

NEWS RELEASE

YOKOHAMA

August 24, 2006
For immediate release

Contact:
Corporate Communications Dept.
The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.
36-11, Shimbashi 5-chome
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8685
Phone: 81-3-5400-4531
Fax: 81-3-3432-8430

Suzhou Yokohama Tire Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for its Plant in China

Tokyo—The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., announced today that Suzhou Yokohama Tire Co., Ltd., its affiliate for the production and sale of steel radial tires for truck/buses (TB) in China, held a groundbreaking ceremony on August 11 in Suzhou New District, Suzhou, where the affiliate plans to construct its plant.

Yokohama invited deputy mayor of Suzhou City People's Government and other government executives as well as tire dealers from various cities in China. From Yokohama Rubber, President Tadanobu Nagumo, Director and Senior Managing Corporate Officer Takashi Sugimoto who also serves as Chairman, Yokohama Rubber (China) Co., Ltd. and other executives attended the ceremony. Total participants reached approximately 170. In his remarks, President Nagumo said, "The new plant will become the first TB-use steel radial tire plant in China for Yokohama Rubber Group. At present, we rely on the import from Japan for TB-use steel radial tires for sale in China. However, once operation starts at the new plant, our supply capacity will significantly expand. We want to further increase production capacity in response to sales growth in the future".



Yokohama Rubber President Tadanobu Nagumo (left) in the groundbreaking ceremony celebrating the start of constructing a new steel radial tire plant in China.

横浜ゴム株式会社 広報部 広報・IRグループ
〒105-8685 東京都港区新橋5丁目36番11号 TEL:(03) 5400-4531 FAX:(03) 3432-8430

THE YOKOHAMA RUBBER CO., LTD. CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DEPT.
36-11, Shimbashi 5-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8685, Japan Telephone: 81-3-5400-4531 Facsimile: 81-3-3432-8430

Suzhou Yokohama Tire Co., Ltd was established in April 2006 with full capitalization of 27.1 million dollar by Yokohama Rubber (China) Co., Ltd. With an investment of 81 million dollar, it constructs the plant that is scheduled to begin operation in October 2007 at an annual production capacity of 350,000 tires. The new plant will be the fourth TB-use steel radial tire plant for Yokohama Rubber Group in addition to those in Japan, the U.S. and Thailand. It will also be the second plant in China for Yokohama Rubber Group following a passenger car-use radial tire plant of Hangzhou Yokohama Tire Co., Ltd., which began operation in May 2003.