

# Mitas

NEWSLETTER FOR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS OF MITAS



## The SFT series giant

Let me introduce you - this is the largest agricultural tire manufactured by Mitas. Its dimensions are 1250/50R32 SFT, and it belongs in the Super Flexion Tires (SFT) group, meaning it has flexible sidewalls. This gives it outstanding characteristics, primarily maximum load capacity at the lowest possible inflation pressures for better traction and optimum soil protection, even with the heaviest equipment. This year, Mitas will put into production another version with this size equipped with CHO technology and intended primarily for agriculture-related transport.



Learn more about Mitas SFT tires here.

Universal spreader Hydro Trike produced by the Dutch company Vervaet mounted on Mitas SFT tires.



SFT tires have been specially developed for high-horsepower agricultural machines and guarantee maximum traction and load capacity while offering gentle ground handling, reflected in higher long-term yields. Thanks to their maximum speed of 65 km/h, SFT tires concurrently permit rapid transport along roads and thereby increase the productivity of the machine in question. The SFT series is primarily designed for high-powered combines, tractors and grain trucks and is manufactured in plants in the USA and the Czech Republic.

The 1250/50R32 SFT, the largest Mitas tire, is manufactured in two versions that differ by load capacity indexes. The newest 1250/50R32 SFT permits loads of up to 18 880 kg at 3.2 bars and 10 km/h cyclic.



In the Netherlands they have demonstrated that the large volume of air in Mitas SFT tires means a four-ton Claas tractor can be taught to swim! The tractor was equipped with 750/55R30 ST (front) and 1250/50R32 SFT (rear) tires. The large contact patch also of course means the tires offer gentle ground handling.

At 50 km/h (and the same inflation pressure) its load capacity remains a remarkable 10 900 kg. The tire has an outer diameter of 2.02 m and weighs 581 kg, ranking it among the largest ever

mass-produced agricultural tires. To illustrate, the tread pattern depth of this "mighty midget" is a whole 64 mm.

This year, a new version of this tire size for the highest-powered agricultural machinery that also features CHO (Cyclic Harvesting Operation) construction will also enter production. This has been developed for combines and permits increased loads for the cyclic weight changes during harvesting. The load on the combine changes more than twofold during the filling and emptying of the grain container. This "load bonus" is usable at speeds of up to 10 or 15 km/h (depending on tire type), which is fully sufficient for harvesting work. The larger contact patch

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

than offered by standard combine tires also guarantees better ground care and extends the harvest season even into periods of bad weather when the ground is wet. This new version is intended primarily for the American market.

"Today, our SFT tire product range contains 39 sizes and versions for rims with sizes from 25 to 46 inches. The SFT technology is also used on 13 sizes of Mitas CHO tires for combines. We continue to expand the SFT range, adding sizes requested by the market. Hence, in 2019 we will be putting a total of four new SFT tire versions into production," says product manager for Mitas



Mitas SFT tires are frequently used on grain carts that are popular especially in the USA.

agricultural tires Pavel Kott. Specifically, the sizes 680/80R42 SFT, 620/55R26 SFT IMP, 1050/50R32 SFT CHO and the already mentioned additional version of the largest Mitas tire - the 1250/50R32 SFT CHO - are already in production or waiting to be introduced.

Mitas SFT tires are used as original equipment by leading agricultural machinery manufacturers like John Deere, CNH, Claas, Same-Deutz Fahr and others. The most important partner in terms of CHO tire application is the premium harvesting equipment manufacturer Claas. (JB)

## Mitas radial implements for combines

The Mitas agricultural tire range includes a large number of special tires for use on combines and other harvesting machinery. In the last two Mitas IN issues, we focused on the modern CHO (Cyclic Harvesting Operation) tires and the HC3000 range. Now we will take a look at the agricultural radial implement tires (IMP) for the driven wheels of agricultural machinery, primarily combines and other harvesting machinery. The main product series in this offer are the SFT IMP (Super Flexion Tire), the AC 65 IMP and the AC 70 G IMP.



