

# Tip-top shape

## America's largest retreaders continue to expand. Just look at Snider Tire

By Bob Ulrich and Mike Manges

**D**omestic retreaders produced more than 13 million truck tire retreads last year, down 10% from the year before. By comparison, new replacement truck tire shipments totaled 12.5 million units, down 19.3%.

That didn't keep some of the largest retreaders in the United States from making major moves in 2009. None of them were busier than Snider Tire Corp., the seventh largest retreader on *Modern Tire Dealer's* "Top 100 retreaders in 2009" list. Last April, the longtime Bandag retreader joined the Michelin Retread Technologies Inc. (MRTI) network. To date, it has converted three of its eight Bandag plants to MRTI facilities.

The Greensboro, N.C.-based retreader also purchased Consolidated Tires Inc., 34th on *MTD's* list in 2009, and its Pelzer, S.C., MRTI retread plant — one of the largest in the country. Snider Tire enters 2010 with five Michelin Pre-Mold plants, which includes its latest in Bluffton, Ind.

Michelin has 46 franchise members with 80 plants throughout North America. Its largest is Tire Centers LLC (sixth), which sold one of its 14 plants to Service Tire Truck Centers (17th) earlier this year. The Millbury, Mass., facility has the capacity to produce between 400 and 500 Michelin Pre-mold and Custom Mold retreads per day.

### Hustle and bustle in 2010

In January, Belle Tire Distributors (19th) in Allen Park, Mich., and Tredroc Tire Service (12th) in Antioch, Ill., formed a joint venture in Michigan.

The joint venture, Belleroc Tire Services, encompasses one Bandag retread plant and three commercial tire locations. Tom Bowman, vice president of Belle Tire's Commercial Division, says Belle Tire will lend its medium truck tire expertise to Tredroc, while "we're hoping, in return, that they can help us with the OTR tire business."

H&H Industries Inc. (27th) recently opened an OTR retread

and repair facility in Pickton, Texas, with Trey Whiteman. The joint venture facility is named H&W Retread and Repair.

Whiteman, who owned and operated an OTR repair facility in Pickton for several years, will operate H&W.

"H&W was formed as a sister company to H&H to expand our national coverage area, increase our market share in the western territories, and to be utilized as a staging point for our business in Mexico," says H&H President Noah Hickman. H&H is based in Oak Hill, Ohio.

H&W will retread OTR tires using the Bridgestone Continuum precure retread process and cut tread process, supplemented by H&H's mold retread process, which will allow H&W "to have the most diverse retread capabilities possible," says Hickman.

### Look out for Continental

"Others" account for 3.5% of domestic retreaded truck tire market share, behind Bridgestone Bandag Tire Solutions (42%), Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. (28%), Michelin Retread Technologies Inc. (23%) and Marangoni North America Inc. (3.5%).

One of those "others" is Continental Tire the Americas LLC, which introduced its ContiTread tread designs in the United States last year. Continental retreads are produced by Marangoni licensees under a manufacturing alliance between the two companies.

ContiTread is available both as a spliceless product (like Marangoni's Ringtread) and premium, cut-to-length tread, depending on size and other criteria.

ContiTread retreads are available in both the U.S. and Mexico.

Continental says it plans to set up 15 self-contained ContiTread plants throughout Mexico within the next two years. ■

## The keys to the key

Each April, *Commercial Tire Dealer*™ lists the top 100 retreaders in the United States. Rankings are based on the average amount of tread rubber used to retread different types of tires.

One point is awarded for every seven pounds of rubber used per retread. Here's how the points and tire types match up:

- 1.7 points per light truck tire retread.
- 3.5 points per medium truck tire retread.
- 46 points per OTR tire retread.

How did we determine the points per tire? An average of 12 pounds of rubber is used to retread one light truck tire, while 24 pounds are used to produce one medium/heavy truck tire retread. An average of 325 pounds is used to build one OTR tire retread.

## Mold cure market share

Among *Modern Tire Dealer's* Top 100 Retreaders (see chart on pages 34-37), Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. is the largest producer of mold cure truck tire retreads.

Of the close to 500,000 mold cure retreads produced by the top retreaders, Goodyear accounts for 37% of them, followed by Acutread Alliance Group Inc. and its Acutread precision remanufactured tires.

### Top 100 mold cure retreading market share

Goodyear 37% Acutread 24%  
Michelin 16% Others 23%

Mold cure retreading accounts for approximately 4% of the truck tire retreads produced by the Top 100 Retreaders in the U.S.

