

For Immediate Release

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Rubber Manufacturers Association

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TIRE CONFERENCE ROLLS INTO NEW MEXICO

(Washington, D.C.) -- The Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA), in conjunction with the New Mexico Environment Department (Solid Waste Bureau) and the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy, will hold the first New Mexico Scrap Tire Management Conference, October 16 (8 am – 5 pm) and 17 (8 am until noon), 2002, at the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, NM.

The first morning's program will focus on the use of tire bales in engineered applications. Experts from state agencies, educational institutions, consulting firms, and scrap tire companies will make presentations on the relatively new use for old tires. The afternoon session will feature fire prevention and fire fighting strategies, with special attention on baled tire fires. A tire baling demonstration wraps up the first day activities.

"We are very glad to be working with the State of New Mexico and to facilitate this conference. If tire baling is to have any real impact, then technical information and engineering reports must be collected and presented," stated Michael Blumenthal, Senior Technical Director for the RMA. "I believe the presentations and discussions from this conference will provide much of the technical information that has been missing to date," Blumenthal added.

The second day's presentation will focus on civil engineering applications, tire-derived fuel and asphalt rubber. There will also be a presentation from the Texas Department of Transportation on their recently completed baled tire project.

Registration is only \$75 and includes continental breakfast, lunch, morning and afternoon beverage breaks, and handouts. For a complete listing of the conference agenda, hotel accommodations and the registration form, visit the RMA's web site www.rma.org/scraptires/conferences_events.html or call the RMA at (202) 682-4880.

The New Mexico contact for this conference is E. Gifford Stack, NMED Solid Waste Bureau, (505) 827-2653.

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