

BlackChili Technology



BlackChili Compound – it's all about how you mix it

In the research and development laboratories for Continental bicycle tyres in Korbach, Germany, the staff and engineers have been looking for the solution to one of the fundamental problems of tyre construction: The running properties of the rubber compound of a tyre are largely determined by three interacting factors: static friction [grip], rolling resistance and mileage. The dilemma is that you improve one of these factors, and in turn, worsen at least one other factor. A tyre with maximum grip wears out faster and rolls slower. If one makes the tyre faster or more durable, then this in turn reduces grip. With the then current highest standard of compound technology, the Activated Silica Compound having already reached a very high standard of compromise, our developers wanted to take compounding to an even higher level. This led them to venture into new territory, exploring new ways so that in 2005 they made a breakthrough in mixing technology, the first steps to what is now known as BlackChili. This revolutionary compound is based on the latest findings on polymer and other raw material research. For BlackChili we refine newly developed synthetic rubbers with natural rubber with the proven high performance tread compound. We use these rubbers with special nanometric carbon soot particles, which are optimized in shape and surface properties for best uses for the intended tyre. BlackChili Compound reaches an unprecedented level of performance. Tyres with BlackChili Compound reach an unprecedented level of performance. Compared to the previous best Activated Silica Compound, BlackChili tyres have 26 % less rolling resistance, a 30 % higher friction value [grip] and a 5 % increase in mileage. BlackChili technology never stands still as it is continuously developed and tailored to the individual applications of new Continental tyres as they continue to be produced out of the Korbach factory. Whether on the road or mountain bike, speed and grip advantages are very noticeable. The complex compound technology is so sensitive that tyres with BlackChili Compound can only be produced exclusively in our German Korbach factory.