RANK	COMPANY	HEAD-QUARTERS	NUM-BER OF SHOPS	RUBBER USED (lbs. in millions)	LT TIRES	TRUCK TIRES	OTR TIRES	PROCESSES	TOTAL POINTS
1	Wingfoot Commercial Tire Systems LLC	Fort Smith, Ark.	50	39.2	430	6,090	0	Goodyear (Unicircle, precure, mold cure)	22,046
2	Purcell Tire & Rubber Co.	Potosi, Mo.	5	20	150	1,300	160	Goodyear (Unicircle, precure, mold cure, Flexcure), other	12,165
3	Southern Tire Mart	Columbia, Miss.	18	19.1	0	3,290	0	Bandag (precure)	11,515
4	Bridgestone Bandag Tire Solutions	Muscatine, Iowa	37	20.2	18	2,816	6	Bandag (precure)	10,162.6
5	Best-One Group	Monroe, Ind.	16	12.6	0	2,020	0	Bandag (precure)	7,070
6	TCI Tire Centers	Duncan, S.C.	10	13	0	1,900	0	Michelin (Pre-mold, Custom Mold)	6,650
7	Snider Tire Inc.	Greensboro, N.C.	5	10	200	1,600	0	Michelin (Pre-mold), Bandag (precure)	5,940
8	Northwest Retreaders Inc./Hudson-Odom	Portland, Ore.	1	N/A	25	210	105	Precure, mold, sculpture	5,607.5
9	McCarthy Tire Service Co. Inc.	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	5	6	132	800	40	Bandag (precure, Continuum)	4,864.4
10	Pomp's Tire Service	Green Bay, Wis.	11	N/A	103	1,259	0	Bandag (precure)	4,581.6
11	Les Schwab Tire Centers	Bend, Ore.	3	9.5	0	1,110	10	Oliver (precure), Marangoni (Ringtread), Galgo	4,345
12	Tredroc Tire Services	Antioch, Ill.	6	N/A	50	1,200	0	Bandag (precure)	4,285
13	B.R. Retreading	Glasgow, Ky.	1	4.6	0	8	89	Segmented radial molds, Marangoni (cut tread)	4,122
14	Bauer Built Inc., dba Bauer Built Tire	Durand, Wis.	7	6.5	10	900	0	Michelin (Pre-mold, Custom Mold)	3,167
15	C & M Tire (Cross-Midwest Tire Inc.)	Kansas City, Mo.	4	5	50	800	6	Bandag (precure, Continuum)	3,161
16	Bob Sumerel Tire Co.	Erlanger, Ky.	6	5	0	800	0	Bandag (precure)	2,800
17	Service Tire Truck Centers	Bethlehem, Pa.	3	5.7	28	770	0	Michelin (Pre-mold), Vival (precure)	2,742.6
18	New Pride Corp.	Oakland, Calif.	3	4.3	0	740	0	Nexen (precure and mold cure)	2,590
19	Belle Tire Distributors	Allen Park, Mich.	2	2.8	20	660	0	Bandag (precure)	2,344
20	Parkhouse Tire Inc.	Bell Gardens, Calif.	3	3.8	10	650	0	Bandag (precure)	2,292
21	Valley Tire Co. Inc.	Charleroi, Pa.	2	3.2	40	550	2	Michelin (Pre-mold)	2,085
22	Jack's Tire and Oil Management Co. Inc.	Logan, Utah	4	3.9	8	550	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	1,938.6
23	Community Tire Co.	St. Louis, Mo.	1	N/A	120	80	30	Mold cure, Goodyear (Unicircle), segmented mold cure	1,864
24	Custom Bandag Inc.	Linden, N.J.	3	3.3	66	500	0	Bandag (precure)	1,862.2
25	New Holland Tire Inc.	Terre Hill, Pa.	2	2.9	5	500	2	Daeho/Elgi (precure)	1,850.5
26	Ziegler Tire & Supply Co.	Massillon, Ohio	2	4	5	525	0	Michelin (Pre-mold, Custom Mold)	1,846

