

Tyres Herco SA, will continue in 2012 to help solve one of the world's most pressing environmental challenges, namely to safely and productively recycle some of the one billion waste tyres produced in the world each and every year.

Tyres Herco's state of the art factory is one of the most recently built and modern facilities in Europe. Located in the Industrial area of Patras, it has easy access to good road transport and two of the country's largest Ports.

Nearly all manufactured product is shipped by sea in containers. The facility houses a laboratory and an experienced technical team committed to helping customers formulate custom products suitable for their needs.

Our state of the art plant is located in Patras, Greece's third largest port. It has a capacity of approximately 21,000 tons of tyres a year - about 400,000 individual casings - producing 13,000 tons a year of rubber granules and fine powder products.



How can I reuse or recycle Christmas cards?

The easiest thing to do with pretty Christmas cards is to cut out a square or rectangle from the design to use as a gift tag on your presents next year – use pinking shears or cut out a wavy edged template to make them more interesting. Taller strips could be used for bookmarks too.

They can also be used to make spherical Christmas tree decorations/cat toys!

One for the kids: Christmas cards are just the right thickness for loads of craft projects – **keep a stash for using throughout the year. Make little boxes to keep little things (like erasers or badges) tidy, for the inside "rings" of pom-poms, or use them to make stencils or templates.**

How can I reuse or recycle Christmas wrapping paper?

Shred pretty coloured wrapping paper to use as colourful light but protective packaging around future gifts.

Like newspaper, wrapping paper is great for cleaning windows and leaving them streak-free – use it instead of paper towels or a cloth. (Avoid using the shiny/plastic stuff though.)

One for the kids: thin paper like wrapping paper is great for origami – use it to make Christmas-themed decorations or to give to friends. You can also cut out pictures of penguins, stars or cartoon characters to decorate dull notebooks – or make decorations for next Christmas.

Source: <http://bit.ly/tRBbMZ>

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Whenever you think you've seen all of the strange automotive creations Russia could conceivably have to offer something like this tire covered car with wings appears to remind you there is no limit to weirdness.

Spotted on display in Perm City, Russia this car pushes the boundaries of weird things that could be done to a sports sedan. We just find it amazing that someone looks at an E39 and sees the opportunity to create something like this winged sculpture instead of endless hooning possibilities.

The fact no details are included with these pictures, beyond the fact the car "consists of tyres", seems fitting. We aren't really sure anyone could really explain this strange and interesting creation.



Source: <http://jalo.ps/sdfKa7>



For more than 100 years, vehicles have been rolling along on cushions of air encased in rubber. The pneumatic tire has served drivers and passengers well on road and off, but a new design by Michelin could change all that - the Tweel Airless Tire.

-In this article, we'll look at what the Tweel Airless Tire is, why you would use it in place of traditional tires, some of the problems that may occur with a Tweel Airless Tire and where you might see the Tweel Airless Tire in the future.

Michelin first announced the Tweel in 2005. The name is a combination of the words tire and wheel because the Tweel doesn't use a traditional wheel hub assembly. A solid inner hub mounts to the axle. That's surrounded by polyurethane spokes arrayed in a pattern of wedges. A shear band is stretched across the spokes, forming the outer edge of the tire (the part that comes in contact with the road). The tension of the shear band on the spokes and the strength of the spokes themselves replace the air pressure of a traditional tire. The tread is then attached to the shear band. The Tweel looks sort of like a very large, futuristic bicycle wheel.

When the Tweel is put to the road, the spokes absorb road impacts the same way air pressure does in pneumatic tires. The tread and shear bands

deform temporarily as the spokes bend, then quickly spring back into shape. Tweels can be made with different spoke tensions, allowing for different handling characteristics.

More pliant spokes result in a more comfortable ride with improved handling. The lateral stiffness of the Tweel is also adjustable. However, you can't adjust a Tweel once it has been manufactured. You'll have to select a

Tweel. For testing, Michelin equipped an Audi A4 with Tweels made with five times as much lateral stiffness as a pneumatic tire, resulting in "very responsive handling" [Source: Michelin].

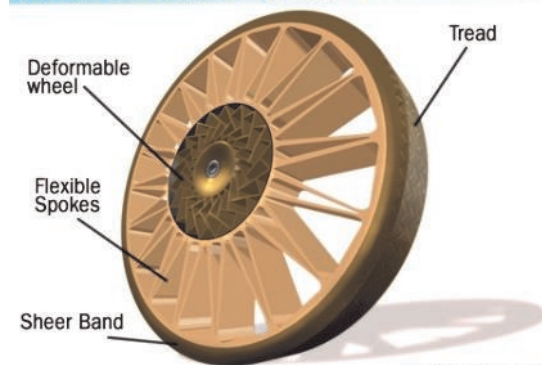
Michelin reports that "the Tweel prototype... is within five percent of the rolling resistance and mass levels of current pneumatic tires. That translates to mean within one percent of the fuel economy" of the tires on your own car. Since the Tweel is very early in its development, Michelin could be expected to improve those numbers.

