



# Mid Term Business plan(2024-2026)

## III. R&D and Manufacturing / Technology Innovation

Bridgestone Corporation  
Senior Vice President and Executive Officer  
Global Chief Technology Officer Responsible  
for Monozukuri

**Masato Banno**

1st March 2024

**BRIDGESTONE**  
*Solutions for your journey*

# Bridgestone's Technology Innovation toward 2050

Contributing to the evolution of a sustainable solutions company through technology innovation

**VISION**

**2050**

Bridgestone contributes to provide social value and customer value, as a sustainable solutions company.



# Review of 21MBP / New challenge towards 24MBP

Review of 21MBP : Pursued **technology creation for premium focus, contribution for core growth business** in order to return to strong Bridgestone  
 For 24MBP, continue to create new premium, strengthen manufacturing and **actively sow new seeds**

	Core Business	Growth Business	Exploratory Business / Diversified product Business
Review of 21MBP	<p><b>Rebuilding earning power, Lay foundation for premium</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Building new premium foundation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch ENLITEN MasterCore product</li> <li>• Establish ENLITEN BCMA <b>Generation1 Technology</b></li> <li>• Define specific BCMA value</li> </ul> </li> <li>✓ <b>Clarify role &amp; responsibility of 45 tire plant based on BCMA, visualize current Green/Smart level operational excellence.</b> Draw strategic investment plan for next stage</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lay foundation for solution business linkage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expand solution business with strategic partner of Mining, Aircraft business               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aviation solution</li> <li>• Mining solution</li> </ul> </li> <li>⇒ <b>Verify Bridgestone's unique tire prediction technology by solution value</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Sharply utilize Bridgestone's core competence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Accelerate co-creation activity               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verification for realization of carbon neutral, circular economy, <b>sowing new seeds</b></li> <li>• Establish fundamental tire technology for next generation mobility</li> <li>• New business creation by utilizing tire core technology (Soft robotics business)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Challenge for 24MBP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Expansion of ENLITEN BCMA Generation1, <b>establish technology for Generation2</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Manufacturing evolution BCMA x steady productivity improvement x building foundation for Green &amp; Smart. Start contribution and value creation</b></li> <li>✓ Approach the essential issues in manufacturing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Amplify value of Dan-Totsu product by strengthening solution</li> <li>✓ <b>Further evolve unique tire prediction technology</b>, convert to new value by combining wear durability prediction               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Deploy to TB retread solution</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Accelerate technology verification for social implementation</b>, grow new seeds</li> <li>✓ Expand the interaction loop with empathy • Co-Ideation • Co-R&amp;D • Co-creation, further sowing new seeds for new value creation</li> </ul>

# Initiative for 24 MBP based on 2030 long term strategic aspiration

## 2030 long term strategic aspiration

- ✓ Focus on premium business • solution business for creation of the new premium
- ✓ Establish business model with high certainty (Premium tire business and accelerate the growth of solution business by utilizing the strength of premium tire business)
- ✓ Balance conflicting values, such as sustainability vs. business growth, ultimate customization vs. improved productivity of the entire value chain /cost optimization

## Initiative for 24MBP

Reallocate R&D resources to selected key issue

### Core business

#### Reinforce earning power

##### Amplify value through the fusion of ENLITEN and BCMA, Mastering tire

- ✓ Ensure to develop Gen.1 product, expand technology for Gen.2 product
- ✓ Accelerate value creation in global through BCMA deployment
- ✓ Manufacturing evolution BCMA × steady productivity improvement × building foundation for Green & Smart.
- ✓ Steady execution of sustainable material installation road map

#### Establish sustainable premium brand

New way of product planning to create customer delight, realization of tire

### Growth business

#### Strengthen the linkage of Premium tire / Retread and mobility solution

- ✓ Amplify value creation through linkage of Dan-Totsu product and solution (TB ENLITEN, OR MasterCore, AC)
- ✓ Refine solution technology towards establishment of mobility tech. business

### Exploratory Business / Diversified product Business

#### Creation of sustainability value

- ✓ Small scale verification of technology towards commercialization ⇒ "Grow sowed seeds"
- ✓ Strengthen vision driven type value co-creation ⇒ "Sowing new seeds"

#### Sharply utilize Bridgestone's core competence

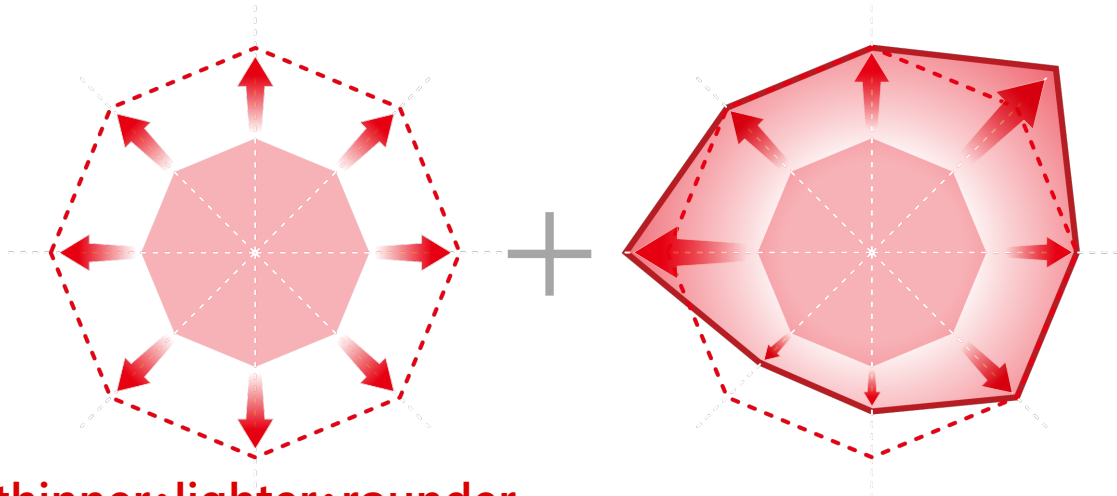
- ✓ Technology • product development for premium hydraulic hose

# Create good tires ~base technology for product design ENLITEN~

## ENLITEN<sup>®</sup> TECHNOLOGY

Ultimate  
Customization ※1

Empower each and all to achieve their best  
Be essential to the future of mobility



**thinner • lighter • rounder**

Reinforce basic performance requirements and improve all aspects of the performance grid

Sharpen edge for  
“ultimate customization”

**thinner**

resource productivity / Environmental performance

**lighter**

**rounder**

Dynamic performance  
(Handling stability • ride comfort)

Become weak and fragile

Becomes Easily distorted

Breakable

Deformation becomes distorted

Shape becomes distorted

Stronger and More flexible material

Necessary to design to distort properly

Technology to make it more round

**Mastering Rubber**

High strength network rubber  
Double network

**Mastering Road contact**

Optimization of ply tension  
Design simulation  
Technology to “see”  
Real x Digital

