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## **TYRE CHOICE FOR THE ROTAX CLASSES**

At its September Steering Group meeting, the ABkC considered a request from J.A.G. Engineering that the Rotax class tyres be changed from Vega to Mojo for 2010. After careful consideration of all aspects of this request, this has been turned down, but the use of the Mojo tyres will be considered for the 2011 season subject to satisfactory testing and evaluation.

J.A.G. put forward the request to the ABkC in June, and it was discussed at their June meeting and the possibility of a change promulgated to competitors and clubs in the July newsletter. The steering group requested independent testing of the Mojo versus the Vega tyres and this was carried out to a high professional standard and the results noted. The ABkC Direct Drive working group was minded to support the change to Mojo tyres for 2010, but as more information was presented regarding the uses of PCA compounds in the tyres, more discussion took place.

EC Directive 2005/69/EC states that from 1.1.10 tyres manufactured for road vehicles must not contain certain levels of polycyclic aromatics (PCA). Although this does not yet apply to motorsport track-use advice given is that these are likely to be included in the future. It was noted that the Vega tyres have already had the PCA removed.

The ABkC were made aware that the Mojo tyres for 2010, as tested, would continue to be used in 2010, and these tyres would still contain PCA compounds. The ABkC and MSA were told that the PCA compounds would be removed from the tyres for the 2011 season.

The majority view of the steering group was that it did not want to inflict two changes of tyres on competitors over 2010 and 2011 (i.e. PCA Mojo in 2010, non-PCA Mojo in 2011 - currently an untested tyre).

There was reluctance by the steering group to accept a change from the current non-PCA tyre, to one still containing the PCA compounds which would be difficult to defend on environmental grounds.

The ABkC is aware that J.A.G. and Rotax BRP are naturally disappointed with the news but the committee feel the decision is in the best interests of the competitor and the environment. The decision has the full support of the MSA.