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27	H & H Industries Inc.	Oak Hill, Ohio	1	5.1	0	0	40	Mold cure, sculpture, precure	1,840
28	Atlanta Commercial Tire Inc.	Forest Park, Ga.	3	N/A	15	510	0	Bandag (precure)	1,810.5
29	McGriff Treading Co.	Cullman, Ala.	3	3	26	503	0	Bandag (precure)	1,804.7
30	Boulevard Tire	Deland, Fla.	4	3.2	0	510	0	Bandag (precure)	1785
31	Parrish Tire Co.	Winston-Salem, N.C.	2	N/A	50	450	0	Bandag (precure)	1,660
32	Consolidated Tires Inc.	Greenville, S.C.	1	N/A	0	460	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	1,610
33	White's Tire Service	Wilson, N.C.	1	2.7	35	318	8	Oliver Megamile (precure), Marangoni (Ringtread), White's Bead-to-Bead (mold cure), Bandamatic (precure)	1,540.5
34	Allied Tire Co.	Omaha, Neb.	1	N/A	0	405	0	Michelin (Pre-mold, Custom Mold)	1,417.5
35	RDH Tire & Retread Co.	Cleveland, N.C.	1	5	0	0	30	Computerized strip and tread grooving, Bandag (Continuum)	1,380
36	Raben Tire Co. Inc.	Evansville, Ind.	3	2.1	0	384	0	Michelin (Pre-mold), Goodyear (Unicircle)	1,344
37	Craft Tire Inc.	Uniontown, Penn.	2	2.5	0	0	28	Marangoni (Mammoth, computer cut tread)	1,288
38	Sullivan Tire Co. Inc.	Norwell, Mass.	3	2.9	30	350	0	Bandag (precure)	1,276
38	T & W Tire and Retread Inc.	Oklahoma City, Okla.	2	N/A	30	350	0	Goodyear (precure)	1,276
40	Callaghan Tire	Bradenton, Fla.	2	N/A	10	340	0	Bandag (precure)	1,207
41	Redburn Tire Co.	Phoenix, Ariz.	5	2.3	20	325	0	Bandag (precure)	1,171.5
42	Royal Tire Inc.	St. Cloud, Minn.	2	2	2	280	3	Bandag (precure, Continuum)	1,121.4
43	Strouhal Tire Recapping Plant Inc.	Hungerford, Texas	1	N/A	0	300	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	1,050
44	California Retreaders Inc.	Fresno, Calif.	1	2	0	280	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	980
45	Eastern Iowa Tire Inc.	Davenport, Iowa	2	1.7	0	270	0	Bandag (precure)	945
46	Darrington Retreading Facility	Rosharon, Texas	1	N/A	0	2	20	Precure	927
47	Brahler's Truckers Supply Inc.	Jacksonville, Ill.	1	2	6	250	0	Marangoni (Ringtread), Brahler (precure)	885.2
48	Highlands' Tire & Retreading	Carlisle, Pa.	1	N/A	5	250	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	883.5
49	Bergey's Retread Technologies	Franconia, Pa.	1	1.5	1	250	0	Marangoni (Ringtread), other	876.7
50	Mountain Tire Corp.	Gorham, N.H.	2	N/A	10	240	0	Oliver (precure)	857
51	Graham Retread Co.	Spencer, Iowa	2	N/A	2	240	0	Goodyear (precure)	843.4

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52	Pete's Tire Barns Inc.	Orange, Mass.	1	N/A	30	200	2	Bandag (precure)	843
53	A to Z Tire & Battery Inc.	Amarillo, Texas	2	N/A	0	240	0	Marangoni (Ringtread)	840
54	Looney's Tire Service	Little Rock, Ark.	1	1.3	0	239	0	Marangoni (precure), Pre-Q (precure), Daeho (precure)	836.5
55	Southside Tire Co. Inc.	Schofield, Wis.	2	N/A	8	220	1	Bandag (precure)	829.6
56	Superior Tire Service Inc.	Salem, Ore.	2	3	10	225	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	804.5
57	Day & Night Tire Service	Lakeland, Fla.	1	1.9	160	150	0	Acutread (mold cure), Oliver (precure)	797
58	Moore's Retread & Tire Co.	Springdale, Ark.	2	N/A	10	220	0	Goodyear (precure), CIMA (mold cure)	787
59	Piedmont Truck Tires Inc.	Greensboro, N.C.	1	1.2	8	220	0	Goodyear (precure)	783.6
60	Gem City Tire	Dayton, Ohio	1	N/A	24	210	0	Goodyear (Unicircle, precure)	775.8
61	Morton Supplies Inc.	Morton, Ill.	1	0.9	2	138	6	Daeho (precure), Bandamatic (precure), Oliver SureCure (precure)	762.4
62	Commercial Tire Inc.	Meridian, Idaho	3	1.5	9	213	0	Bandag (precure)	760.8
63	MTI Retreading Inc.	Grand Rapids, Mich.	1	N/A	30	195	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	733.5
64	Tarulli Tire Inc.	Santa Ana, Calif.	1	1.3	12	200	0	Bandag (precure)	720.4
65	Ozarko Tire Centers Inc.	West Plains, Mo.	2	N/A	0	203	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	710.5
66	Ranger Tire/J.A.R. Rubber Corp.	Bayshore, N.Y.	1	1.8	2	202	0	Marangoni (precure), Vipal/Elgi (precure)	710.4
67	Daniels Tire Service	Santa Fe Springs, Calif.	1	N/A	20	190	0	Goodyear (precure)	699
68	Moore's Retread and Tire of the Ark-La-Tex Inc.	Shreveport, La.	1	1.3	6	184	0	Goodyear (Unicircle, precure)	654.2
69	Tire Grading Co. Inc.	Chicago, Ill.	1	N/A	200	88	0	Marangoni (Ringtread)	648
70	Stratham Tire Inc.	Stratham, N.H.	3	0.8	10	180	0	Bandag (precure)	647
71	Overnite CTS	Charlotte, N.C.	1	N/A	0	179	0	Mold cure	626.5
72	Appalachian Tire Products Inc.	Charleston, W.V.	2	N/A	30	150	0	Goodyear (precure, mold cure)	576
73	Dale's Tire & Retreading Inc.	Rapid City, S.D.	1	0.8	4	120	3	Bandag (precure)	564.8
74	Wonderland Tire Co. Inc.	Byron Center, Mich.	1	N/A	0	160	0	Acutread (mold cure)	560
75	Sumerel Tire Service Inc.	Newport, Ky.	1	1.2	6	156	0	Acutread (mold cure)	556.2
76	Wentworth Bandag	Chicago, Ill.	1	N/A	0	156	0	Bandag (precure)	546

