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HSS HIRE ROLLS OUT MICHELIN'S TPMS LIGHT FLEET SYSTEM AFTER TRIAL DEMONSTRATES FUEL SAVINGS

HSS Hire is expanding its use of the newly launched Michelin Tyre Pressure Management System (Light Fleet) across 250 vans after seeing improved fuel economy and reduced tyre wear during a four-month trial.

The technology was initially fitted to 20 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter vans in March 2018 and Martin O'Neill, National Fleet and Logistics Manager at HSS Hire, was shocked at how quickly the benefits were seen.

"In just four months the system has changed the way our fleet operates. Previously we checked tyre pressures manually, but Michelin TPMS Light Fleet has shown us our pressure management wasn't as good as we originally thought.

"Since fitting the system we've noticed that fuel economy has increased, and tyre wear and spend is going down. You can't argue with the figures, and that's why we're now rolling it out to cover 250 of our 3.5 tonne vans."

The new technology offers a straightforward way for fleet operators to check and maintain the optimum tyre pressures on their vehicles. It replaces the traditional valve caps with sensors that auto-pair with a solar-powered windscreen display, used to alert drivers to under and over-inflation, as well as to an increase in temperature – often the sign of an impending tyre failure.

Each vehicle is also assigned a contactless tyre pressure checker, which can be held next to the sensor to display the exact pressure via the digital readout – without the hassle of connecting a pressure gauge to the valve, which removes air and is unhygienic.

“The system proved popular during the trial thanks to how easy it is to use. It’s made us more aware of our tyre pressures and the potential dangers and cost implications which under-inflation can cause,” O’Neill adds.

Tyre under-inflation is a global issue which increases fuel bills, CO₂ emissions and stopping distances, and reduces tyre endurance capabilities. Michelin research has found that 60 per cent of UK motorists* routinely drive on under-inflated tyres, half of which are dangerously under-inflated by more than 8psi.

HSS Hire is a major provider of tools, equipment and related services in the UK and Ireland. It uses its light commercial fleet to ensure it can deliver an exceptional service to customers – delivering products when and where they are needed, with thousands of items available on a same or next-day service.

*Based on UK data collected by Michelin over the 10-year period ending 2017.

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Notes to editor:

Wheely-Safe Ltd is a technology start-up founded in 2010 by two lifelong friends – Gary Thomas, a Director of his own transport compliance consultancy, and Gary Broadfield, a Director of Technology and serial inventor for a large Japanese electronics manufacturer. Together they brought the marriage of skills required to help solve wheel loss issues in the automotive sector. The early years of Wheely-Safe have concentrated on attaining worldwide patent protection and technology small enough to fit near the wheels of all vehicle types, from cars to trucks and trailers, plus launching a retail product for the car market. 2018 will see Wheely-Safe launch its next-generation products for the fleet sector, including products for cars, vans, buses, coaches, trucks and trailers. www.wheely-safe.com

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