Mitas currently offers 14 sizes of SFT IMP radial implements.

500/85R24 SFT IMP radial implement mounted on the rear non-driven axle of a Claas combine.

The high load capacity and flexibility predispose these tires for use on the driven axles of harvesting machinery. In this application, their large contact patch provides excellent traction, while other advantages are the high load capacity and excellent load distribution to reduce soil compaction. Thanks to their optimized tread pattern and high puncture resistance, Mitas radial implements provide long service life and are also suitable for the non-driven wheels of agricultural machinery.

These tires are based around proven Mitas agricultural tire designs. The AC 65 is a versatile low-profile tire for work on the field and on the road, which stands out through its exceptional efficiency while remaining highly wear-resistant thanks to its good traction and suitable blend. The AC 70 G is a tire whose large and wide tread rib footprint protects soil and plants and whose significant rib overlap in the tread center guarantees stable and

comfortable performance on the road. The AC 70 G also offers high wear resistance. We also write about the advantages of tires with SFT construction in this issue in the article on the largest Mitas tire on page 1, and these characteristics are of course also very applicable to the radial implements. "Compared to regular versions of agricultural tires, radial implements have strengthened construction, and in many cases are also supplemented with steel belting, reflected in their higher load capacity and service life," says product manager for Mitas agricultural tires Pavel Kott.

Today, Mitas offers these agricultural tires in many versions with sizes from 24 to 34 inches. The largest tire in this series is the 710/65R30 SFT IMP, which on non-driven wheels has a load capacity of 8 500 kg at 2.4 bars and 40 km/h. "I dare say that Mitas currently offers one of the widest tire ranges in this segment on the market," Pavel Kott concludes. (JB)

## SKIDDING WITHOUT FEAR

The Mitas construction machinery tire segment also includes tires for skid-steer loaders. These tires are specially constructed for their application and so are additionally strengthened compared to other Mitas tires to cope with their demanding operating conditions. Mitas today offers tires with five basic tread patterns and a total of twenty sizes for wheels of 12 to 18 inches for skid-steer loaders.

The SK-01 has a standard tread pattern with good traction characteristics and sidewall protection. The SK-02 has a tread pattern suitable for very demanding conditions. Its reinforced sidewall and central section guarantee higher puncture and wear resistance. Mitas offers a total of nine sizes with this tread pattern. The SK-05 offers a robust tread pattern with excellent self-cleaning ability for extreme conditions. The low void ratio and improved tread depth contribute towards its longer service life. Another pattern for skid-steer machines is BIG BOY, a very durable industrial pattern with a long service life. It is supplied in six sizes for rims of 16.5 to 18 inches. The TR-10 (R-4) is a tread pattern suitable for larger skid-steer loaders, the front axles of excavator/loaders and for telescopic platforms. It also offers the highest load capacity of a Mitas skid-steer tire, ranging from 3 780 kg at 10 km/h to 2 430 kg at 50 km/h (both at 5.5 bars).

In 2018, Mitas added a new type of tire to its skid-steer series - the 10-16.5 SK-02 and the 12-16.5 SK-02. These are tires with higher load capacities as they have higher inflation pressures. "The SK-05 is our highest selling tire in this area, and is intended for very demanding 'heavy duty' category operating conditions with a tread depth typical for 'severe duty' category tires. We have also long supplied our tires as original equipment, for example to the manufacturers Atlas Weyhausen and Mecalac Construction Equipment UK," says Mitas product manager for material handling & construction tires Jaroslav Musil. (JB)



Visualization of the SK-05 tire for skid steer loaders.

## New TERRA FORCE-EF and TERRA FORCE-EH tires revealed at Erzbergrodeo

A new generation of Mitas Enduro and Extreme Enduro tires was revealed at Erzbergrodeo, the motorsport event that took place from May 30 to June 2, 2019 in Eisenerz, Austria.

Compared to the previous generation, Mitas **TERRA FORCE-EF** and **TERRA FORCE-EH** feature improved performance on a wide range of off-road surfaces. A larger footprint allows better grip in various riding conditions, while the spaced knobs are designed to provide great cleanout ability in mud or sand.

