**Hankook Tire Celebrates the Opening of**

**its first U.S. Manufacturing Plant**

**Hankook Tire has opened its first U.S. manufacturing facility in Tennessee, USA to enhance its global production portfolio. The Tennessee plant exemplifies the company’s continuous efforts to create innovative and cutting edge technology for its U.S. customers as well as for the global market.**

***Seoul, Korea / Clarksville, Tennessee, USA / Neu-Isenburg, Germany, October 18, 2017*** – Premium tyre maker Hankook has conducted the grand opening ceremony for its first manufacturing facility in the United States. The Tennessee based plant stands for Hankook’s commitment to technology, innovation and growth in North America. The new facility will further strengthen Hankook Tire’s global production portfolio. The company now operates a network of manufacturing bases located in all major automobile regions, such as America (USA), Europe (Hungary) and Asia (Korea, China, Indonesia). The development of the Tennessee Plant is integral to Hankook Tire’s strategic vision of becoming a global top-tier tyre brand, while providing products of the highest quality to its customers. The grand opening celebration took place at the facility in Clarksville, Tennessee. In attendance were Governor Bill Haslam, United States Representative Marsha Blackburn, Korean Consul General Seong-jin Kim, and many other prominent state and local officials.

The Tennessee plant is Hankook Tire’s eighth plant worldwide and expands the company's global footprint of state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities that serve customers globally. It will produce 5.5 million units annually, enabling Hankook Tire to more efficiently provide customers and consumers with premium quality tyres and industry-leading services to meet the demands of the American market, while supporting existing and future global Original Equipment (OE) partners.

“The new Tennessee plant signifies Hankook Tire’s growing business in the United States and our continued journey toward being a global leader in the tyre industry,” said Seung Hwa Suh, Global CEO of Hankook Tire. “The investment in the U.S. is part of our ongoing commitment to innovation, state-of-the-art technology and service for our customers. This high-tech, sustainable facility will enable Hankook Tire to execute every phase of our business in the U.S., from R&D to production and sales.”

Hankook Tire incorporated sustainable design and construction practices in the development of the 1.5 million square foot facility, which spans 469 acres. The Tennessee plant will produce tyres for Passenger Cars, SUVs- and Light Trucks from Hankook Tire’s extensive North American lineup. Leveraging top-tier technology and highly automated processes, the new facility will be Hankook Tire’s key business growth driver in the North American market. The production plant is part of the company’s continued global investment strategy.

In Europe, Hankook Tire has recently made extensive investments as well. A state-of-the-art indoor testing facility has been installed to the company's high-end European production plant in Hungary. And Hankook Tire Technotrac, the new top class test centre and proving ground for winter tyres in Finland had been added to the company's Germany based European development centre. This integrated approach to tyre development and production in Europe has facilitated Hankook to become one of the main suppliers for many European premium automobile manufacturers, including top brands such as Audi, BMW, MAN, Mercedes Benz cars and trucks, MINI, Porsche, Scania and VW.

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| Location | Total investment | Facility size | Property size | Production start |
| 2948 International Boulevard Clarksville, Tennessee, USA | $800 million | 1.5 million square feet | 469 acres | April 2017 |

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**About Hankook**

Hankook Tire is one of the global top 5 companies in the mass production of tyres and manufactures innovative, award winning radial tyres of proven superior quality for passenger cars, light trucks, SUVs, RVs, trucks and buses as well as motorsports (circuit racing/rallies).

Hankook continues to invest in research and development so that we can always offer our customers the highest level of quality, combined with technological excellence. At a total of five development centers and eight large scale factories around the world, the company develops and produces tyre solutions specially tailored to the requirements and needs of regional markets. Bespoke tyre solutions for the European markets as well as European Original Equipment according to the requirements of leading premium car manufacturers, are developed in the company’s regional Technical Centre in Hanover/Germany. Production for the European region is taking place in the state-of-the-art manufacturing site in Rácalmás/Hungary which was inaugurated in June 2007 and is continuously being expanded. Currently more than 3,000 employees produce up to 19 million tyres a year for passenger cars, SUVs and light trucks.

Hankook Tire’s European headquarters are located in Neu-Isenburg near Frankfurt am Main in Germany. The manufacturer operates further branches in Germany, UK, France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Hungary, Czech Republic, Russia, Turkey, Sweden and Poland. Hankook products are sold directly through regional distributors in other local markets. Hankook Tire employ more than 22,000 people worldwide and are selling their products in over 180 countries. Internationally leading car manufacturers rely on tyres made by Hankook for their original equipment. Approximately 30 percent of the company's global sales are generated within the European and CIS-Region.

For more information please visit [www.hankooktire-mediacenter.com](http://www.hankooktire-mediacenter.com) or [www.hankooktire.com](http://www.hankooktire.com)

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