



Brazil: WTO Appellate Body rules in favour of EU - import ban on retreaded tyres

The Appellate Body has strengthened the position of the EU in the case against the Brazilian import ban on retreaded tyres. This ruling is important because it reverses some of the findings in the panel report of 12 June 2007. The panel had already ruled that Brazil's import ban on retreaded tyres breached WTO rules and was not justified under WTO exceptions for protecting public health. The difference, however, is that now Brazil can no longer ban the importation of retreaded tyres from the EU, while permitting such imports from other Mercosur countries.

This ruling comes after an investigation of the Brazilian measures under the Trade Barriers Regulation, prompted by a complaint by the European retreaded tyres industry, and, thereafter, WTO litigation which became necessary because Brazil was not ready to lift the import ban.

Based on this result, the Commission services will continue to press for a solution which will remove the import ban and create market access for European exporters to Brazil.

DG TRADE F2 – Legal Aspects of Trade Policy – Legal Service of the Commission
For further information: TRADE-G1-MARKET-ACCESS@ec.europa.eu

Produced by

European Commission
External Trade

Contact

Market Access
European Commission
External Trade
Unit G.1
B-1049 Brussels

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