Vehicle related non exhaust particle emissions – Euro 7 requirements

ARTICLE INFO

The article is a multi-directional review of the current knowledge in the field of particulate matter emissions from motor vehicles, but not related to the combustion process in piston combustion engines. A summary of the research results available in the literature was provided regarding the size and composition of particulate emissions from abrasive wear of working elements of brake systems and tires. The mechanisms of particulate matter formation related to the wear processes of brake pads, discs, and tires were described. Reference was made to currently available research results regarding the harmful, toxicological impact on the health of chemical components contained in particulate matter, in particular on diseases of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems. A critical analysis of various, previously unstandardized measurement and assessment methods for the emissions of this particulate matter category was carried out, pointing to future needs. Relating, in particular, to the requirements of the new Euro 7 standard.

Key words: particulate matter, brake system emissions, tire wear emissions, methods of particulate matter measurement, Euro 7

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1. Introduction

Current epidemiological and experimental research on environmental pollution related to road traffic more commonly focuses on particulate matter (PM). These particles range in diameter from a few nanometers to hundreds of microns. The evidence obtained in the studies clearly indicated a harmful, toxicological health impact of chemical components contained in particulate matter, in particular on diseases of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems [2, 22, 47, 51]. Among all critical risk factors for mortality, exposure to ambient fine particulate matter ranks seventh (OECD 2017). According to OECD studies, the contribution of NEE (non-exhaust emissions) to traffic-induced particulate matter concentrations in local hotspots may exceed 50% [50, 122], which highlights the importance of NEE in urban environments.

PM emitted from motor vehicles are classified based on two main sources of origin, i.e. exhaust emissions, which represent PM resulting from incomplete combustion of fuel and lubricating oil in the combustion chamber, and PM emissions not related to the combustion process in the engine resulting from braking processes, tire wear as well as the resuspension of particles generated by road traffic [59, 138, 139, 142]. Non-combustion emissions (NEE) from road traffic refer to particles released into the air as a result of the wear of the friction elements of the braking system, tires, road surface, and road dust re-suspension during vehicle use on the road [10, 39, 42, 46, 110]. The size, chemical composition, and emission rate of particles from such sources affect the concentration of particles in the atmosphere and how harmful they are to human health. Such particles have a chemical composition and size different from particulate matter in exhaust gases.

NEE arises regardless of the type of vehicle and the type of its drive unit (power source). With the implementation of the vehicle exhaust emission control policy and the successive reduction of permissible emission limits for regulated exhaust gas components, the emission of particulate matter arising from the combustion process in engines has gradually decreased, and the relative share of particulate matter emissions from brake and tire wear has therefore grown unchecked. The concentration of airborne particulate matter is often referred to as PM$_{10}$. These are particles with a diameter of less than 10 µm expressed per unit volume. In certain conditions, car brake materials also emit ultrafine particles (with diameters below 0.1 µm), and their numerical concentration is several orders of magnitude greater than the concentration of fine particles (PM$_{10}$) [8, 84, 129, 155].

It was noted in other studies that particulate emissions from brake dust in Europe are made up of 30% (PM$_{2.5}$) and 40% (PM$_{10}$) for emissions from sources unrelated to combustion in engines [18, 32, 45, 53]. PM emissions not related to the combustion process accounted for a share ranging from 30% (PM$_{2.5}$) and 45% (PM$_{10}$) in 2010 to 54% (PM$_{2.5}$) and 69% (PM$_{10}$) in 2020 (after the introduction of DPF filters), and will probably exceed 90% in 2040 (Fig. 1) [18]. Research results indicate that particles originating from the wear of brake friction elements may constitute up to 21% of the total amount of PM10 emitted by motor vehicles in large urban areas, of which approximately 35-55% is suspended in the air, the remaining portion is usually deposited on the brake system elements, or on the road surface [52, 71, 79, 87, 142, 162]. The tire wear process generates and releases particles that consist of degraded tire tread compound (elastomer) mixed with minerals from the road surface. These particles are often called tire and road wear particles (TRWP) [56, 83, 134, 152]. Studies conducted over the last 10 years show that tire particulate matter emissions range from 0.2 kg/year/capita in countries with low vehicle numbers to 5.5 kg/year/capita in countries with high vehicle numbers. Therefore, the average is approximately 0.8 to 1 kg/year/inhabitant [14, 15, 81, 148]. Tire wear causes the formation and emission of microplastics, which constitute a huge environmental pollution problem.

