



TIRE RETREADING

Advancing the Circular Economy Through Jobs, Small Businesses, and Sustainable Growth

Tire retreading is a cornerstone of American remanufacturing, employing more than 51,000 American workers. It is the largest remanufacturing sector in the U.S., supporting more than 268,000 jobs across the broader U.S. tire industry. Approximately 15 million tires are retreaded annually in the U.S. Common retread users include: long-haul carriers, package delivery fleets, waste fleets, the U.S. military, school buses and government fleets. **Retreads are a nearly 100% domestically produced product manufactured by small, independent businesses.** Tire retreading advances the following six economic and sustainability benefits.

1 CREATES GOOD-PAYING JOBS IN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

As more retread facilities open or expand, new jobs will follow, allowing workers to contribute to the local economy. **Scaling up this crucial remanufacturing industry is critical to driving job creation in communities, particularly in regions facing economic challenges.** States like Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Indiana—steeped in a rich manufacturing history—are set to benefit most from investment in retreading.

2 STRENGTHENS AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE

As the U.S. retreading industry grows, it also strengthens the nation's independence from foreign tire imports. Many imported tires from countries like China and Thailand cannot be retreaded, forcing fleets to buy new tires more frequently, driving up costs. **Prioritizing U.S.-made retreaded tires helps secure jobs, boosts domestic production and ensures the U.S. is less reliant on volatile international markets.**

3 SUPPORTS SMALL, INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES

Tire retreading is a lifeline for small, independent businesses. Most retread facilities are small operations employing between 10 and 60 people, often located in smaller towns and rural areas. **Promoting investments in tire retreading aims to strengthen these small businesses, enabling them to grow, hire more workers and play a vital role in their communities.** Increased demand will help these shops thrive, ensuring their longevity and supporting local economies across the country.

COMPARED TO NEW TIRES, RETREADED TIRES:

- Use **15 gallons less oil** and **90 lbs. less material** per tire
- Save **215 million gallons of oil** annually in the U.S. and Canada
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by **24%**
- Reduce water consumption by **19%**
- Reduce air pollution by **21%**
- Keep **1.4 billion pounds of waste** out of landfills each year

4 LOWERS COSTS FOR TRUCKING FLEETS AND MAINTAINS PRICE AFFORDABILITY

High-quality tires can be retreaded up to three times, significantly reducing costs for trucking fleets. In addition, trucking fleets are supporting American-made tires, retreaded at American facilities that are employing American workers. Retreaded tires also help fleets cut essential expenses indirectly supports keeping goods more affordable—ensuring that food, products and everyday necessities remain accessible to families and small businesses alike.

5 REVITALIZES U.S. MANUFACTURING COMMUNITIES

Over the past few decades, the U.S. tire retreading industry has declined, dropping from more than 3,000 facilities in 1982 to just 500 in 2025. The goal is to reverse that trend. Every new retread facility that opens brings more jobs, more training and more hope for communities that have lost manufacturing opportunities. Workers can build sustainable careers, earning competitive wages, while helping to revive local economies.

6 CREATES A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Retreading contributes to a more sustainable, circular economy. Retreaded tires use fewer natural resources, reduce CO₂ emissions and keep millions of tires out of landfills each year. Expanding this eco-friendly industry supports a circular economy that benefits both the environment and local communities.

HOW TO BOOST TIRE RETREADING

- **Prioritize** the expansion of sustainable and circular infrastructure solutions for tires.
- **Incentivize** investments in retreaded commercial tires.
- **Level the playing field** for U.S. tire companies.
- **Create** domestic manufacturing jobs for production of retreaded tires.
- **Shift** the business model back in favor of retreading.

“ ... the U.S. tire retreading industry has declined, dropping from more than 3,000 facilities in 1982 to just 500 in 2025. ”



READ **THE STATE OF RETREAD TIRES 2024** HERE:

