



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

ETRTO CONSTITUTION

(First published in 1964)

The text of the ETRTO Constitution reproduced below was approved at the 52nd General Assembly, which was held on 7 October 2016 in Warsaw (Poland) and is amending the previous version of October 2015.

Warsaw, 7 October 2016

Joerg BURFIEN
President

Peter SNEL
Vice-President

i.a.

Marco SPINETTO
Chairman of the
Executive Committee



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The Organisation shall be known as the European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation (E.T.R.T.O.).

E.T.R.T.O. (A.D.F)
Rue Defacqz 78-80
1060 Brussels
Belgium

e-mail: info@etrto.org
Tel: +32/344.40.59
Fax: +32/344.00.84

Company N°: 0850.204.307

2. OBJECTIVES

- (a) To act as a competent Body to be responsible for dealing with technical aspects of tyres, solid tyres, rims and valves in Europe, such Body to consist of representatives of the relevant manufacturers.
- (b) To establish common engineering dimensions, load/pressure characteristics together with their tolerances, and operational guidelines in order to maintain alignment of national Standards and ultimately to achieve the interchangeability of pneumatic tyres, solid tyres, rims and valves in Europe as far as fitting and use are concerned.
- (c) To promote the free exchange of technical information appertaining to tyres, solid tyres, rims and valves.
- (d) To prepare and publish engineering Standards as well as Engineering Design Information and Recommendations which represent the « State of the Art » of Products manufactured in Europe.
- (e) To advise Members of legislation and other national and international practices, which may affect the activities of the Organisation.
- (f) To co-operate, if desirable, with any national or international Organisation whose objects are similar or complementary, but to be independent of any other Organisation.
- (g) To contribute to and participate in the development of technical legislation which may have an impact on tyres, rims or valves.
- (h) To represent its Members with governmental and / or inter-governmental bodies at European and international level (e.g. UNECE WP29) and with the relevant national, regional and international technical organisation, in and outside Europe.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

Note: Europe is the European Union plus States officially being recognized as candidates for accession to the European Union plus Member States of the European Free Trade Association.

3. LIMITATIONS

The activities of the Organisation shall be strictly confined to technical aspects appertaining to tyres, solid tyres, rims and valves, and shall not be such as will result in any **share of business data (such as sales, prices, volumes, costs, margin, etc.)** agreement, understanding or any other form of action, concerted or not, which will hinder innovation, development, limit production, fix prices, suppress competition or in any other manner restrain trade or monopolise, or attempt to monopolise, trade. The Organisation shall be a non-profit-making Body. Nothing shall be paid to Members in the form of bonuses or dividends and all publications shall be a non-profit-making basis.

The Organisation will neither investigate nor consider patents in connection with any matter, and will disclaim all responsibility for any infringement that may arise from the manufacture or use of any article specified in the Organisation's documents.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Provision is made for five classes of membership:

(a) *FULL MEMBERSHIP:*

Full membership is open to any manufacturer of tyres (pneumatic and/or solid), rims or valves, and whose manufacturing facilities are located in Europe and those applicants within the consideration of Section 8.2 (a).

Note: Any manufacturer, who produces more than one of the above type of products, is entitled to individual membership for each type.

However they shall have no corporate affiliation with a producer of motor vehicles.

(b) *AFFILIATED MEMBERSHIP:*

Affiliated Membership is open to any firm or company manufacturing,

- components related to pneumatic tyres, rims, valves,
- solid tyres or rims for solid tyres,
- rims for bicycle tyres,

whose manufacturing facilities are located in a country signatory of the UNECE (*) Agreements 1958 or 1998, subject to approval as covered in Section 8.2 (a).

(*) United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

Note: *For the purposes of Affiliated Membership, a solid tyre must be a separate unit from the wheel and must be capable of being fitted to a wheel by a mechanical process and be held in position only by an interference fit. It should also be capable of being fitted to a driving wheel and must have a minimum load capacity of 500kg at a speed of 10 km/h. However they shall have no corporate affiliation with a producer of motor vehicles.*

(c) **CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIP:**

Corresponding Membership is open to any firm or company manufacturing mainly pneumatic tyres, solid tyres, rims or valves and to Associations representing manufacturers of the above type of products, subject to approval as covered in Section 8.2 (a).