Electric vehicles have been gaining increasing popularity for over a dozen years now [13, 78, 126]. The research results from various sources regarding the particulate matter...
emission produced from the wear of brakes and tires vary. Some studies indicate that these emissions may be greater than the total PM emissions from an internal combustion engine vehicle (ICEV) [16, 143]. Many researchers indicate that electric vehicles are about 20% heavier than ICEVs due to the mass of their batteries, which would be expected to cause particulate emissions from increased brake wear, tire wear, road wear, and road dust resuspension [1, 131].

On the other hand, it should be noted that the amount of braking done in battery electric vehicles is typically several times lower due to the use of a regenerative braking system. Despite this, recent studies based on updated emission analyzes have shown that the high mass of electric vehicles can offset the positive effect of regenerative braking on reducing particulate emissions [16, 63, 143]. The results of other studies state that electric vehicles’ particulate emissions are comparable to conventional ICEVs’ emissions [150]. Consequently, further research is needed to better understand the overall impact of vehicle electrification on emissions primarily related to braking and tire wear.

Emissions of regulated substances, including PM, from combustion engines have been restricted based on emission limit values for more than 30 years. There are no legal restrictions on non-exhaust emissions relating to particulate matter emissions and their resuspension. Already, NEEs have supplanted exhaust emissions as the largest source of PM emissions from road traffic. The growing trend in NEE emissions is also indicated by data from EU vehicle emissions analyzes done up to the year 2021 [28, 106] and after [6]. Most importantly, this major source of PM emissions from road traffic is currently not subject to any legislative process. It is therefore essential that future regulations introduce restrictions on NEEs and their contribution to total PM emissions. Taking this into account, the European Union has proposed that the standard currently being developed for limiting emissions of harmful components from motor vehicles – Euro 7 – should include reductions in particulate emissions not only from ICE exhaust gases [51, 142, 149]. However, the biggest problem that remains to be solved before the introduction of the new Euro 7 standard is the development of a standardized method for measuring NEE PM that will ensure obtaining reliable, repeatable measurement results.

The measurement of particulate emissions from NEE is a complicated challenge due to the open configuration of the vehicle brake system and the tires operating in the area of significant air flow influence. As a result, the particles are immediately diluted and dispersed by the surrounding air. This means that making repeatable measurements becomes a complex and difficult task. Moreover, measurement conditions on the road are greatly influenced by a set of highly variable parameters. In this regard, performing emission measurements in real operating conditions (RDE) becomes essential for a better understanding of the actual emission behavior and its reliable assessment. This led to the establishment of a dedicated Working Group on Particle Measurement Program (PMP) for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) to develop a dedicated PM measurement methodology for NEE sources. Overall, further detailed investigation of PM from NEEs is necessary to reduce road traffic-related PM emissions and assess future health risks [1, 51, 142, 149].

The aim of this article was to perform a broad literature review, systematize the existing knowledge and to critically analyze it in the field of NEE.

### 2. Particulate emissions from brakes and tires

Non-combustion emissions (NEE) refer to particulate emissions released as a result of wear of brake friction elements, corrosion processes [52, 53, 162], tire-road surface interactions [69], and particle resorption [106, 127]. The vast majority of the brake and tire mass that becomes particles is released as the result of abrasion processes. Moreover, it has been shown that both sources can emit ultra-fine particles through thermochemical processes [157]. When assessing the emission of particulate matter, it is necessary to take into account not only their mass distribution but also their size distribution, as well as their quality (e.g., chemical composition and biological effect). The amount of emissions and the composition of PM from the wear of brake components can vary depending on many factors, the most important of which are:

- composition of the brake pad friction material, which may be organic or metallic. When specifying the materials from which brake pads can be made, the following should be mentioned: organic pads without asbestos (NAO – non-asbestos organics), low-alloy steel, carbon and aluminum [41, 155]. Metallic pads are divided into low-metallic (LM) or low-alloy, semi-metallic (SM) and fully metallic (rare). The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) typically refers to the most representative

