

# **GOODYEAR DUNLOP** *Case Study*



***“Our challenge was to create the ideal environment for the most efficient storage and picking of up to a million tyres...”***

***ANDY BARRIE – APEX LINVAR,  
SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR***



Apex Linvar, Garamonde Drive, Wymbush, Milton Keynes MK8 8ND  
Tel: +44 (0)1908 561222 Fax: +44 (0)1908 567455  
email: [enquiries@apexlinvar.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@apexlinvar.co.uk) [www.apexlinvar.co.uk](http://www.apexlinvar.co.uk)

# Apex racks a million tyres for Goodyear Dunlop

Goodyear Dunlop and its associated companies are part of Goodyear, the world's largest tyre producer, employing 86,000 associates globally and over 3,000 in the UK.

The company manufactures tyres, engineered rubber products and chemicals in more than 80 facilities in 28 countries around the world.

## The Challenge

With a footprint of over 500,000 sq ft, Dunlop's Tyrefort is the largest tyre warehouse and distribution centre in the UK. Situated alongside the M6 in Birmingham, over 150 people work in the purpose built facility which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Tyrefort has the provision to store over a million tyres. The efficient storage of these tyres is essential in the fast turnaround environment of the warehouse which handles up to 60,000 tyres every 24 hours.

*Below: The faster moving tyres are stored in stillages in 60 runs of Apex's adjustable pallet racking.*



*Above: Slower moving, low volume tyres are housed in Richie pallets in Very Narrow Aisle (VNA) racking.*

## The Solution

Goodyear Dunlop chose Apex Linvar as its storage partner to design, manufacture and install racking on the large scale that was required for Tyrefort.

pallets in Very Narrow Aisle (VNA) racking at one end of the warehouse. The 12 runs of racking have been configured into a 7 pallets high, 28 bays long construction.

## The Installation

The faster moving tyres are stored in stillages in 60 runs of Apex's adjustable pallet racking. Strong stillage supports, a bespoke design by Apex for Goodyear Dunlop, hold the tyres which are placed in a 'ricked' arrangement of up to 140 tyres per stillage, depending on their size. To protect the base of the pallet racking uprights from damage, column guards have been positioned into the warehouse floor.



Slower moving, low volume tyres are housed in 'Richie'

During the day tyres are delivered in, sorted and placed into stillages – many of these tyres will be transported out again the next day. Orders are received into the distribution centre until up to 5pm when picking lists are created ready for picking to start at 7pm.

Picking is done throughout the night from ground level, so fast moving tyres are kept in the bottom bays – with the same product stored above. As the bottom bays empty, the stillages above can be lowered as required. At 7am, twelve hours from commencement of picking, lorries are setting off from the 47 loading bays delivering up to 35,000 tyres to garages and retail outlets around the UK on a next-day delivery service.

