PRESS INFORMATION / 20 June 2017

A FEW INCHES^2 – HELPING THE WORLD TO FLY

The airplane has changed the world and civilisation, a force for good in an ever more connected, smaller world. However all aircraft, whether a glider, microlight, jumbo-jet or space shuttle depend on two main things to operate: Bernoulli's Principle* and a few square inches of premium high-tech rubber. The aircraft's tires are the only contact with the ground in extremely demanding conditions that help the world to fly!

Michelin aircraft tires are highly engineered technical products, each containing more than 200 premium raw materials, and in partnership with airframers, suppliers and aviation stakeholders, are the few square inches that change everything.

Michelin has been present from the birth of aviation; a key player in the industry for over 100 years since Andre Michelin co-founded the Aero-Club de France in 1898.

Did you know that Michelin:

- Built the world's first concrete runway in Clermont-Ferrand
- Manufactured the Michelin Breguet aircraft in the early 1900s
- Developed the radial tire technology which is now the industry standard
- Is the exclusive tire supplier for all American space shuttles
- Created NZG (Near Zero Growth) radial technology that helped Concorde fly again and is now a reference on all new aircraft
- Equip almost half of all commercial aircraft flying today
- Has manufactured over 3 million aircraft tires
- Is the N^o. 1 manufacturer of aviation patents

Did you know that Michelin tires:

- Carry up to 35 tons each – 300 times their own weight
- Go from being static to up to 420 kph (260mph) in a split second when landing
- Operate in temperatures ranging from -55^{o}C to +250^{o}C (-67^{o}F to +428^{o}F)
- Land up to 30,000 times a day – once every 3 seconds
- Are inflated with Nitrogen at up to 15bar (200psi), and are tested at 4x this pressure

Aviation is transforming rapidly and Michelin is part of that change, adding increased connectivity and simplified tire servicing to those precious square inches.

For more details and information, please see the document:

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*Bernoulli's Principle; fast-moving air above an aircraft wing is at lower pressure than the slow-moving air beneath the wing, so the pressure difference creates the lift that powers the plane upward.

Ends…

Michelin Press Service: +33 (0) 1 45 66 22 22

MICHELIN
A better way forward