![Fig. 1 Changes and forecasts of emissions from exhaust gases and other sources (brake, tire, and road wear) and total PM emissions from road transport in the EU27: (a) PM10; (b) PM2.5 [32]](image)
brake pads for Europe, which are either LM or SM [20, 26, 105, 132]. The results of previous research have shown that replacing ECE pads with NAO pads can reduce PM emissions from brakes [84, 129, 140, 159, 160]. The reduction was approximately 62% for PM10, 55% for PM2.5, and 64% for PN. It was also shown that brake disc wear can be easily reduced by replacing LM brake pads with NAO pads [155]. Brake pads described as NAO are popular in the USA, Japan, and Korea, while brake pads described as ECE are the most popular in Europe. Brake discs made of grey cast iron (GCI) are often used because of their high melting point, high heat storage capacity, as well as damping. Their other advantages are good castability and machinability [12, 105]. It is estimated that for brake discs made of grey cast iron, cooperating with high emission brake pads of the ECE type, the disc contributes to the emission of approximately 60% of the total PM mass [60, 64, 130, 136], while using ceramic discs, this share can be reduced to < 5% [130]. When drum brakes were used, the brake drum with GCI contributed approximately 37% of the total mass of PM emissions [64].

- type of brake assembly, including discs, drums, their sizes, surface structure, and groove depths [41]
- vehicle operating conditions, including initial speed, deceleration rate, fluid pressure acting on the brake pistons, torque, and brake temperatures [41, 75, 128].

Generally speaking, the processes of brake wear and changes in kinetic energy or energy dissipated from the brakes are all related [35, 61, 103, 159]. Therefore, in the case of specific, identical braking cycles, the wear of brake friction elements should be correlated with the load (vehicle mass) [33, 143]. Reliably estimated emission factors are necessary to calculate with the required precision the contribution of PM emissions to the total PM emissions of a vehicle, as well as to estimate the emission reduction potential of different brake technologies and materials. To determine the emission factors, the required measurements shall be carried out both under laboratory conditions (e.g. PoD on dynamometer) and in the vehicle (chassis dynamometer, road measurements). In practice, measurements can be made using different equipment and test methods (most often gravimetric filtration method, optical and electrical meters, etc.) using different driving cycles [99, 146]. Therefore, in the past, various tests were used in which different test conditions were expected (ambient temperature, simulated vehicle mass), and the tests used different methods of determining the emission factors. Therefore, due to differences in methodology, test formulae and measurement instrumentation used, a direct, reliable comparison of the emission factors thus obtained may be subject to significant error [38, 52, 57, 93, 95, 116, 119, 122, 125, 132, 153, 158]. It will not be until the introduction of the EU – Global Technical Regulation (GTR 24) on PM emissions from the brakes of light motor vehicles that it will become possible to standardize measurement procedures. This regulation specifies the test procedure, the necessary system requirements, the test conditions, and the method and scope of equipment preparation for the WLTP-B test cycle using brake dynamometers. Table 1 summarizes the mass-dependent emission factors (mg/km/B) or particulate emissions (#/km/B) from different sources measured according to the requirements of GTR 24 for light vehicles, i.e. according to the WLTP-B test cycle [45].

Not the entire mass of the worn brake pad and disc ends up suspended in the air as the so-called total suspended fraction. It usually constitutes 30–42%, with the majority of the airborne fraction being PM10 (usually ≫ 80%) [4, 48, 60, 62, 68, 95, 116]. The results of the tests showed that from a theoretical point of view, about 43% of the fraction corresponded to a median mass with a particle diameter of approximately 6.3 μm [81]. PM size distributions measured in the same study showed that the mass peak was expected in the PM range of 3–6 μm [15, 82]. From the analysis of the results of many tests carried out in accordance with the GTR 24 standard, WLTP-B test cycle [38, 52, 57, 93, 95, 116, 119, 122, 125, 132, 153, 158], of which some are shown in Table 1, the PM2.5 to PM10 ratio was found to be 40% for ECE brake pads, 45% for NAO brake pads, 59% for CC and HMC brake discs and 60–100% for drum brakes [54, 160].

