

NEWS RELEASE

HERCULES TIRE NAMES DAVE GAWTHROP SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN

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Findlay, Ohio: Hercules Tire & Rubber Company announces today the appointment of Dave Gawthrop to the position of Senior Vice President of Global Supply Chain.

Gawthrop is responsible for Hercules' supply chain for its worldwide operations. This includes sourcing all Hercules brands, associate brands and other brands from domestic and international suppliers, as well as oversight of all company purchasing and logistics on a functional basis. "The addition of Dave to our management team will strengthen our existing global sourcing resources and drive future growth partnerships for Hercules Tire," says Larry Seawell, President and CEO.

Gawthrop brings solid experience in senior supply chain positions with Sun Capital (automotive group), Polaroid, St. Gobain and General Electric. The Findlay, Ohio and Compton, California purchasing departments now report directly to Dave.

"I'm pleased to join the Hercules Tire team and look forward to being a part of the dynamic growth of this company," adds Gawthrop.

Gawthrop served in the U.S. Navy and holds Bachelor's of Science degrees in Business Administration and Human Resources from Park University in Austin, Texas. Gawthrop is originally from Northern Indiana and will be relocating to Northwest Ohio in the coming months. He will be based out of the company's Findlay, Ohio headquarters.

About Hercules Tire & Rubber Company

The Hercules Tire & Rubber Company headquartered in Findlay, Ohio, is a leading tire marketer of replacement tires in the USA, Canada and globally in more than 90 countries. Hercules offers an extensive selection in passenger, UHP, light truck, medium truck, trailer, off-the-road, industrial and specialty tires manufactured by its worldwide supplier network. Hercules has developed a strong reputation among its customers for its broad range of quality products, making the Hercules brand and its associate brands some of the most sought-after proprietary brands in the industry. In addition, Hercules distributes over 20 leading national branded tire programs, and collectively offers over 10,000 skus.

Hercules operates regional wholesale warehouses in California, Texas, Illinois, Ohio, Florida, Oregon, Ontario, and New Brunswick, under the name TDW (Tire Dealer's Warehouse) or Hercules Tire Canada. Hercules operates on an international basis from warehouses in the USA, Canada and China under the name Hercules Tire International.

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