"Mitas **TERRA FORCE-EF** and **TERRA FORCE-EH** are the successors to the popular and widely known Mitas Enduro and Extreme Enduro off-road tire ranges. The new generation was developed and tested in cooperation with many professional riders. As we know that many riders are happy with our current Enduro and Extreme Enduro tires, these will remain part of the extended Mitas off-road tire portfolio," explains Ksenija Bitenc, director of the Mitas Motorcycle Tires division.

Mitas **TERRA FORCE-EF Super**, marked with a yellow stripe, features a fibrous durable long-lasting tread rubber compound that ensures outstanding grip and very low abrasion even on hard terrain. It resists tearing and cutting and is therefore suited to a wide range of terrains: from soft through intermediate to rocky. The tread pattern knobs are designed to meet specific Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM) regulations.

Mitas **TERRA FORCE-EF Super light**, marked with a green stripe, is designed for harder enduro races. Compared to the Super version, it has a softer tread compound that ensures better adhesion and performance on hard and rocky terrain or on tree roots in wet forest terrain. Designed for harder competitions, it complies with current FIM regulations for enduro competition tires.

Mitas **TERRA FORCE-EH Super soft**, marked with double green stripes, features an extra-soft sticky tread compound for extreme enduro races. The tire is best suited to extreme rocky, stony, wet and muddy terrains. It is ideal for vertical climbs in hard enduro races and for all extreme terrains.

**TERRA FORCE-EF** tires are available in four front and four rear versions, **TERRA FORCE-EH** in two rear sizes. **TERRA FORCE-EH** is not street legal and is only available as NHS (Not for Highway Service). (JB)



Mitas **TERRA FORCE-EF Super light** (green stripe marking) are tires with a softer carcass and soft tread suitable for hard enduro competition.

## Mitas again partners with ETPC

This year Mitas - now for the sixth time - is the official partner of the European series of tractor pulling races run by the European Tractor Pulling Committee (ETPC). The series includes seven races plus a separate race that forms part of the European Championship. As in previous years, the races are held from April to September in several European countries.

This year, Mitas will again be present in the starting field, where more and more racers will be starting on Powerpull tires specially developed for this discipline. "The interest from teams has been steadily rising for several years, demonstrating the quality of our tires," says Dana Černá from Mitas marketing. The special Mitas Powerpull 30.5L32 148A8 tire has been offered by Mitas in its retail network since 2016. The manufacturer is also considering expanding its offer of these special tires.

The first race in the ETPC series was held in late April in Füchtorf in Germany, followed by two in May in Allingåbro in Denmark and

Lidköping in Sweden. In June the series moved to Normandy, France, where machines running on Mitas tires achieved interesting results in Bernay. The reigning European champion in the Light Modified category from the Green Monster V Mitas Edition team took the bronze medal and the Black Power tractor finished fourth. "We had great success in the Heavy Modified category, where the Green Fighter machine won on our tires with a fantastic performance of 111.21 meters. In 2018, the same machine was the European champion in this category on our tires

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

as well as the winner of the whole ETPC series," adds Dana Černá. In the Superstock category, the Dutch Kools team is remaining loyal to Mitas tires - their machine All or Nothing finished fourth in Bernay.

In the next race in Made in the Netherlands (June 15 and 16) the Light Modified category



Current European Champion in the Heavy Modified category - Green Fighter on Mitas tires.

was won by the Green Monster V Mitas Edition tractor, while the Green Fighter machine came fourth in the Heavy Modified category. This means that in the overall ETPC rankings, Green Monster V Mitas Edition is currently second in the Light Modified category and Green Fighter is in the same position in the Heavy Modified category.

More races will be held on July 13 in Putten (the Netherlands), July 20 in Edewecht in Germany, August 24 and 25 in Great Eccleston in Great Britain, and the last race (European Championship) is planned for September 7 and 8 in Brande in Denmark.

