

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

Akron, Ohio 44316-0001

Fax: (330) 796-1237

Facsimile Transmission

Date: May 16, 1997

To: Mr. Janez Bohoric, President
Sava Kranj po

Fax #: 8-011-386-64-222-808

From: Chris Aked, Director PR, Global Businesses
Public Affairs Department
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Akron, Ohio 44316-0001
(330) 796-1080

Co:

Janez Bohorič	Tone Kepic
Emil Vizovišek	Janez Peternel
Franci Balanč	Marija Loparnik
Vinko Perčič	Vanda Pečjak
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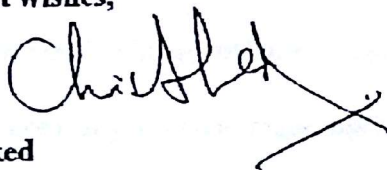
Dear Mr. Bohoric:

I have been asked by Clark Sprang to send you a final copy of the Goodyear release to be issued on Monday, May 19 (8:00 am, Eastern Standard Time).

Please find attached, our release plus our responses to potential press questions.

If you need to contact me over the weekend, please do not hesitate to do so. I can be reached at my home number 216-342-9760 or my cell phone, 330-618-8729.

With best wishes,



Chris Aked
cdd

attachments

CONTACT: Christopher J. Aked
330-796-1080

FOR RELEASE Monday, May 19, 1997
8:00 am. EST

Goodyear to Form Two Joint Ventures with Sava

#21212in-597

AKRON, Ohio — May 19 — The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company has agreed with the Sava Group in Kranj, Slovenia, to take a 60 percent interest in Sava's tire business and a 75 percent interest in its engineered products business. A "letter of intent" to form two separate joint ventures was signed on Friday, May 16.

The Sava Group is comprised of several companies making a wide range of products and employs approximately 3,600.

Sava reported total sales revenue of approximately \$245 million in 1996, \$177 million of which was mainly for car and commercial truck tires.

The engineered products joint venture will include transmission belts, air springs and hose.

Goodyear's Chairman Sam Gibara pointed out that the proposed joint ventures with Sava will be the company's second major move in Eastern Europe during the past 18 months. Early in 1996, Goodyear acquired a majority stake in the operations of a Polish tire company, TC Debica.

(more)

The joint venture involving Sava's engineered products business is strategic to Goodyear's growth by providing a European manufacturing based operation. Currently, Goodyear's existing customers are supplied with products from other regions.

Gibara said: "These developments fit perfectly with our goal to ensure fast and profitable growth in all our core businesses, whether in tires, engineered products or chemicals.

"It is essential that we hold a No. 1 or No. 2 position in each of the industries and in each market in which we participate. These latest moves — coming on the heels of our \$121 million purchase of 60 percent of Contred's South African business — show that Goodyear is well-poised to meet its goal of becoming the best tire and rubber company in the world by the end of the year 2000."

The joint venture agreements — which are due to be signed by mid-summer — are subject to final approval by both Goodyear's Board of Directors and Sava's shareholders.

The purchase price will be announced at that time.

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Editor's note: Sava is headquartered in the city of Kranj, 20 miles north of the Slovenian capital of Ljubljana.