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NEWS INFORMATION

DUNLOP AIRCRAFT TYRES APPOINTS HEAD OF RESEARCH

Dunlop Aircraft Tyres has appointed Dr Wei Ding into a newly-created position as head of research.

Wei is tasked with developing and implementing a research strategy that will help the Birmingham-based manufacturer to further enhance its products and bring next generation aircraft tyres to market.

He reports to Dunlop Aircraft Tyres' technical director Martin Pye and joins the world's only specialist aircraft tyre manufacturer from Airbus, where he was project manager for tyre research and was team leader for tyre and brake modelling and simulation.

"This newly created position is an important part of our expansion strategy," said Dunlop Aircraft Tyres' chairman, Ian Edmondson.

"We are looking to get closer to the airframe constructors and Wei's background will mean that we are better placed to develop new products that meet their future needs."

Wei is a chartered engineer and before joining Airbus he worked as a senior engineer in the automotive tyre industry. Before this Wei was a research fellow at Birmingham University's Interdisciplinary Research Centre in Materials Processing.

He lives in Birmingham and is married with a daughter. Outside work, he plays badminton, table tennis and practises Tai Chi.

Wei's appointment is the latest investment at Dunlop Aircraft Tyres. The company is also establishing a new retreading facility in China that will open early next year and has recently launched a number of new products for aircraft including the Boeing 737 Next-Generation.

AAC Capital Partners, formerly the private equity business of ABN Amro, acquired 74.6 per cent ownership of Dunlop Aircraft Tyres in May 2007.

Ends.

Picture caption: Dr Wei Ding joins Dunlop Aircraft Tyres as head of research

For more press information contact John Butters at Bell Pottinger North on (01625) 506444 or 07788 432343. Or email jbutters@bellpottingernorth.co.uk

Notes to editors:

About Dunlop Aircraft Tyres

Based in Birmingham, Dunlop Aircraft Tyres Ltd specialises in the supply of aircraft tyres and tubes from design thorough to delivery, using the most sophisticated precision and manufacturing and retreading techniques available today. In its 98-year history, Dunlop Aircraft Tyres has achieved worldwide recognition and today is the only dedicated aircraft tyre manufacturer and retreader. The company focuses solely on meeting the needs of the aviation industry with a comprehensive product range available, backed by service 24 hours a day, all year round. Dunlop Aircraft Tyres' high profile customers include major international airlines, aircraft constructors, wheel and brake manufacturers and maintenance facilities throughout the world.