**Mastering Manufacturing**

Sense each tire  
AI • Big data  
Autonomy control

**Lead to drive sustainability**

sustainable materials

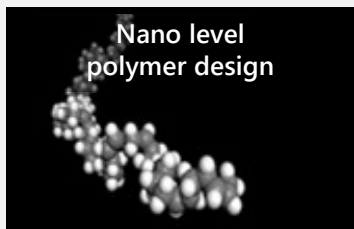
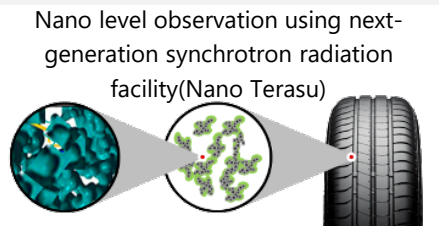
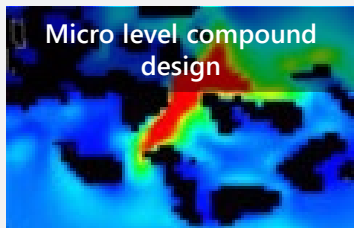
**Technology to support ENLITEN**

# Technology to support ENLITEN : Mastering rubber

~ realize "thinner·lighter" : **Strong and flexible innovative material**~

## Evolution of technology to "see"

the structure of rubber and molecule can be observed more clearly



\*1 Courtesy of Japan Photonics Innovation Center

## Evolution of technology to "analyze"

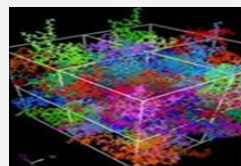
Data-driven material development

Extensive knowledge from the past

unique material synthesis evaluation system



- Indoor evaluation data
- Environmental indicators
- Material data
- Market data



Bridgestone' database

AI data analysis

Unique simulation

Real

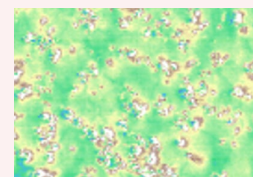
State-of-the-art material informatics

Digital

## Evolution of technology to "Control"

Realization of new material by designing polymer composite

### 「Mastering rubber」 — next stage —

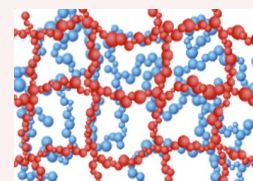


#### High strength network rubber

Start partial implementation from 21MBP Expand to product in 24MBP

Realized high level strength through Evolution of rubber structure analysis×Evolution of molecular design at nano level

Real (Synthesis technology) × Digital (molecular design)



#### Double network\*2

Establish technology in 24MBP/Equipping to product in 27MBP

Control network structure of several polymer having different function, at nano level

Tough rubber having 「flexible character」 and 「strong character」

**Realize "thinner·lighter"**

\*2 Achievement under the Cabinet Office's Innovative R&D Promotion Program (ImPACT)

# Technology to support ENLITEN : Lead to drive sustainability



Guayule  
(Diversification of natural rubber)



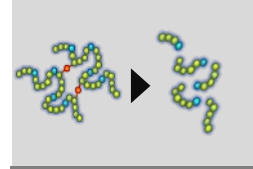
Rice husk silica  
(Reinforcement material for tires)



Synthetic rubber  
derived from biomass

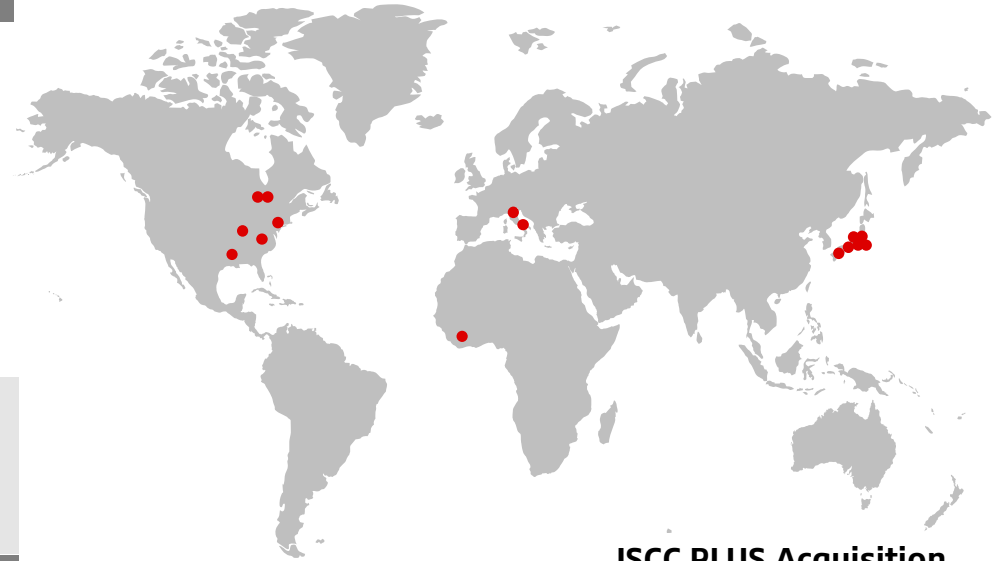


Reinforcement fiber  
derived from recycling



Rubber  
biodegradable  
technology (MoonShot)

ISCC PLUS certification is a system that ensures that raw materials derived from renewable and recyclable resources such as biomass are properly managed in the supply chain, including product manufacturing



## ISCC PLUS Acquisition location

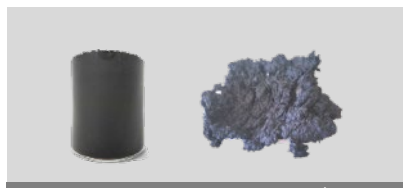
Domestic location 7  
Overseas location 9



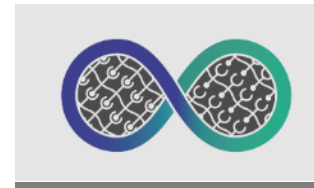
Natural rubber plantation management



Tire recycle technology  
(Green Innovation Fund)