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77	Maine Commercial Tire	Hermon, Maine	1	N/A	12	150	0	Bandag (precure)	545.4
78	Black's Tire & Auto Service	Whiteville, N.C.	1	N/A	5	150	0	Goodyear (Unicircle, precure)	533.5
79	Wood County Bandag LLC	Bowling Green, Ohio	1	0.9	4	150	0	Bandag (precure)	531.8
80	Colony Tire Corp.	Edenton, N.C.	1	N/A	0	150	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	525
80	Good Tire Service	Kittanning, Pa.	1	N/A	0	150	0	Bandag (precure)	525
82	Becker Tire & Treading Inc.	Great Bend, Kan.	1	1	4	120	2	Bandag (precure)	518.8
83	Central Tire Corp.	Verona, Va.	1	0.8	4	137	0	Goodyear (precure), Horizon (precure), AcuTread (mold cure)	486.3
84	Pete's Road Service Inc.	Fullerton, Calif.	1	1.1	25	125	0	Oliver (precure)	480
85	Suburban Tire Co.	Dayton, Ohio	1	N/A	35	120	0	Goodyear (precure)	479.5
86	K-S Bandag, a division of Kaufmann Tire	Wooster, Ohio	1	N/A	8	132	0	Bandag (precure)	475.6
87	McGee Tire Stores Inc.	Lakeland, Fla.	1	0.6	12	125	0	Goodyear (Unicircle)	457.9
88	Holyoke Tire & Auto Service Inc.	West Springfield, Mass.	1	0.6	12	96	2	Bandag (precure)	448.4
89	Alma Tire Service Inc.	Alma, Mich.	1	N/A	10	110	1	Bandag (precure)	448
90	A & E Tire Inc.	Denver, Colo.	1	N/A	5	125	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	446
91	Main Tire Exchange Inc.	Dansville, N.Y.	1	0.9	15	120	0	Bandag (precure)	445.5
92	Terry-Haggerty Tire Co. Inc.	Albany, N.Y.	1	0.7	10	120	0	Bandag (precure)	437
93	McCoy Truck Tire Service Center Inc.	Modesto, Calif.	2	0.7	4	121	0	Bandag (precure)	430.3
94	Heintschel Tire & Service Inc.	Texarkana, Texas	1	0.8	4	120	0	Marangoni (Ringtread), Bandamatic (precure)	426.8
95	Doyle Hayes Tire Service Inc.	Dalton, Ga.	1	N/A	3	120	0	Bandag (precure)	425.1
96	Jewell Tire Retreading Inc.	South Paris, Maine	1	N/A	12	115	0	Marangoni (precure)	422.9
97	Salem Tire Center	Salem, Ill.	1	N/A	0	120	0	Oliver (precure)	420
98	Phelps Tire Co.	Seattle, Wash.	1	N/A	0	115	0	Michelin (Pre-mold)	402.5
99	Action Tire Co.	Forest Park, Ga.	1	N/A	1	114	0	Oliver (precure)	400.7
100	Mount Morris Tire Service	Mount Morris, Pa.	1	1.4	150	40	0	Mold cure	395