WASTE TYRE RECYCLING AND PROCESSING

Project
Collect and recycle waste tyres

Project Concept
- According to a feasibility study undertaken for the South African Tyre Manufacturing Conference (SATMC 1998), 160 000 tonnes of scrap tyres are generated in South Africa each year
- Annually, more than 28 million used tyres are dumped illegally or burnt to recover the steel wire. Tyres are not readily accepted at landfill disposal sites as they are not easily compacted due to their elasticity and occupy a considerable volume
- Furthermore, tyres have the tendency to accumulate water, irrespective of the way in which they are stored out in the open. They become a breeding environment for mosquitoes, which is particularly problematic in areas of the country where malaria occurs
- Recent agreements between the tyre manufacturing industry and the Department of Environmental Affairs have led to initiatives to generate a ‘green fee’, which will be used to initiate tyre recovery, recycling, energy recovery and disposal
- Tyre dealers have indicated that there are two main ways of getting rid of waste tyres: About half the tyre dealers have an exclusive arrangement to sell their scrap tyres. The rest of dealers makes their scrap tyres available to anyone who wishes to use them. SATRP claims that 10% of tyres currently go to landfill, 4% are recycled and the remaining 86% are illegally re-grooved, dumped in the countryside, burned for the contained steel or stockpiled

Location
- The project is based in, Ladysmith, Richards Bay and Pietermaritzburg

Current Status
Project feasibility study is in progress, with support from Trade & Investment Kwa-Zulu Natal

Feasibility Study
- The South African Government has approved regulations with regard to recycling of tyres and the tariffs applicable to the manufacturers and retailers. A feasibility study is in progress.

Business Plan
The business plan needs to be completed

Required Investment
- ZAR 15 million