Recycled carbon black /  
Recycled rubber



Easy-to-reuse rubber

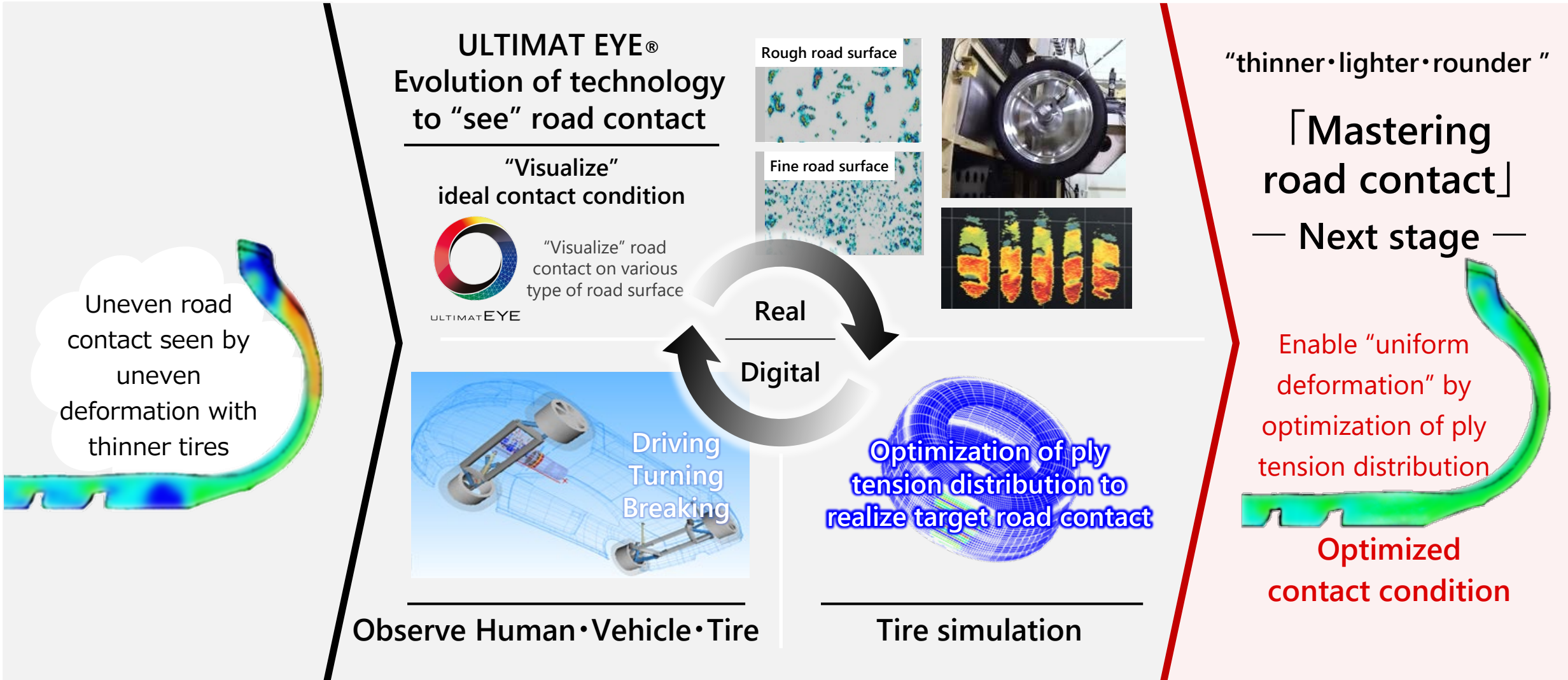
\* This presentation is based on results obtained from a project commissioned by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO).

※Including development sites, logistics, etc. other than mass production plants

**Aim for 40% Recycled & Renewable material ratio in 2030, 100% sustainable material in 2050, will improve recycled & renewable material ratio in collaboration with Co-creation partners**

# Technology to support ENLITEN : Mastering road contact

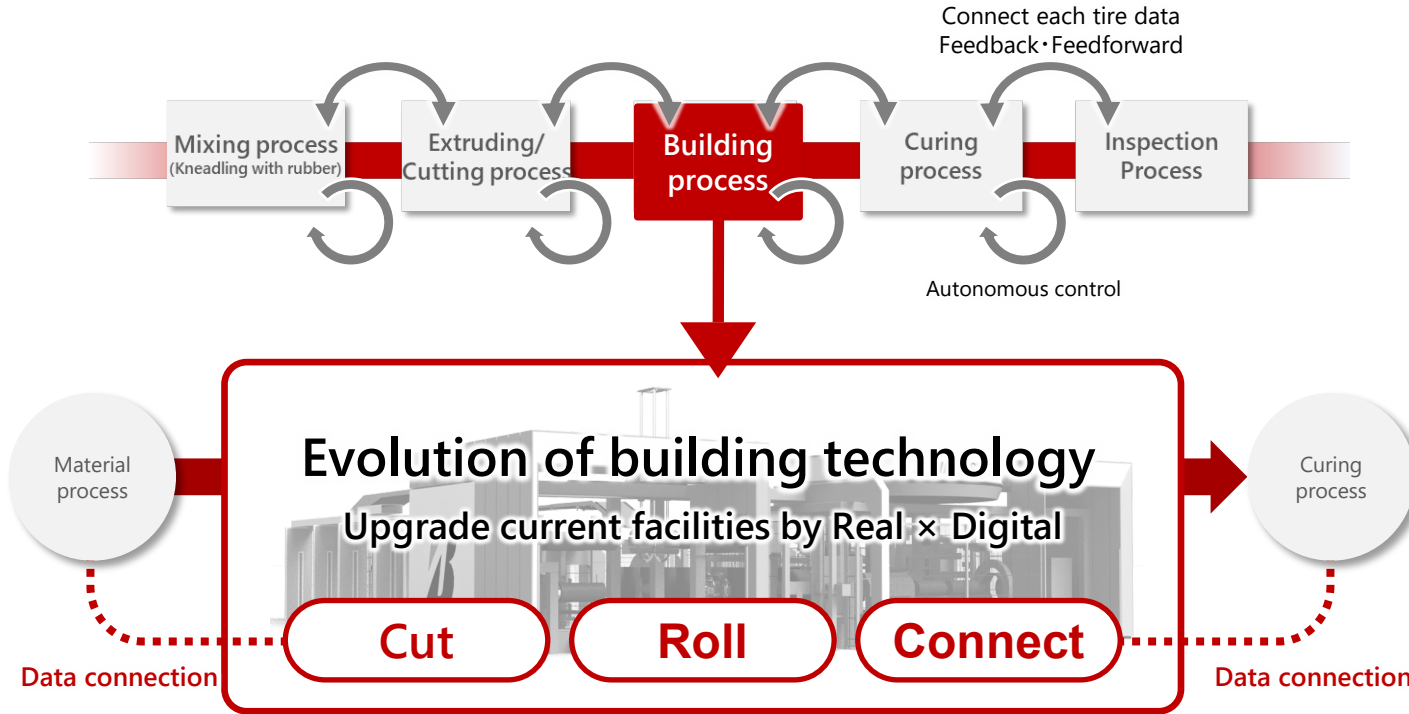
~ realize "thinner·lighter" : **Optimized contact condition** through more uniform deformation ~





# Technology to support ENLITEN : Mastering Manufacturing

~Autonomous control technology to realize ultimate roundness~



**See**

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Sense work, material, machine

**Analyze**

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Big Data + AI

**Manage**

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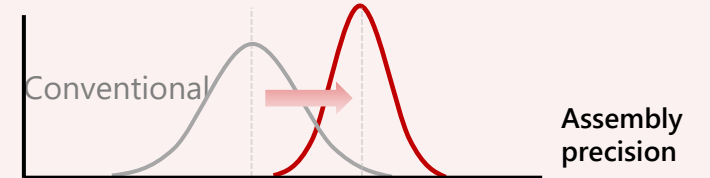
Optimize process per tire

