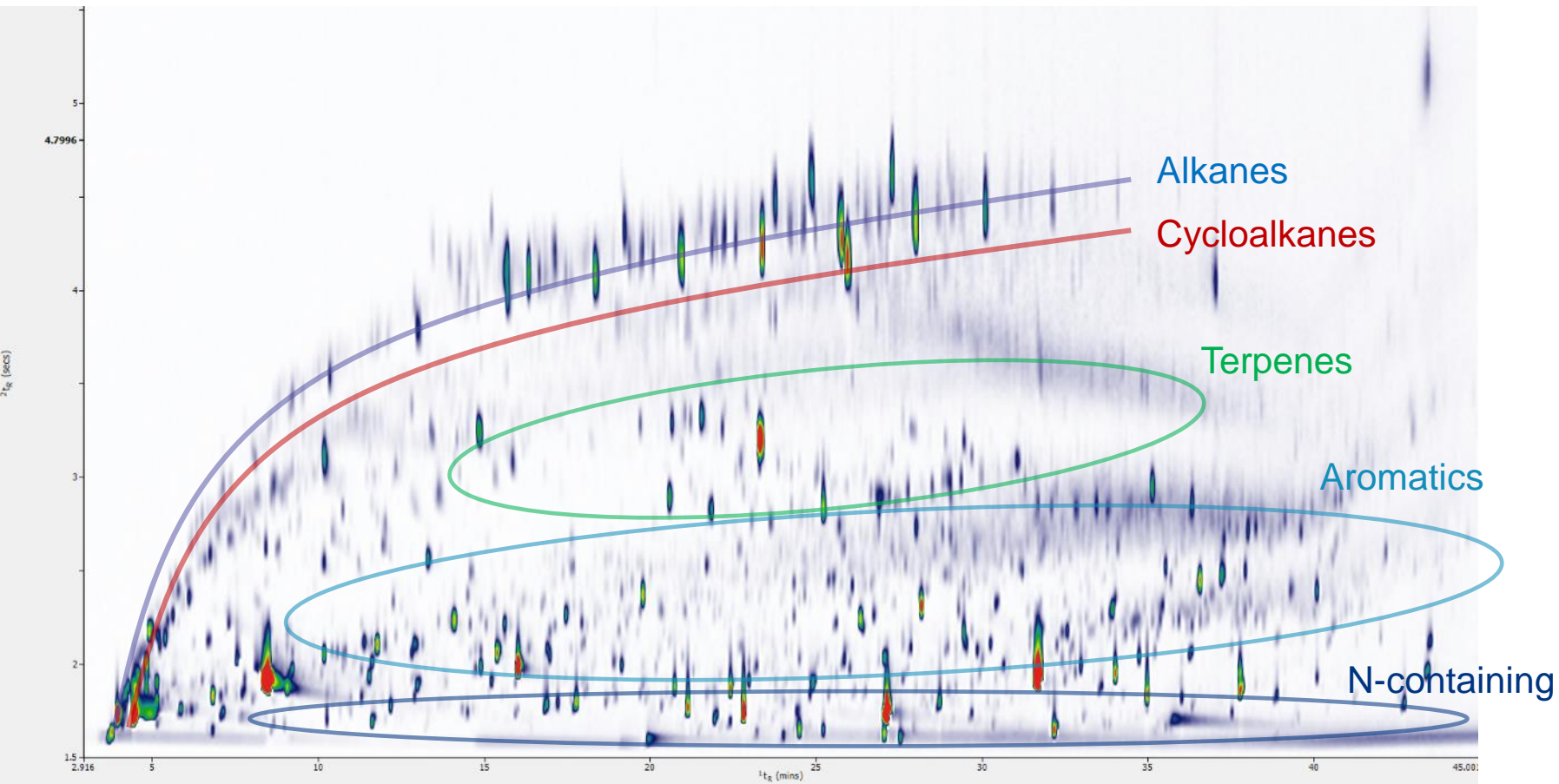
- *Are the compounds measured really in the originally tyre?*
- *Does the high temperature of the pyrolysis lead to compounds breaking down?*
- Due to the very rapid heating and then flushing out of the hot zone, the pyrolysates are likely to remain unchanged, with secondary reactions and pyrolysate aggregation occurring rarely (Shin Tsuge, 2012) (Xiao-Ming Ma, 2014).
- The degradation process is useful for understanding the structure of the polymer but also for determining what smaller molecules could possibly be formed and for example, leach into the environment (Ladak, 2021) (Greta Biale, 2021).

