

## **Bridgestone Americas to Support U.S. Paralympics on the Road to Rio** **Team USA partner furthers its commitment to the Olympic and Paralympic Movements with support for U.S. Paralympics - and its athletes - through the 2024 Paralympic Games**

**Nashville (May 18, 2016)** - Bridgestone Americas, Inc., a subsidiary of the world's largest tire and rubber company, has signed a partnership with U.S. Paralympics, a division of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), which will see the company support the U.S. Paralympic team through the next eight years. Through this relationship, Bridgestone will support U.S. Paralympics - and its athletes - at the upcoming Rio 2016 Paralympic Games, the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games, the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games, and the soon-to-be-determined 2024 Paralympic Games.

In March, Bridgestone Corporation, Bridgestone America's Tokyo-headquartered parent company and a Worldwide Olympic Partner, announced an agreement with the Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games that makes Bridgestone Corporation a Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Gold Partner. In April, Bridgestone Americas officially welcomed three-time Paralympic medalist Will Groulx to its Team Bridgestone roster of athletes. Groulx, who transitioned from wheelchair rugby to paracycling in 2013, is currently training to compete at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

"Bridgestone shares a common set of values with the Olympic and Paralympic movements, and shares a passion for performance with the incredible athletes and para-athletes that are the driving force of the Olympic and Paralympic Games," said Christine Karbowski, Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Risk Officer, Bridgestone Americas. "We believe that sport has the power to excite, inspire and unite people from diverse backgrounds all over the world, and we're proud to partner with Team USA, U.S. Paralympics and athletes like Will as they chase their dreams."

Bridgestone Corporation proudly announced its official Worldwide Olympic Partnership with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on June 13, 2014, making a long-term commitment to the Olympic Movement which extends through 2024. In the countdown to Rio 2016, and through 2024, Bridgestone will work in partnership with the IOC to support the Olympic Games and National Olympic Committees around the world.

To learn more about Bridgestone's partnership with U.S. Paralympics, visit [BridgestoneAmericas.com](http://BridgestoneAmericas.com)

### **About Bridgestone Americas**

*Nashville, Tennessee-based Bridgestone Americas, Inc. (Bridgestone) is the U.S. subsidiary of Bridgestone Corporation, the world's largest tire and rubber company. Bridgestone and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture and market a wide range of Bridgestone, Firestone and associate brand tires to address the needs of a broad range of customers, including consumers, automotive and commercial vehicle original equipment manufacturers, and those in the agricultural, forestry and mining industries. The companies are also engaged in retreading operations throughout the Western Hemisphere and produce air springs, roofing materials, and industrial fibers and textiles. The Bridgestone family of companies also operates the world's largest chain of automotive tire and service centers. Guided by its One Team, One Planet message, the company is dedicated to achieving a positive environmental impact in all of the communities it calls home.*

### **About Bridgestone Corporation's Worldwide Olympic Partnership:**

*Bridgestone Corporation proudly signed on as an official TOP Worldwide Olympic Partner of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on June 13, 2014. The 10-year partnership will see Bridgestone Corporation serve as one of only 12 TOP partners at the upcoming Rio 2016 Olympic Games, the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games, the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, which is where the company's global headquarters are located, the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, and the 2024 Olympic Games; the partnership also includes support for the next three Youth Olympic Games. The long-term commitment to the Olympic Movement furthers Bridgestone Corporation's proud sporting heritage and history of innovation, which extends more than 100 years, and will showcase Bridgestone Corporation's commitment to community service, social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and respect for diversity - all tenets of the Olympic Charter that also lie at the heart of the Bridgestone brand.*