## 「Mastering Manufacturing」 — Next stage —

Elemental technology for manufacturing developed through EXAMINATION

- Sense 480 quality data per tire
- Real time autonomous control to assemble every material at optimized condition
- Improvement in material precision by data feedback to former process
- Less skill by automation

21MBP Already established technology to improve 30% circularity



24MBP Will deploy technology to 20 global factories

Improve dynamic performance(Handling stability·ride comfort) by evolution of circularity

Contribute to further expansion of performance spider chart (Increase product competitiveness)

**Realize ultimate roundness**

# Technology verification

~ **Mobile Laboratory** Refine technology in extreme conditions, verify values ~

Through Motorsports, extreme condition for tires,  
will refine technology in agile, by real × digital – From Circuit to Street –

Tires carry life

Extreme Conditions

Thorough testing

"Developing Talent"  
"Refining Technology"

Mastering

ENLITEN<sup>®</sup>  
Generation 2  
Technology  
Establishment

High strength network rubber  
/ Double network

Optimization of  
ply tension distribution

Bio material / Recycle material

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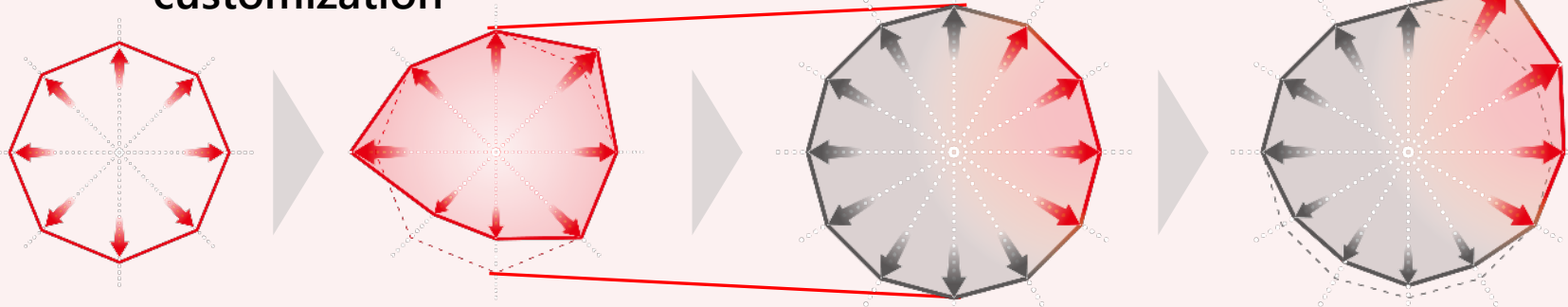
# Create good tires ~ENLITEN towards the next stage **Generation 2~**

24MBP

27MBP

Expand Generation 1  
Realize ultimate customization

Focus on 27MBP  
Technology development of Generation 2



Customize for more various performance  
65% ENLITEN ratio in 2026

Further pursuit "thinner·rounder·lighter"  
Further expand performance spider chart  
, suggest new value

ENLITEN  
To the next stage  
Generation 2

## Mastering rubber

High strength  
Network  
rubber

Double  
network

Sustainable  
material

## Mastering road contact

Strong  
material·  
Case line

Design  
simulation

Technology to  
"See"  
Real x Digital

## Mastering manufacturing

Sense  
Each tire

AI ·Big data

Autonomous  
Control

# Manufacturing evolution

~Challenge towards business contribution·new value creation based on BCMA~

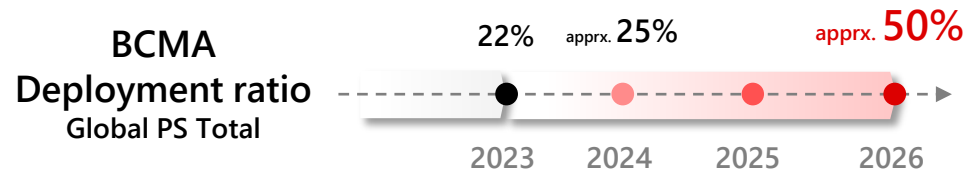
## Manufacturing evolution through BCMA

Provide Dan-Totsu product in agile with simple operation through BCMA = Support 「Ultimate customization」



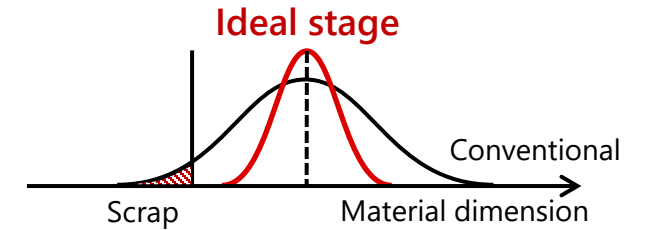
- Primary benefit**
- Efficient development, simplification of production
  - Evolution of production process and precision, reduction in production time·cost
- Secondary benefit**
- Improvement of manufacturing constitution
  - Improvement in SURURAKU·productivity
- Further amplification of value**
- Expand effect to procurement, logistics, sales
  - Influence to whole VC, business contribution, challenge for new value

All foundations are manufacturing at Genba, approach the essence of manufacturing at Genbutsu-Genba

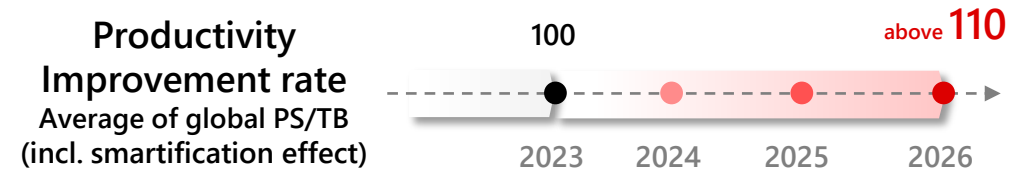
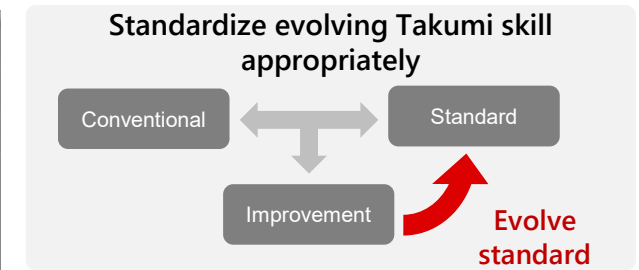
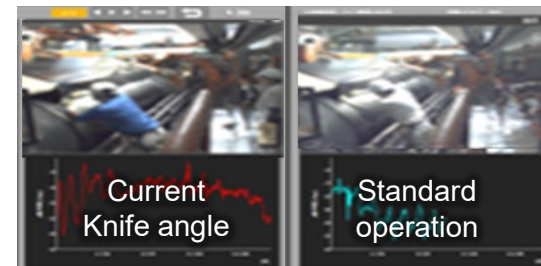