For the 2019 season, Mitas has stopped special support for individual teams. "We want to remain a partner for the whole Eurocup series, where our brand is presented in an appropriate manner, and concentrate on the sale and further improvement of the Powerpull tire," Dana Černá explains. (JB)

## MTB World Cup starts with Mitas' support

As we already reported in the previous Mitas IN issue, Mitas has become an official partner of the World Cup series and MTB World Championship in the Olympic cross country (XCO) and downhill (DHI) disciplines. This year, the UCI XCO World Cup started in Albstadt (Germany) on May 17. This was a rehearsal before the XCO World Championship that will take place there in June 2020.

The organizers introduced the newly modified Mitas Abyss track section, designed to be rideable even during bad weather. The biggest hope among the Mitas riders - Ondřej Cink from Kross Racing Team - did very well in Friday's Short-Track race (a shorter race for pole position in the main race) finishing 11<sup>th</sup>, so he started from the 2<sup>nd</sup> row in the main race. Ondřej was riding in the leading group and in 7<sup>th</sup> place but unfortunately fell on the slippery track after a collision and was not able to finish. However, Ondřej's teammate Sergio Mantécon managed to finish 13<sup>th</sup>.

For the weekend following Albstadt, the XCO World Cup moved to the most attractive venue of the series in Nové Město na Moravě (Czech Republic). This year, Mitas was



A demanding part of the track - Mitas Choice in the World Cup XCO race in Nové Město na Moravě, Czech Republic.

again the main partner of the race. The world famous rocky Mitas Choice section was again ready for both riders and visitors. The best Czech rider, Ondřej Cink, had another very good Short-Track race on Friday (11<sup>th</sup>) allowing him to start from the 2<sup>nd</sup> row in the main race, in which he finished 5<sup>th</sup>.

"During the weekend in Nové Město na Moravě, Mitas

again offered visitors a great fun and enjoyable experience. They could try and win prizes on a Rouvy cycling trainer, while a signing session by our riders Ondřej Cink, Sergio Mantécon and Jan Škarnitzl also attracted the crowds. Fans could also test Mitas tires on Shimano bikes," says Pavel Nosek, marketing manager for Mitas bicycle tires, summarizing Mitas' presentation. (JB)

## IN Short

### New hotpatches for MTB tires

A new hotpatch graphics concept for Mitas Elite MTB tires was presented for the first time during the World Cup race in Nové Město na Moravě (Czech Republic). The all-white Mitas logotype got a stand-alone position on the tire sidewall, accompanied by the UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) MTB World Cup logo promoting this important partnership. The second hotpatch contains important complementary information like model name, size, technology and the new Cape Epic logo in fresh and catchy graphics, as Mitas bicycle tires are traditional partners of this legendary race.



### Mitas tires as original equipment for KTM

Mitas motorcycle tires were selected by KTM Sportmotorcycle as the original equipment tire provider for its 2019 KTM 690 ENDURO R model. "E-07s are the first Mitas tires to be chosen by KTM and we are delighted that they have gained the trust and recognition of such an important motorcycle manufacturer. I believe that this project is a great start to our partnership," states Ksenija Bitenc, director of the Mitas Motorcycle Tires division. Mitas and KTM worked closely together during the development process to achieve the best performance relationship between this exciting and heavily updated motorcycle and its tires. The KTM 690 ENDURO R 2019 is fitted with Mitas E-07 90/90-21 front and 140/80-18 rear tires.



Mitas motorcycle, bicycle and aircraft tires are part of the Two Wheels & Specialty Tires Business Unit of Trelleborg Wheel Systems.

Mitas IN is published four times a year. This issue, volume 17, number 2/2019, was published by Trelleborg Wheel Systems Czech Republic a.s., (Švehlova 1900, Prague 10, Czech Republic) on July 15, 2019 in Prague. Telephone +420 224 210 206; e-mail [press@mitas-tyres.com](mailto:press@mitas-tyres.com); [www.mitas-tyres.com](http://www.mitas-tyres.com).



Download the latest issue of Mitas IN here.