Two-dimensional pyrolysis chromatogram



TEMS tyre emissions measurement system

Functional group classification



- Wide-ranging analytes identified
- Alkanes: lungs, liver, kidney, brain
- Cycloalkanes: headaches, dizziness
- Terpenes: aromas
- Aromatics: carcinogens
- N-containing: carcinogens

A car wheel is shown from a top-down perspective, surrounded by a thick ring of bright orange and yellow flames. The background is dark with scattered sparks and a pattern of small white dots on the right side. A blue semi-transparent rectangular box is positioned over the upper right portion of the wheel.

Tyre wear results

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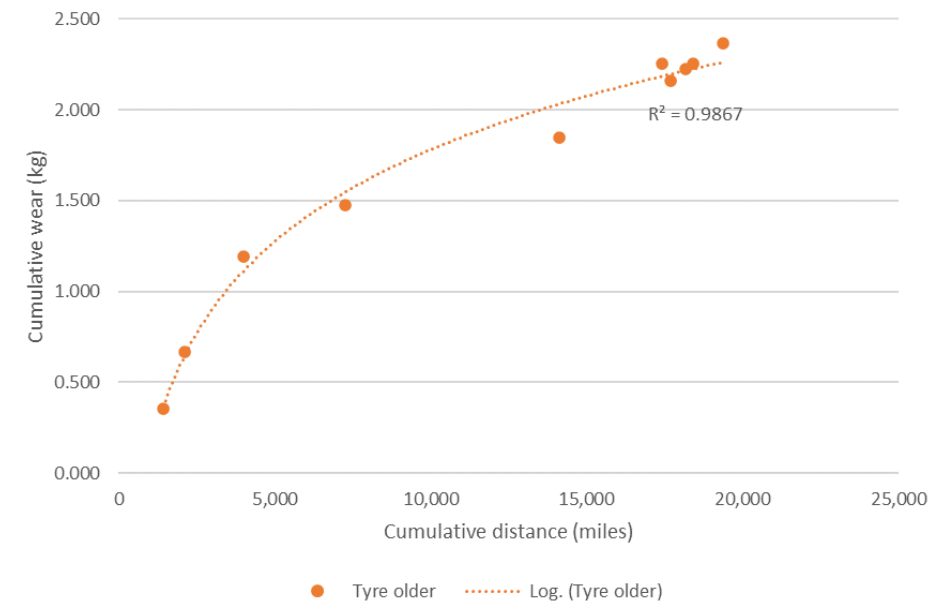
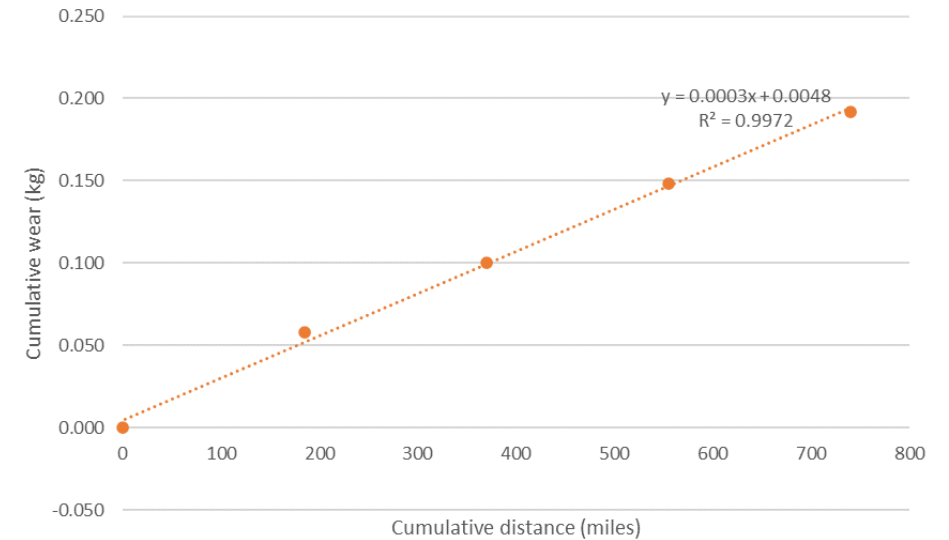
Comparative tyre wear results