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

(d) *EUROPEAN ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:*

European Associate Membership is open to national Organisations (whose members are at the same time Full Members of E.T.R.T.O.), concerned with pneumatic tyre, solid tyres, rim or valve technical data in any European country, subject to approval as covered in Section 8.2. (a).

(e) *INTERNATIONAL LIAISON MEMBERSHIP:*

International Liaison Membership is open to any national technical Organisation (whose members are manufacturing pneumatic tyres, solid tyres, rims, valves) in any non-European country which agrees to contribute to an information exchange, and which agrees to inform E.T.R.T.O. about ongoing legislative processes in their country or zone, subject to approval as covered in Section 8.2. (a).

(f) *HONORARY MEMBERSHIP*

Besides the above, Honorary President(s), Honorary Vice-President(s), Honorary Secretary General(s) and Honorary Member(s) of the Organisation may be appointed, such appointments carrying no executive or voting power.

Anyone who contributes substantially to the work and aims of ETRTO may be proposed for Honorary Membership. Nominations shall be made at a General Assembly Meeting of the Organisation through the medium of the Executive Committee. Honorary Members do not participate in the activities of the Organisation, but they may attend the General Assembly Meeting.

5. DUTIES OF ETRTO MEMBERS

In the light of the objectives (Section 2 above) of the ETRTO organization, all Full Members and Affiliated Members are committing to introduce on the market only tyres, rims and valves that follow the rules of the Engineering Design Information book. New tyre, rim or valve manufacturers applying for Full Membership or Affiliated Membership are committing:

1. To provide the most comprehensive list of tyres (pneumatic and / or solid), rims or valves that are not in agreement with the ETRTO rules.
2. To prepare a proposal regarding the alignment of those products with ETRTO standards and rules and/or future changes to the design guides.

They are also committing that products that are not following the rules should be subject to a request for Experimental Standard as per paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Rules of Procedures.

Note: The Executive Committee agree to grant a temporary exemption for Earthmover and Industrial Pneumatic tyres due to the peculiar history of this market while a harmonization attempt is ongoing.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

6. MANAGEMENT

- (a) The Management is entrusted to an Executive Committee.
- (b) The composition of the Executive Committee will be laid down in the Rules of Procedure.
- (c) All decisions of the Committee must be supported by at least the same number of votes as constitutes the quorum. 51% of the assigned votes (rounded off upwards) shall constitute the quorum
- (d) The Executive Committee shall elect one of its members to act as its Chairman and another as Deputy Chairman. They will serve for a period of three years, but may be re-elected.
- (e) Each year the Executive Committee shall nominate one of its members as President of the Organisation and another as Vice-President, both appointments being for a period of one year and subject to endorsement by the General Assembly.
- (f) The positions of President of the Organisation on the one hand, and Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee on the other hand, may be held simultaneously by the same person.
- (g) The positions of Vice-President of the Organisation on the one hand, and Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee on the other hand, may be held simultaneously by the same person.

7. ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

The President of the Organisation will chair the General Assembly meeting, but the Executive Committee may, in special circumstances, invite the Vice-President or a representative of a Full Member to perform this function, subject to endorsement each year by the Annual General Assembly Meeting.

During the General Assembly meeting, in contentious cases, the President has a casting vote if necessary.

8. ROLE AND POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

8.1 Role of the Executive Committee

The role of the Executive Committee is to ensure that the Organisation's activities remain within the objectives, limitations and duties of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure.

The Executive Committee is the sole legal representative of the Organisation and must nominate the person or persons entitled to sign documents committing the Organisation.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

8.2 Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has power:

