



INDOT Tire Casing Contract

Just 22.5 inches are going a long way toward helping INDOT reduce expenses, create revenue and increase recycling. INDOT's new tire casing initiative, which involves partnering with a vendor to repurpose 22.5-inch tires from heavy-duty INDOT trucks, is a success from all angles.

"This is a win-win partnership," said INDOT Highway Management Development Specialist Matthew Frazer. "There is quite a market for the product, and vendors from all over the state are showing interest in purchasing INDOT's 22.5-inch casings."

Prior to the new program, INDOT facilities had to focus on the proper disposal of thousands of waste tires found along INDOT roadways or produced through the maintenance of the fleet. This process cost INDOT more than \$100,000 annually.

Previously, INDOT had been utilizing waste tire processors and vendors that sell new tires to the department for the proper disposal of waste tires. Under the new initiative, INDOT executed a four-year contract with Indy Tire Centers of Indianapolis to sell waste tire casings. Under the current contract, each 22.5-inch tire from INDOT's heavy-duty trucks that are accepted by the vendor represents \$45 in INDOT's pocket.

The vendor, after retreading the old tire, then sells the refurbished tire to the public.

Of the 80 tire casings that INDOT has made available for pickup since August 2012, 46 have met the requirements of the current vendor. Those 46 tires resulted in nearly \$2,100 in revenue for INDOT and saved the agency close to \$700 in waste tire disposal fees.

Although the current contract is for only the Greenfield and Crawfordsville Districts, the other four districts are participating by transporting their tires to these two districts until contracts are secured for them – scheduled for early 2013. At that time, the program should be running at full efficiency, significantly increasing revenue and reducing expenses for INDOT.

INDOT seeks to expand this program to include other tires from the fleet and create even more revenue and cost savings from different tire sizes.

Besides financial benefits, the tire casing program offers environmental advantages.

According to tiresandcasings.com, casing used tires saves millions of gallons of oil each year as it takes only seven gallons of oil to retread a used tire compared with 22 gallons to produce a new tire. Retread tires not only offer considerable environmental and economic benefits, they provide better quality, comfort and safety. For years, retread tires have been safely used on school buses, trucks, cars, fire engines and other emergency vehicles. Retreading companies sell approximately 33 million retread or recapped tires annually.