- 14 different models of tyre
- Tested from new
- 90% motorway driving by distance
- Public highway
- Average total distance 4,500 km
- 73 mg/km mean

| Tire # | Make | Wear rate (mg/km) |
|--------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Continental | 161 |
| 2 | Michelin | 61 |
| 3 | Sumitomo | 38 |
| 4 | Firestone | 73 |
| 5 | Avon | 45 |
| 6 | Kumho | 75 |
| 7 | Yokohama | 89 |
| 8 | Goodyear | 75 |
| 9 | Apollo | 61 |
| 10 | Kumho | 51 |
| 11 | Michelin | 81 |
| 12 | Hifly | 76 |
| 13 | Rotalla | 66 |
| 14 | Taurus | 70 |
| | Average | 73 |

Longitudinal results

- Continental Contisport 6 tyres on Mercedes C-Class/unladen
- Tyres tested from new
- Wear rate linear up to ~1,000 km
- Then approximately logarithmic trend up to ~30,000 km
- Shape of cumulative wear differs between models



Chemical speciation

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Speciation

- Toluene equivalence used for quantification
- Proportion of the most toxic group – the aromatics and PAHs – varies between 25% and 80% across 100 tyres

| Mass in sample (µg) | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3 |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------|
| | Acids, Amine and Alcohols | Alkanes, Alkenes, Alkynes, Cyclo, Aldehyde and Ketone | Aromatics and PAH |

| | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|-------|
| UKT003 | 4.9 | 40.6 | 178.6 |
| UKT009 | 2.2 | 66.1 | 65.0 |
| UKT012 | 2.2 | 57.9 | 58.4 |
| UKT013 | 2.4 | 119.2 | 98.4 |
| UKT014 | 4.5 | 116.6 | 87.0 |
| UKT016 | 4.9 | 132.8 | 73.3 |
| UKT022 | 8.4 | 156.2 | 83.6 |
| UKT023 | 2.6 | 95.6 | 69.8 |
| UKT024 | 1.7 | 65.7 | 63.2 |
| UKT025 | 8.9 | 194.9 | 69.9 |

| Compound | Match Factor | Area % | Mass (ng) | Concentration (ng/mg) |
|---|--------------|--------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1,3-Pentadiene | 817 | 9.83 | 24,884 | 23,476 |
| D-Limonene | 789 | 6.58 | 16,660 | 15,717 |
| Cyclohexene, 4-ethenyl- | 667 | 4.95 | 12,526 | 11,817 |
| Toluene | 781 | 4.19 | 10,619 | 10,017 |
| 9,12,15-Octadecatrienoic acid, methyl ester, (Z,Z,Z)- | 729 | 3.05 | 7,727 | 7,290 |

Uncertainty budget

| Quantity | Relative uncertainty |
|---|----------------------|
| Mass of tyre analysed | 0.7% |
| Peak area of sample – ion current | 3.5% |
| Compound extraction efficiency | 3.0% |
| Matrix match bias | 2.0% |
| Peak area of standard – ion current | 2.6% |
| Concentration of compound in stock solution | 1.5% |
| Volume of calibration compound on TD tube | 5.0% |
| Drift of instrument calibration | 44% |
| Uncertainty total (k=1, 68%) | 23% |
| Uncertainty total (k=2, 95%) | 47% |

