

**General Tire has the world's fastest all-terrain standard production tyre**

**Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> now approved for speeds up to 210 km/h (131 mph)**

**(Hanover, July 2005) The General Tire range now features the world's first off-road tyre approved for speeds up to 210 km/h (131 mph) - the Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> size 255/55 R 18 109 H XL was developed for use both on and off the road and is also suitable for applications in difficult terrain.**

The Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> tyre line was designed for use on off-road vehicles like the Land Rover Defender, Mercedes G-Class and VW Touareg. The 55% cross-section is new for the AT sector, as is the tyre's approval for speeds up to 210 km/h (131 mph) on the road. The high-traction tread pattern offers positive grip, which means the tyre is also able to handle tougher terrain.

The particularly durable rubber compound was developed for use on both surfaced and unsurfaced roads, as well as for off-road applications. The very forceful tread pattern features four longitudinal grooves with powerful tread lugs extending into them, ensuring high grip and low noise level. At the same time, the design enables the Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> to interlock forcefully and tenaciously with the ground, even in difficult terrain. The reinforced tread rib stabilises driving performance and ensures long service life,

particularly in the shoulder section, which otherwise suffers heavy wear from steering manoeuvres. The tread compound provides high resistance to damage when driving over sharp-edged surfaces.

The substructure of the Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> has also been reinforced, with two steel belts which extend across the entire width of the tyre providing resistance to damage and ensuring improved steering comfort. The wide tread pattern contour is both conspicuous and forceful in its appearance, whilst at the same time it increases the tyre's service life. This design also means enhanced stability when driving on and off the road, with improved transmission of braking forces.

The new 255/55 R 18 109 H XL size now completes General Tire's Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> product family launched last year. The approval for speeds up to 210 km/h (131 mph) makes this tyre unique worldwide, as the conflict of objectives encountered in tyre development between good grip off the road and high speeds on the road has so far been considered virtually insuperable.

### **General Tire - manufacturing tyres since 1915**

Established in Charlotte, in the state of North Carolina, USA in 1915, General Tire can look back on a long history of manufacturing tyres for all types of motorised vehicles right from its early days.

In 1987, the company was taken over by Continental and since then in Europe the name General Tire has been principally associated with special tyres for off-road vehicles.

In addition to tyres for cars, trucks and industrial applications on the American market, the company now sells tyres specifically for 4x4 vehicles right across the world.

The Continental Corporation is a leading supplier of tyres, brake systems, chassis components and technical elastomers. In 2004 the corporation realised sales of EUR12.6 billion. At present it has a worldwide workforce of more than 81,000.

The tyre business unit is an Official Partner of the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™. For further information visit the websites [www.conti-online.com](http://www.conti-online.com) and [www.ContiSoccerWorld.de](http://www.ContiSoccerWorld.de)

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Caption:

The Grabber AT<sup>2</sup> size 255/55 R 18 109 H XL from General Tire is the world's first off-road tyre approved for speeds up to 210 km/h (131 mph).