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For immediate release

Contact:
Corporate Communications Dept.
Phone: 81-3-5400-4531
Fax: 81-3-5400-4570

Yokohama Rubber to Increase Tire Production Capacity in Russia to 1.6 Million Tires a Year

Tokyo – The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd., announced today that the company will increase the annual production capacity of Yokohama R.P.Z., a Russian subsidiary for manufacturing and selling tires, from current 1.4 million to 1.6 million tires. With an investment of 500 million yen, Yokohama Rubber plans to attain the capacity increase within the existing plant of Yokohama R.P.Z. and begin full-fledged production in the autumn of 2014. The number of tires Yokohama Rubber sells in Russia has reached 3 million a year, which is more than twice that of its local production capacity. The decision of this time is aimed at resolving this gap as much as possible and promoting “local production for local consumption”.

Yokohama R.P.Z. was founded in December 2008 for the purpose of manufacturing tires in Russia. Celebrating opening of its new tire plant in May 2012, the company is now manufacturing “C. drive2” passenger car tires and “ice GUARD iG35” stud tires for passenger cars with internal diameters from 13 to 18 inches. While the company is selling these tires in Russia, it also plans to export some products to Europe in the future.

The current annual production capacity of 1.4 million is going to be full-fledged production in the summer of 2013 as the company initially scheduled. With the new investment decided this time, the annual production capacity of Yokohama R.P.Z. will be expanded to 1.6 million tires in the autumn of 2014.

■Outline of Yokohama R.P.Z.

Lines of business:	Manufacturing and sale of tires for passenger cars and sports utility vehicles
Site area:	29 hectares
Representative:	Shinichi Suzuki
Number of employees:	557 (as of the end of 2012)
Location:	Special Economic Zone of Lipetsk Region, Russia



Bird-eye view of Yokohama R.P.Z.'s tire plant in the region of Lipetsk, Russia.