## Steady quality·productivity improvement activity at Genbutsu-Genba

Bridgestone DNA、Focus on Genbutsu-Genba·quality



Evolution of standard  
Integration of SURURAKU production and digital - Digital skill transfer

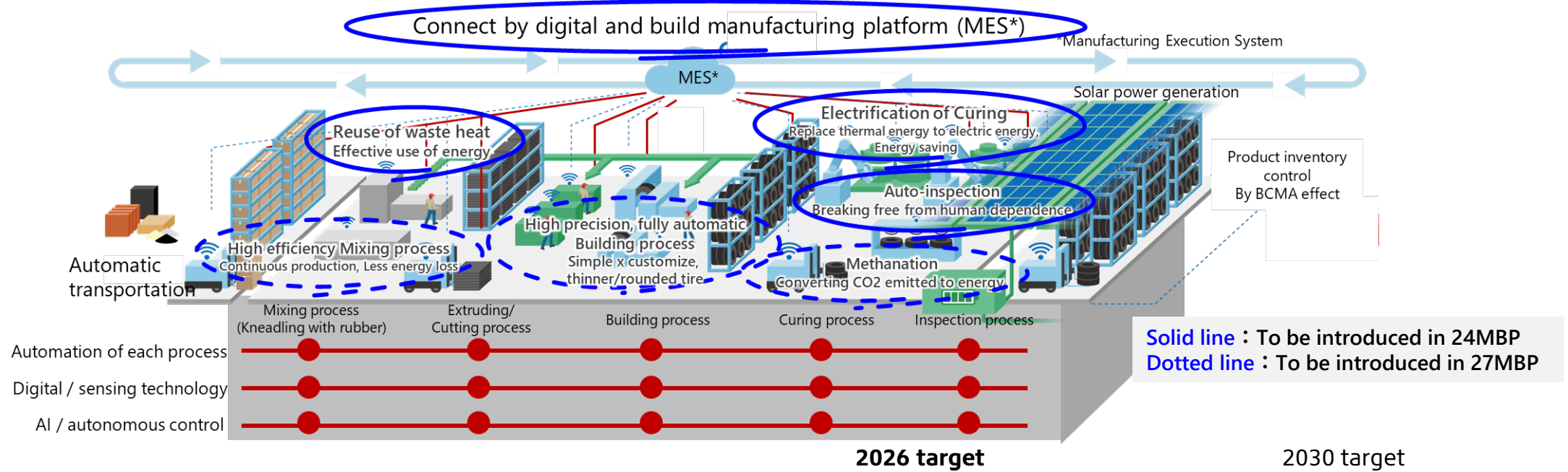


## Manufacturing evolution

BCMA to support Ultimate customization + steady productivity improvement + Greening & Smartening Manufacturing to the next stage

# Evolution of manufacturing ~Creating Greener & Smarter factories~

Digital/Sensing • AI/Autonomous control, Aim for high accuracy • high efficiency manufacturing by connecting data in whole



<b>Green</b> Maximize value with minimum sustainable resources	CO2 emission	<b>50% over reduction</b> (vs. 2011) (Scope1,2)	<b>50% reduction</b> (vs. 2011) (Scope1,2)
	Renewable energy(electricity)	<b>70% over</b>	<b>Aim for 100%</b>
<b>Smart</b> "Strong" real (Takumi) x digital mastering manufacturing	Deployment ratio of ultimate "circle" technology <small>*Deployment ratio for technology applicable machine</small>	<b>apprx. 50%</b>	<b>100%</b>
	Less skills/High efficiency Labor productivity	<b>above 110%</b>	<b>130%</b>

# Amplification of solution value by evolution of prediction technology

## Determined route

### Aviation solution

Evolve tire wear prediction technology



Input to tire



⇒ Wear prediction  
(Wear out timing)

### Mining solution

Evolve tire durability prediction technology



Inner pressure temperature



⇒ Durability prediction  
(optimized operation)

Evolution of solution technology

## Various driving route per customer

### Deployment to TBR

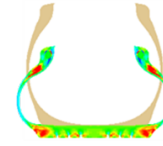
ENLITEN<sup>®</sup>



Input to tire



Inner pressure, temperature

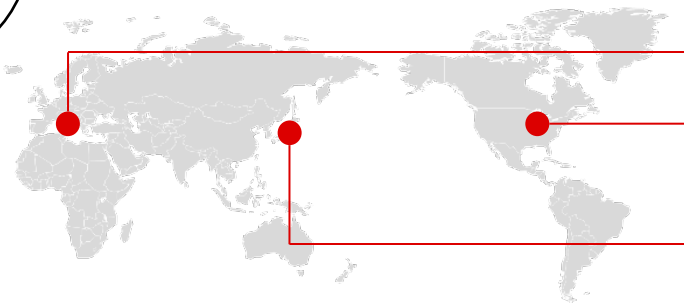


Bridgestone's unique physical model



Become able to predict each tire endurance margin at wear out

### Suggest optimized management per customer



webfleet solutions  
a Bridgestone company

Vehicle data of digital fleet solution provider

⇒ Determine whether to adopt or reject retread for each tires



azuga  
a Bridgestone Company

Traveling data of customer  
⇒ Suggest plural retread per fleet



Transportation company etc.

Amplify value by realizing using up of each tire  
Have the customer use tires safely, successfully, efficiently

# Value creation by technology innovation: “from interaction with empathy to co-creation” Promote co-creation leveraging BIP

Promote joint R&D with partners in industry, government and academia to **create social value & customer value**, with BIP as the starting point

Accelerate joint research with **NTT**, NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CORPORATION

Promote “co-creation” in 3 areas based on strengths of both companies to realize vision of both companies

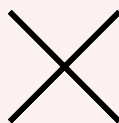
Sustainability

Digital twin

Creating an environment friendly town through tires

**NTT**

Cyber related technologies such as computing network fundamental technology and digital twin computing



**BRIDGESTONE**

“Mastering rubber” “Mastering road contact”

Contribute to the evolution of mobility, including research and commercialization of **autonomous driving technology** : Co-creation with TIER IV

“Co-creation” in  
2 areas

1. “Autonomous driving technology”: Promote activities based in B-Mobility, mini test course in BIP, from 2022
2. “Solution service that supports operations ”: **Start demonstration test on public roads leveraging self-driving EV bus and tire management digital tool “Tirematics” from February 2024**

Accelerate to create new value from joint research that leverages Bridgestone’s core competencies **through collaboration with industry, government and academia**