- (a) To approve or reject applications for all classes of membership, subject to approval by the General Assembly. When considering applications for membership, the Executive Committee must take into account not only the definitions given in Section 4, but also the objectives and interests of E.T.R.T.O. and, for instance, to consider application from any manufacturer of tyres (pneumatic and/or solid), rims or valves, and whose manufacturing facilities are located in a country signatory of the UNECE (*) 1958 (**) or 1998 (***)
(*) United Nation / Economic Commission for Europe.
(**) Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions, done at Geneva on 20 March 1958.
(***) Agreement concerning the establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, done at Geneva on 25 June 1998.
- (b) To invite International Liaison Members to participate to the Technical Advisory and Liaison Sub-Committee
- (c) To terminate membership as provided for in Section 19.
- (d) To nominate the venue and approve the arrangements for the Annual General Assembly.
- (e) To summon a special General Assembly Meeting when considered appropriate.
- (f) To establish Sub-Committees (SC), Working Groups (WG) or Task Forces (TF) as required.
- (g) To authorise expenditure for General, Sub-Committees (SC), Working Groups (WG) and Task Forces (TF) meetings, and for any other Item considered appropriate, within the limits of the budget as approved by the General Assembly.
- (h) To decide the amount of the annual subscription and entrance fees, and the price of E.T.R.T.O. publications, subject to the approval of the General Assembly.
- (i) To control the official staff of the Organisation and to fix their remuneration, duties, terms of service, etc. The President of the organization and the Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be the spokespersons of the Executive Committee towards the General Secretary when fixing annual objectives, and evaluating performance.
- (j) To act on behalf of the Organisation in any circumstance not otherwise provided for, it being understood that only a General Assembly Meeting has the power of decision on technical subjects.
- (k) To lay down Rules of Procedure for the proper running of the Organisation, subject to approval at the General Assembly Meeting by 70% of validated votes.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

9. SECRETARIAT

The Organisation shall maintain a paid staff at a convenient location in Europe. The principal officer shall be a Secretary General, whose appointment and tenure of office shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

10. DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General shall:

- (a) Be directly responsible to the Executive Committee for the running of the Organisation and perform such duties as the Executive Committee may determine.
- (b) Be the official representative of the organization. The Executive Committee may nominate other representatives as required.
- (c) Attend and be responsible for the organisation and secretariat of General Assembly Meetings.
- (d) Be responsible for the work of the staff and organise and attend the meetings of the Executive Committee, Sub-Committees (SC), Working Groups and Task Forces as required.
- (d) Be responsible for all moneys received and disbursed and maintain the necessary Account Books for this purpose.
Supply the Executive Committee, at the beginning of the Business Year, with an annual budget forecast.
- (e) Have the authority to make payments up to a limit determined by the Executive Committee to cover all normal expenditure associated with running the organization as provided for in the annual budget.
Approval of the President and the Chairman of the Executive Committee or their deputies; their counter-signature must be obtained on all payments over the above limit or for non-budgeted items.
- (f) Be responsible for the coordination of the technical activities related to Legislation issued by UNECE and the European Commission in order to build the tyre industry position and to prepare the assessment and / or proposal for amendment to the Legislation.
- (g) Attend Coordination Group meetings with ETRMA, attend joint meetings with European legislative bodies as the need arises, record and prepare the reports, if necessary.
- (h) Attend UNECE WP29 meetings as spokesman and head of the ETRTO delegation. A spokesman for specific subjects may be appointed. Also attend GRRF and GRB meetings as well as informal working groups meetings with Contracting Parties as the need arises.
- (i) Have no active association with, or obligation to, any manufacturer of tyres, rims or valves, and be independent in all cases.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

11. PROCEDURE

The functions of the Organisation shall normally be discharged through a General Assembly, Sub-Committee (SC), Working Group (WG) or Task Forces (TF) meetings.

(a) *General Assembly Meeting - convened as follows:*

- (i) By each General Assembly, before dispersal, agreeing the date and location of the Next Meeting.
- (ii) By the Executive Committee as provided above in Section 8.2 (d).

(b) *Sub-Committees (SC)*

The Executive Committee or the General Assembly may establish a Sub Committee (SC) to deal with a particular product group or subject. A chairman will be nominated to be responsible for making the necessary arrangements for meetings of such a Sub Committee (SC).

(c) *Working Groups (WG)*

The Executive Committee, General Assembly or Sub Committee (SC) may establish a Working Group (WG) to deal with a particular subject. A convenor will be nominated to be responsible for making the necessary arrangements for meetings of such a Working Group (WG).

(d) *Task Forces (TF)*

The Executive Committee may establish a Task Force (TF) to deal with a particular subject. A convenor will be nominated to be responsible for making the necessary arrangements for meetings of such a Task Force (TF).

12. PREPARATION OF STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The preparation of proposals for E.T.R.T.O. Standards, E.T.R.T.O. Recommendations and ETRTO Engineering Design Information, as defined in Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure, is essentially the task of the Sub-Committees set-up according to Section 8.2 (e) of the Constitution. Before publication, as noted in Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure, such proposals require approval either by a General Assembly or under the Emergency Procedure.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

13. LANGUAGE

The official Reference Language is the English language; French and German are the other two main languages.