- On parts-per-billion concentrations
- Analagous to the 1.5 RDE Conformity Factor

Already significantly reduced

Wear rates by brand

$$\text{Compound release } (\mu\text{g}/\text{km}) = \text{Tire wear rate } (\text{mg}/\text{km}) \times \text{Compound concentration in sample } (\mu\text{g}/\text{mg})$$

- Distance-specific wear derived by brand and functional group
- Sevenfold difference in alkanes between highest and lowest
- Fourfold difference in aromatics across the range

| Mass emissions (mg/km) Brand ID | Group 1 Acids, Amine and Alcohols | Group 2 Alkanes, Alkenes, Alkynes, Cyclo, Aldehyde and Ketone | Group 3 Aromatics and PAH |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | 0.339 | 2.823 | 12.407 |
| 2 | 0.162 | 5.780 | 5.262 |
| 3 | 0.328 | 8.507 | 6.346 |
| 4 | 0.332 | 8.968 | 4.947 |
| 5 | 0.370 | 9.391 | 5.057 |
| ... | | | |
| 36 | 0.208 | 9.515 | 7.282 |
| 37 | 0.382 | 14.397 | 12.456 |
| 38 | 0.306 | 9.103 | 5.828 |
| 39 | 0.357 | 8.513 | 5.557 |
| 40 | 0.326 | 7.969 | 12.468 |
| Average | 0.286 | 8.050 | 9.088 |
| Minimum | 0.087 | 2.396 | 4.947 |
| Median | 0.247 | 7.739 | 8.037 |
| Maximum | 0.970 | 17.005 | 20.951 |



Compound hazard

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Hazards

| Hazard code | Description |
|-------------|--|
| H300 | Fatal if swallowed |
| H301 | Toxic if swallowed |
| H302 | Harmful if swallowed |
| H303 | May be harmful if swallowed |
| H304 | May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways |
| H305 | May be harmful if swallowed and enters airways |

- Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) – United Nations' standardised system
- Compounds identified CAS Registry Number, unique identifier assigned by US Chemical Abstracts Service
- European Chemicals Agency database of manufacturer disclosures
- 'Hazard codes' described different effects, from irritants to carcinogens
- Each compound can have multiple hazard codes
- Different manufacturers can make different disclosures

Toxicity potential factor

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \text{Number of hazard codes}_i \times \text{Compound concentration in sample } (\mu\text{g}/\text{mg})_i$$

Overall toxicity factor =

- Over 250 tyres now tested
- 410 organic compounds separated on average
- 46 hazard codes cited
- Challenge of compound identification
- 78 organic compounds identified using NIST library
- Needs bespoke spectral library

Targeted screening

- Compounds regulated under REACH, found in tyres
 - (C₁₈H₁₂) Chrysene
 - (C₁₈H₁₂) Benz[a]anthracene
- Other compounds of concern found
 - (C₁₈H₂₄N₂) [6PPD] 1,4-Benzenediamine, N-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-
 - (C₇H₅NS) [BTZ] Benzothiazole
 - (C₁₅H₁₈N₂) [IPPD] 1,4-Benzenediamine, N-(1-methylethyl)-N'-phenyl-
 - (C₇H₅NS₂) [MBTZ] 2-Mercaptobenzothiazole
 - (C₁₈H₁₆N₂) [DPPD] 1,4-Benzenediamine, N,N'-diphenyl-

Summary

- Real-world, real-time measurement is viable, calibrated to total mass loss
 - Wear rates differ significantly between tyre makes and models
 - Wear rates decline as tyres age
 - Organic composition can be almost fully resolved
 - Potential toxicity can be assessed
- Wear, speciation and hazard all need to be evaluated



Thank you.

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Independent

Objectivity and candour are the driving forces in all our work, so you know the facts.

Responsive

We're fast on our feet so we can conduct emissions testing when and where we're needed.