Sources:
<http://bit.ly/uu7bcH>,
<http://bit.ly/rKXV9L>

How the Tweel Airless Tire Works



How the Tweel Airless Tire Works



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Beauty of Christmas

How to Recycle Your X'mas Tree



WHEN it comes to decorating a Christmas tree there are some rules to follow and choosing the right one is essential as it should be able to last for years and not lose its shape or leaves easily.

Being in the business of supplying trees and decorations to malls, department stores, businesses and the public, Glistar Fashion Sdn Bhd managing director James Mak provides some insights into how to decorate a Christmas tree.

At Glistar, in Jalan Tun HS Lee, Kuala Lumpur, one can check out the variety of trees available such as the Jack Pine, Majestic Fir, Canadian Pine, Oregon Fir and the ever popular Scotch Pine that is value for money, according to Mak.

"Buy a tree according to your budget and available space. Ideally, a tree should be at least a feet-and-a-half lower than the ceiling," he said, adding that shoppers should follow their heart where the type of tree is concerned.

Mak said some may opt for fibre optic trees but those had its weaknesses including overheating if used for long periods as well as having less branches for hanging decorations.

The next step is putting lights on the tree where the rule of thumb is to use a box of lights (100 bulbs) for every foot of the tree.

"A commercial tree is usually double that number. Get lights with end connectors so that you will have one long string of lights rather than many short ones.

"These days, LED lights are preferred because it doesn't get hot," he said.

For large trees, Mak said winding the lights into the inner branches starting from the middle of the tree would help brighten it.

"Always start decorating from the top and take a step back every now and then to look at the tree.

"The key to a pleasant looking tree is balance in decoration," he said.

After that comes the tree topper where traditionally people will use stars or angels while modern ones even include flowers.

"At this point, you should decide on the tree's colour theme. Try not to pick more than four colours. Safe colour

choices are red, gold and silver that are considered traditional," he said.

Mak said decorations should be concentrated on visible areas of the tree and large items go on first, following a rough zig-zag pattern.

"Large decorations can be anything from blooms to baubles to the relatively cheap option of ribbons. These pieces are considered the focal points of the tree," he said, adding that a two-and-a-half inch wide ribbon would be good for a six-foot tree.

Then, small decorations are used to fill in the bare spaces on the tree.

"Personal items like photo frames and special ornaments can also be hung. Larger items should go on the lower parts of the tree," Mak said.

As for plain baubles, he said they were used as fillers hung on the outer branches.

"The shiny ones should be hung on the inner branches so it reflects the lights that you have weaved in there earlier," he said.

Lastly, Mak said the tree's final

dressings were garlands and that this should not make the tree look too messy.

"The total cost for decorations, including lights for a six-foot tree is about RM500," he said, adding that those who were interested in learning to decorate can do so at Glistar with the purchase of their trees.

Meanwhile, those interested in getting a live tree this year, can head to Ikea at Mutiara Damansara where Scandinavian Christmas trees are being sold at RM129 for a 160cm tree or RM169 for a 250cm one.

Bring these trees back to the store at the Exchange & Returns counter between Jan 1 and 15 and it will be shredded to be reused as fuel while Ikea donates RM10 to the Malaysian Nature Society for every tree brought back.

Source: <http://bit.ly/sedC7P>



Christmas Trees Recycled Into Fish Habitats Across US

Around the US, Christmas trees are recycled for an unlikely purpose: they make for good fish habitat.

From southern California to South Carolina, fish and wildlife agencies have been collecting Christmas trees with plans to use them in lakes and waterways to create protective habitats for small fish.

In Wyoming, the trees will be dropped through designated holes in the ice at Ocean Lake in late January.

In South Carolina, Christmas trees will be used in Lake Hartwell. "By recycling used Christmas trees in Hartwell Lake, we provide cover for fish and enhance nursery habitat for juvenile fish," Jess Fleming, a park ranger with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers told the Anderson Independent Mail. "The trees are also beneficial to aquatic insects, which are essential food for most fish species."

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife spokesman Jeff Ross said that lakes contain woody habitats that rot away with time, and Christmas trees can help replenish those habitats.

Similar programs exist in Georgia, Montana, and other locations all around the country.

Christmas trees are also used to boost habitat for land animals, and for coastal wetland restoration projects.

Source: <http://bit.ly/rAZhac>



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