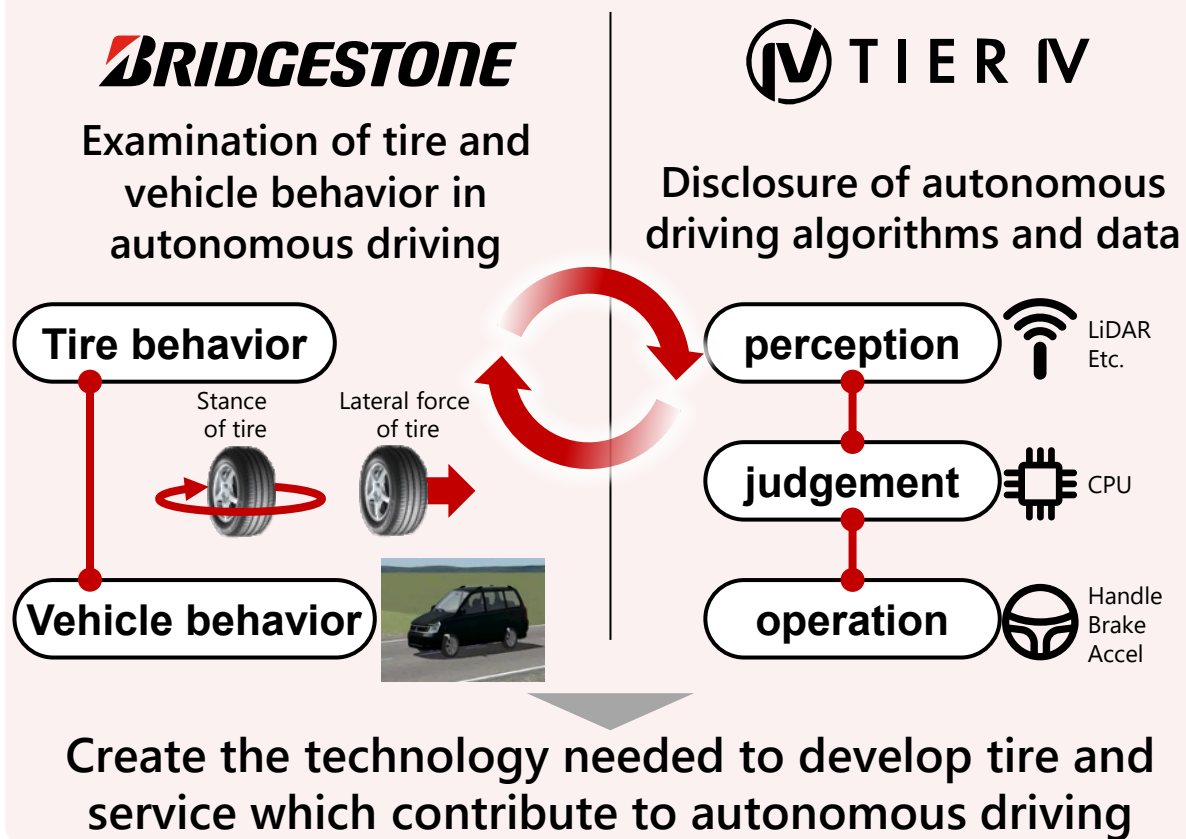
- **Joint research with Tohoku University:** Material development leveraging NanoTerasu, next-generation synchrotron radiation facility, etc.
- **Collaboration with Kyusyu University:** Comprehensive initiatives such as joint research, talent development, etc.

# Exploratory business "Sowing new seeds"

—Initiatives for an autonomous driving society(co-creation with TIERIV)

## New value demands of autonomous vehicles

**Challenge : understand the functions and characteristics required of tires**



## The realization of a safe autonomous driving society (Extension)

Knowledge of tire characteristics

**BRIDGESTONE**

Technical value

Understanding of autonomous driving algorithms and the utilization of data

Development of tire and solution suitable for autonomous driving (ease, efficiency)



B-Innovation create ideas



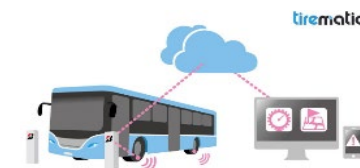
B-Mobility form ideas and test

autonomous driving technology and data

**TIER IV**

Technical value

Differentiation of algorithms with the addition of tire knowledge





# Exploratory business “Sowing new seeds”

—providing social value & sustainability at the core—

Evolution of “Air Free” to provide social value: Based on “co-creation”, “continue to support the mobility of people and objects”



Mission: “Support the mobility of local communities”

In response to the challenges of local communities (aging population, depopulation, labor shortage), **commit to nonstop safe mobility with peace of mind, as well as to contributing to a society that ensures accessibility and dignity for all.**

24MBP : From concept to “Air Free” – Technology evolution for safety & peace of mind and sustainability

- **Safety and peace of mind** : Adopt “Empowering Blue” for increased visibility



“Blue to **empower** local communities’ safe mobility with peace of mind”  
A color to maximize visibility at twilight when many traffic accidents occur※

※ Color scheme based on the usage condition in Bridgestone’s demonstration experiment

- **Non-stop mobility** : No punctures / no need for inflation — **Improve maintenance efficiency**
- **Sustainability**—Contribute to **improving resource productivity & a circular economy**:  
Use of renewable material / simple structure / adapted to retread / recyclable

Linkage with the sustainability business model

Initial Concept	Evolution of Technology
Character of material: non-breakable material	→ <b>Tough and flexible material</b>
Character of design: Do not distort	→ <b>Distort properly</b>
Feature of product: Support load	→ Support load + <b>ride comfort</b>
Recyclable	→ Recyclable + <b>Retread</b>

Unique Algorithm	Sustainable design
Utilization of material	Retreadable/Recyclable
Optimize road contact· control strain	Material and simplified structure

Shape optimization by Machine learning

Mar. 2024:

- **Start demonstration experiments on public roads** in Kodaira City, Tokyo where Bridgestone Innovation Park is located
- Develop “Air Free” characteristics & performance in various usage conditions and evolve toward social implementation

24MBP

In parallel with demonstration experiments, **explore business model**

2026

**Create a “co-creation” mobility system** for small mobility and autonomous driving, etc.

# Exploratory Business "Sowing New Seed" — providing social value & sustainability at the core —



Support mobility in local communities through safe, peace of mind and sustainable technologies

Safe and peace of mind mobility in local communities by Empowering Blue

Establishing technologies for social implementation and exploring business models- creating a mobility system  
Co-creating with partners: small mobility x autonomous driving systems

## AirFree

Expanding missions from community to space

Providing safety and peace of mind in extreme environments and "supporting space exploration with the dreams of humanity on our shoulders"

Bridgestone, which has known the way of the world and supported the evolution of all kinds of mobility on Earth contributed to development of human-being by knowing the way of space and supporting the evolution of space mobility

