

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**TIA Opens Nominations for
Three Prominent Industry Awards
Industry Leadership, Pioneer, Friend of the Industry
to be Presented at World Tire Expo**

RESTON, VA (January 17, 2003) --The Tire Industry Association (TIA) today announced the opening of nominations for three industry awards: the Industry Leadership Award, the Pioneer Award, and the Friend of the Industry Award.

All tire industry professionals are invited to nominate candidates for the TIA Awards, which will be presented at the Industry Recognition Banquet on Friday, March 28, 2003, in Louisville, Kentucky. The event is held in conjunction with the World Tire Expo, the premier trade show dedicated to the commercial tire, tire retreading/repairing, and tire and rubber recycling markets.

The Association is accepting nominations for three awards:

- The Industry Leadership Award is presented to individuals or companies who provide overall leadership and innovation for products and services to foster and promote the international transportation industry. Past recipients include Roy Carver, Harvey Brodsky, Bob Purcell, Michelin North America and Continental Tire N.A.
- The Pioneer Award is presented to individuals or companies who have developed or implemented products and services for the international transportation industry. Past recipients include Keith Rowbotham, Dr. Raymond P. Hawkinson, Matteuzzi SRL and Gaither Tool Company.
- The Friend of the Industry Award recognizes well-known individuals who are allies and proven supporters of the international transportation industry. Past recipients include Gloria Bartholomew, Roy Littlefield and Columbus McKinnon Corporation.

Featuring products from more than 100 exhibiting companies, the World Tire Expo will offer the latest industry developments, from technical enhancements to business support, manufacturer products, and computer programs.

Awards nominations can be made by calling TIA at 800-876-8372, or by submitting a nomination form, which is available from TIA.

The Awards presentation is part of the World Tire Expo, which features industry workshops and seminars from March 26-29, 2003, at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, Kentucky. The trade show is open March 27-29, 2003.

Online registration is now available for all World Tire Expo events and housing ^ and registering online offers up to a 50% discount on some special events. Housing is currently available, and registration for some TIA "Special Events" is limited.

The World Tire Expo is sponsored by the Tire Industry Association (TIA, formerly ITRA/TANA) and produced by ConvExx Show Management. TIA is an international association representing all segments of the tire industry, including those that manufacture, repair, recycle, sell, service or use new or retreaded tires, and also those suppliers or individuals who furnish equipment, material or services to the industry. The association has offices in Reston, Virginia, and Louisville, Kentucky, and over 4,000 current members.

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