Reports of Meetings shall be issued in English.

Resolutions will be issued in English.

The Executive Committee may grant exceptions to these Rules.

14. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription for Full Members, Affiliated Members and Corresponding Members shall be fixed at the Annual General Assembly Meeting based on recommendations by the Executive Committee.

European Associate, International Liaison and Honorary Members shall pay no subscription.

15. FINANCE

The expenses of the Organisation will normally be met by:

- (a) Annual subscriptions
- (b) Selling ETRTO Publications

The Subscriptions for the current year will become due for payment immediately after the General Assembly Meeting at which they are approved.

16. VOTING POWER AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

A vote can only be taken if 75% of the registered members entitled to vote on the subject concerned are present or represented.

Only Full Members and Affiliated Members have the right to vote, but with the following restrictions depending on the subject under discussion.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Members entitled to vote</u>
Pneumatic Tyres	Tyre Full Members only
Rims for Pneumatic Tyres (excluding Rims for Bicycle Tyres)	Tyre Full Members, Rim Full Members and Valve Full Members



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

Rims for Bicycle Tyres	Tyre Full Members, Rim Full Members, Valve Full Members and Affiliated Members (Rims for Bicycle Tyres)
Valves	Tyre Full Members, Valve Full Members and Rim Full Members
Solid Tyres	Tyre Full Members and Affiliated Members (Solid Tyres)
Rims for Solid Tyres	Tyre Full Members, Rim Full Members and Affiliated Members (Solid Tyres and Rims for Solid Tyres)
General	All Full Members

In contentious cases, the President of the Organisation shall decide which members are entitled to vote.

Voting by proxy is permissible providing due notice has been given in writing to the Secretary General prior to the meeting. On the other hand, voting by correspondence is not permitted.

Majorities

In computing majorities only validated votes, that is to say votes cast in favour or against, including proxy votes, will be taken into account, abstentions being excluded from the poll.

A. Proposals for E.T.R.T.O. Standards or E.T.R.T.O. Recommendations prepared by Sub-Committees shall be submitted to the General Assembly according to Article 4 of the Rules of Procedure unless they have been previously approved under the Emergency Procedure. For approval, a simple majority of the validated votes is required.

Any proposal for which the required number of validated votes for approval is not obtained will be referred back to the Sub-Committee(s) concerned for further consideration.

B. All items except those referred to in Section 8.2 (j), and Sections 18 and 19 (c) will be decided by a simple majority of the validated votes, the President having a casting vote if necessary.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

17. EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTIONS

An effective date must be given for Resolutions submitted to the General Assembly by Sub-Committees.

When an effective date is not specified, the date of approval by the General Assembly will be deemed as effective date.

18. MODIFICATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Modifications to the Constitution can be proposed in writing and must be discussed and voted upon at the next General Assembly Meeting if filed by the Executive Committee or by at least one-fifth of the registered Full Members and Affiliated Members providing that at least three different firms are represented.

Any proposal relating to changes in the Constitution must be brought to the notice of the General Secretary at least sixty (60) days, and to Members at least thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting.

Submissions relating to modifications or additions to the Constitution will be considered passed if at least 80% of the validated votes are in favour.

19. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Any member can terminate membership of the Organisation by giving notice thereof six (6) months prior to the end of the business year.
- (b) A member of the Organisation may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be deemed to have forfeited his membership if he no longer complies with Section 4 of the Constitution.
- (c) A member of the Organisation may also be deemed to have forfeited his membership if, in the opinion of the General Assembly he is acting contrary to the objects of the Organisation as set out in Sections 2, 3 and 5 of the Constitution. Notice shall be given to all Members, including the Member concerned, at least sixty (60) days before the date of the General Assembly Meeting, and such a decision requires ratification by 90% of the validated votes, excluding the member concerned.
- (d) Re-instatement of membership in cases (a), (b) and (c) above is dependent upon the conditions of Sections 4, 8.2 (a) and 14 being met. In particular, the re-instated Member will be required to pay the Subscription for the current year.
- (e) Membership may also be terminated by the Executive Committee if a Member fails to pay his Dues within ninety (90) days of notice of default being given in writing. Such members may be re-instated on a majority vote in the Executive Committee in favour of re-instatement, subject to the payment of all arrears in full.



European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation

CONSTITUTION

20. BUSINESS YEAR

The business year will be from 1st August to the following 31st July.