Co-creating with various partners  
in the space business network



Contributing to international missions  
— Promoting technology exploration —

# Exploratory business "Sowing new seeds"

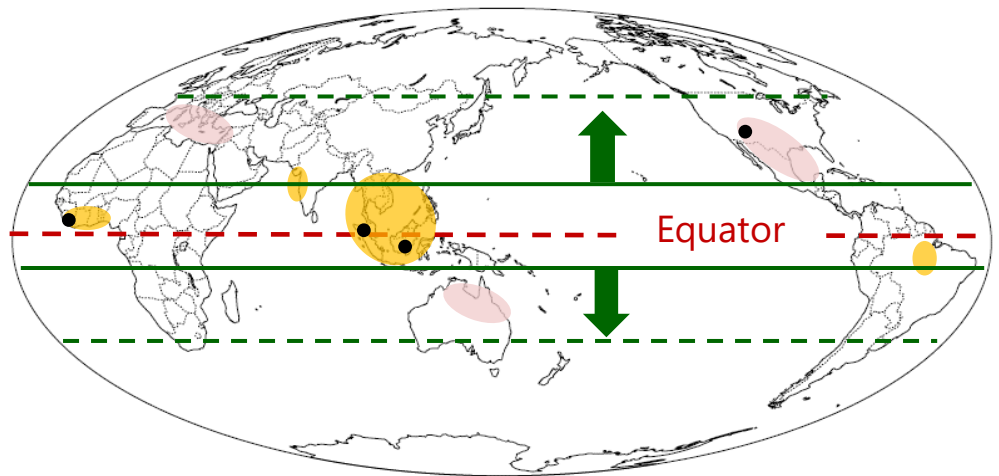
## —Making Natural rubber resource sustainable

**Social issue**

Ensure sustainability of resources

**Business issue**

Increase in Natural rubber demand  
Concentration of Hevea production area



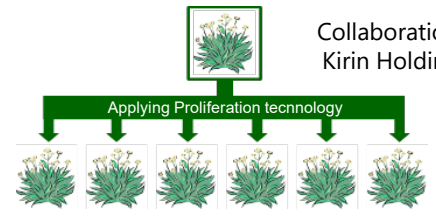

● Hevea    ● Guayule    ● Bridgestone private farm

### 【Expansion】 Productivity improvement of Hevea

<p>Do not reduce</p> <p>Technology for disease diagnosis</p>  <p>(Collaboration with former Information Services International-Dentsu, Ltd. (ISID))</p>	<p>Increase</p> <p>Selection Technology of elite tree</p> 	<p>Plantation management Technology</p> <p>Big Data</p>  <p>(Collaboration with The Institute of Statistical Mathematics)</p>
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21MBP : Started trial at private farm    24MBP : Study expansion to support small scale farmers

### 【Diversification】 Diversification of raw materials using guayule which grow in arid land

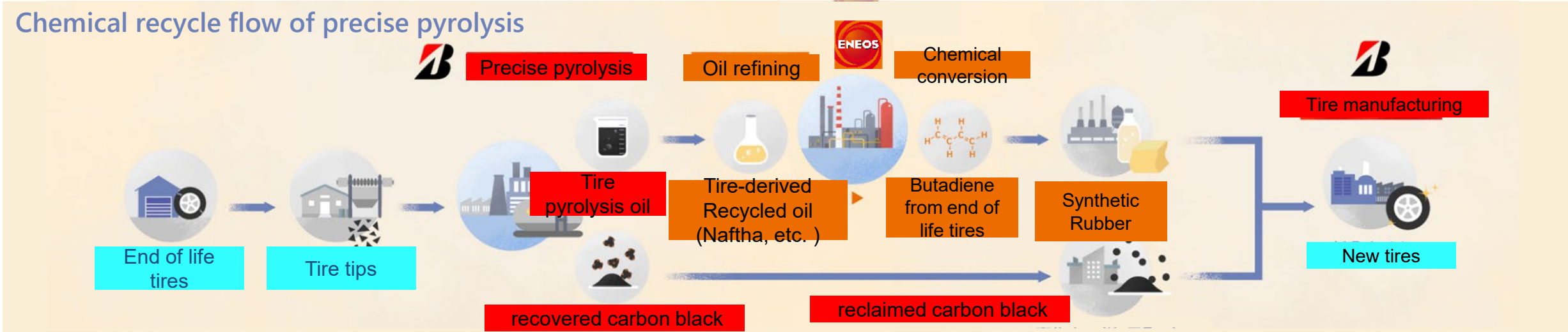
<p>Technology for mass propagation of superior varieties of Guayule</p>  <p>Collaboration with Kirin Holdings Co.</p>	<p>Provide tires using Guayule to NTT INDYCAR® SERIES</p> 
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21MBP : succeeded in the large-scale propagation of superior varieties through original technology. Guayule applied to motorsports tires.  
24MBP : Co-create a breeding technology of superior plant varieties.

# Exploratory business "Sowing new seeds"

—Recycle pyrolysis technology of End of life tires (Co-creation with ENEOS)—

## Chemical recycle flow of precise pyrolysis



2021-23  
Development of element technology

Optimization of pyrolysis condition Study on refining·Catalyst condition

### Result of 21MBP



Start precise pyrolysis verification through small scale demonstration (Renew end of life tires to raw material)

Collected carbon black (left) and oil (right)

2024-26  
Establish and optimization of precise pyrolysis process

Design process for Tire pyrolysis Design process for Oil refining

### Approach for 24MBP

- Establish precise pyrolysis process
- Verify and improvement for scale up
- Study on reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emission

2027-30  
Social implementation verification

+ Verification through design·construction·operation

### Approach for 27MBP

- Social implementation of tire horizontal recycle
- Establish recycle business model

This presentation is based on results obtained from a project commissioned by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO).

# Intellectual property strategy

## Intellectual property mix

Understand “based on-site” and combine intellectual property that supports each business strategy for the premium tire business, the solutions business, and the exploratory business

