



## Michelin Tyre PLC

March 2008

### Programme Details

The National Industrial Symbiosis Programme (NISP) Envirowise, supported locally by Invest NI, is a business competitiveness programme. NISP offers businesses the opportunity to match an excess of any resource such as waste, transport, storage, skills, capacity, energy, with other businesses that could use that resource.

### The Company

Michelin Tyre PLC, based in Ballymena, produces bus and truck tyres with more than 70 per cent of its total production capacity being exported, chiefly to North America. Michelin employs around 1100 people on a site that covers 45 hectares (112 acres). Michelin is an enthusiastic supporter of the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme and are members of the Programme Advisory Group.

### The Challenge

Challenging corporate environmental objectives include a commitment to zero process waste to landfill in 2008 and in the European zone they have decided to reduce industrial dry waste to landfill to  $\leq 20$  per cent during 2008.

Although Michelin were making steady improvements year on year they were experiencing difficulty finding economically viable recycling processes for some of their waste streams.

### The Benefits

These improvements will produce an annual saving of £34,500 per year for a modest investment of £18,000 and divert an additional 694 tonne of waste from landfill each year with potential to increase landfill diversion to 993 tonne per year. Additional benefits include reduced handling and storage floor space, improvements to work post ergonomics, housekeeping and productivity.

### The Solution

NISP Northern Ireland Practitioners with, drawing upon its unique network of 10,000 members, identified potential solution providers.

Flexible Intermediate Bulk Carriers (FIBC's) are to be remanufactured into flower pots by a company in England eliminating 183 tpa from landfill. Talc waste will be used in civil engineering projects for de-watering and compacting soils. Cardboard, paper, plastic and wood all go to a single recycling company for recovery.

“Implementing these recycling opportunities will ensure that Michelin at Ballymena meet their corporate objectives in June 2008 and achieve 98% recycling of all wastes arising on site by year end against 63.6% recycling achieved in 2007.”

The Michelin team at Ballymena and in GB are grateful to NISP for identifying and helping to implement economically viable and innovative recovery solutions.”

Paul Kinhead – Quality Assurance and Environmental Systems Manager