

## FAQs on the Performance Labelling of Tyres?

**What is 'performance labelling of tyres'?** EU law requires that all new tyres have performance labels showing how well the tyre performs in wet conditions, fuel efficiency and noise Level and will show a performance rating from A-G. A being the best and G the worst. For more detailed information on these please click [here](#)

### Which tyre rating is more important, wet grip or fuel efficiency?

From a road safety point of view, wet grip (also known as wet adherence) is one of the most important safety performance characteristics, as it improves the braking distance of a vehicle. For example; a tyre with a wet grip rating of F will need an extra 18 metres to stop in wet conditions when compared to an A rated tyre.

**Can you get an A rating in both wet grip and fuel efficiency?** It's possible but a special compound must be used so double A rated tyres are usually very expensive. Wet grip and fuel efficiency are often contradictory objectives that have traditionally required a performance trade-off i.e. a tyre with a better wet grip will tend to be less fuel efficient and vice versa.

**How much money will I save by buying a fuel efficient tyre?** By way of an example; a tyre from Class C will use 1 litre more fuel than that of a tyre from Class B over a journey of 625 miles.

**What are the Labelling responsibilities of distributors, suppliers & manufacturers?** Under [SI 342 OF 2012](#), the following laws apply in relation to the labelling responsibilities of distributors, suppliers & manufacturers:

**Distributors** (retailers selling to end users) should ensure that:

- Each tyre bears the label sticker in a clearly visible position, OR,
- Before the sale of the tyre, the label information must be shown to the end user, and a label must be clearly displayed in the immediate proximity of the tyre or provided when tyres offered for sale are not visible to the customer.
- Label values for any tyres purchased must also be stated on or with the bill to the customer.

**Tyre suppliers** should ensure that:

- When tyres are delivered, they are accompanied by a performance label or sticker for each size and type of tyre in the delivery.
- All sales promotion and technical material show the label values for each tyre in an understandable way.

**Vehicle manufacturers** should ensure that:

- They provide label values to consumers where a choice of different tyres can be made on a new vehicle

For more information on the correct labelling of tyres please click [here](#) or visit [www.seai.ie](http://www.seai.ie)

**Which vehicle types do the tyre labelling laws apply to?** Car tyres, van tyres and truck tyres.

**Are there any tyres which do not have to be labelled?** The tyre labelling regulations do not cover:

- re-treaded tyres
- professional off-road tyres or tyres used only for racing
- temporary-use spare tyres; studded tyres
- tyres whose speed rating is less than 80 km/h, or vintage car tyres

**What about the noise level of tyres?** Traffic noise is an environmental concern and relates to the tyre's external noise level, expressed in decibels (not any tyre noise heard inside the vehicle). For more information on this please contact the [Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment](#) (DCCAE).