Convert intellectual property into value ⇒ Amplify customer value & social value

$$\text{IP* value creativity} = \frac{\text{IP value}}{\text{IP investments}}$$

**Focus on “value creation” aligned with business strategy**

- Support value creation across value chain

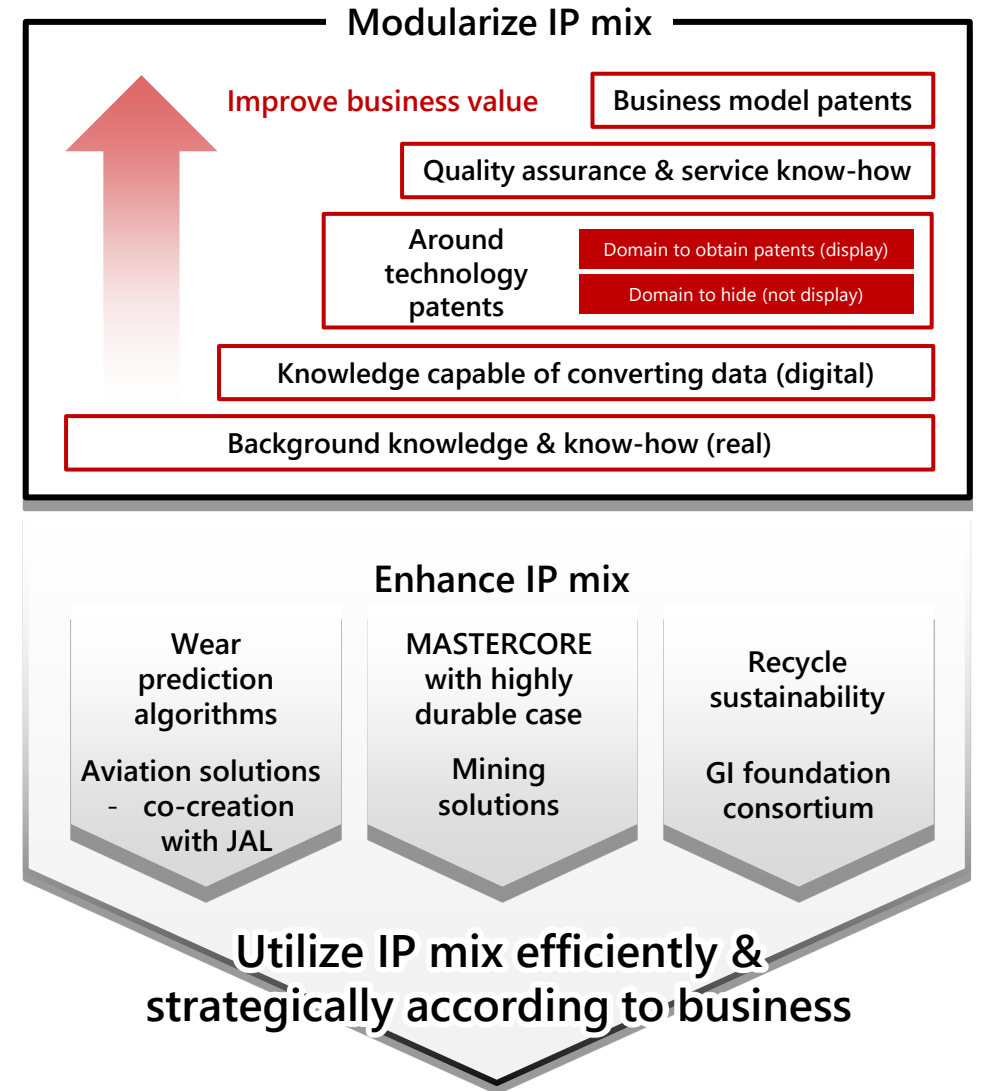
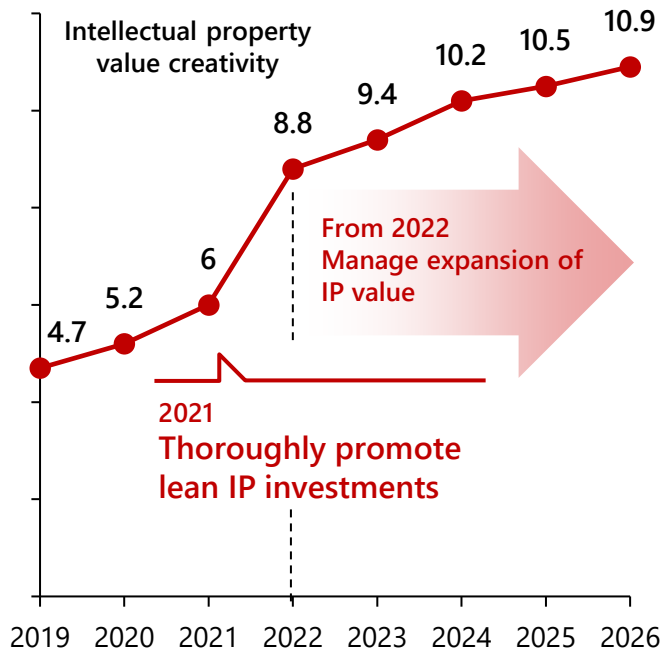
From the conventional premium tire business-focused IP strategy to one that visualizes IP with the entire value chain of “produce and sell,” “use,” and “renew” as a scope, including the solutions business and the exploratory business  
⇒ Amplify value through IP management linked with characteristics by business portfolio and business strategy

**“Maximize efficiency and effectiveness”**  
- Utilize IP mix

Realize efficient & strategic IP activities by combining and utilizing a variety of IP such as knowledge, know-how, and patents spread throughout the value chain from the perspective of value creation

**Discover IP that leads to business value, “respecting being on-site” ⇒ Expand value that cannot be imitated**

Amplify value by strengthening “Genbutsu-Genba (respect for being on-site)” communication in development & manufacturing – logistics -sales service and solutions and extracting on-site craftperson skills (tacit knowledge)

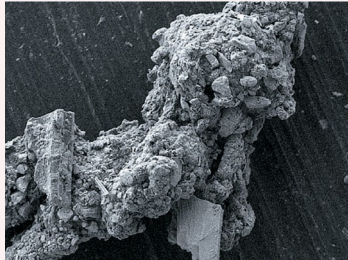


# Technical approach toward Global management risk

## Target substance

### TRWP : Tire and Road Wear Particles

#### Character of TRWP



Component	Agglomeration of tire & pavement material
Shape	long and narrow particle
Size	several μm ~ over 100μm
Rubber : road ratio	Approx. 50 : 50
Specific gravity	About 1.8 g/cm <sup>3</sup>

Cited from "Tire Industry Project 10-Year Progress Report / WBCSD"

### 6PPD : Anti-oxidant

## Bridgestone's status

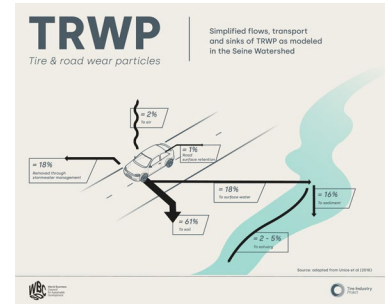
Understand the essence

Correct understanding through co-creation and internal R&D collaboration

- As a leader, research **characteristics and affect** of TRWP through TIP\*1
- Through co-creation, understand **environmental dynamics**•**affect** of TRWP, and continuously work on **to solve and visualize** the issue

\*1 Tire Industry Project under the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

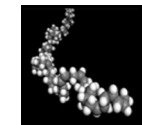
Simplified flows, transport and sinks as modeled in the Seine watershed  
- the reference to Unice *et al*, 2018  
- the credit to "WBCSD Tire Industry Project"



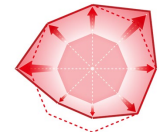
## Reduce TRWP : Utilize Bridgestone's Core competence for reduction of TRWP

- Dan-Totsu tire performance : Reduce TRWP amount by **Dan-Totsu wear performance**
- Suggested solution : Reduce TRWP amount by **fleet management**
- 「Mastering rubber」 : Apply Innovative material technology for development of **bio-degradable polymer**\*2

\*2 Polymer that is naturally degraded by microbes



Mastering Rubber



ENLITEN TECHNOLOGY



Solution Technology

- Anti-oxidant commonly used in tire industry. Will work on through the whole tire industry and promote evaluation of substitutional

# Optimization of Global R&D