The constantly growing share of electrified (hybrid) and fully electric vehicles means that more attention ends up being paid to measuring their NEEs. On the one hand, it is assumed that the NEE value for such vehicles will increase due to their higher mass (between 15 and 25%) but on the other hand, it should also be assumed that it will decrease due to the high rate of regenerative braking and thus the lower actual use of friction brakes [16, 67, 133, 143]. So far, the number of available research results, based on which PM emission factors from brakes in electrified vehicles were determined, is limited [33, 61, 103, 143, 159]. Selected results are included in Table 2. In this case, the emission factors, which are absolute values, were lower than those given in Table 1, where the results were based solely on total frictional braking. As a result, compared to ICE equivalents, the reductions obtained are usually > 60% (Table 2) [45].

The emission factors described apply only to particulates (i.e. those that do not evaporate at 350°C) and to total particles, without a separate nucleation mode. The volatile nucleation mode occurs when the brake friction elements exceed the permissible (critical) temperature, usually within the range of 165 to 240°C [16, 48, 49, 94, 119, 126]. In such cases, the increase in emissions may be several orders of magnitude higher and is dependent on local supersaturation rates. Therefore, further tests in accordance with the GTR 24 protocol are necessary to confirm the repeatability of the results in such cases of brake operation.

Moreover, in accordance with the current version of GTR24, the PM10 emission factors for electrified vehicles shall be calculated using the PM emission factor of the internal combustion engine vehicle (ICV) using the so-called friction braking contribution coefficients [55]. For plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEV), the friction braking contribution factor is set at 0.3 and for fully electric vehicles at 0.15. In practice, both electrification variants have slightly higher measured PM emission factors than those used in the above calculation method. Properly selected factors are a good first approximation for a typical mid-size electrified...
vehicles. However, given the multitude of different topologies and performances capabilities of electrified powertrains, a single factor per vehicle group will never reliably compare emissions from conventionally powered vehicles to electrified vehicles. Therefore, a suitable, dedicated method for determining vehicle-specific coefficients is already in development and will be added to GTR at a later stage.

The tire structure includes the following elements: tread, tire shoulder, tire side, belt ply, cord ply, inner lining, etc. The tire wear process is quite complex, but it can be reduced to three main factor groups that influence it:

- related to the tire (structure, material, wear resistance, etc.)
- related to the vehicle (suspension parameters, load, speed, driving force, etc.)
- related to the environment (road conditions, temperature, method of operation, etc.).

The wear mechanism for rubber is very important for the tire wear particle generation process, which needs to be investigated. In the field of tribology, research on the rubber wear mechanism is relatively mature, including fatigue wear, friction wear, adhesive wear, and chemical erosion wear [92, 162]. While driving (accelerating, braking, turning), the tires have direct contact with the ground and support the vertical, lateral, and tangential load and reversing, capsizing, and rolling resistance moments. When tires contact the ground, direct friction and slippage occur, which causes micro-cutting and tearing of tires and the road surface. The wear process then progresses between the tires and the ground. When the cumulative friction energy in the relevant contact area reaches the critical energy, the tire surface is damaged; some of this surface is removed in the form of abrasive chips [1], and wear occurs. Tire wear usually manifests itself in the form of mixed tire and road wear weight emits particulate matter with a size of 5–30 μm, up to 10% of the tire wear weight emits particulate matter in the air with a size of 10 μm [36]. The literature [152] has collected and analysed data on PM size distribution, including tire wear particles (TWP) and TRWP. The test results included particle sizes from 1 μm up to hundreds of μm for road simulators, from about 0.4 to 20 μm for road tests and above 1 μm up to 200 μm from road run-off. The results discussed in [34] placed the diameter of TRWP in the range of 4 to 350 μm, with an average diameter of 100 μm and a particle density
of PM emissions was 10 times greater than that of vehicles powered by combustion engines due to their 20% greater weight [94, 161]. At the same time, the degree of wear of the tire tread of a vehicle powered by a compression-ignition engine was 5% higher than in the case of a vehicle powered by a spark-ignition engine due to the slightly (~2%) greater mass and greater (~20%) engine torque. Analyzing the effect of road type, tire tread wear rates were 10% and 50% higher on rural roads and highways, respectively, than in urban areas due to the increased wear occurring when travelling at high speed. Generally, tire tread wear rates have been found to be highest in urban areas, followed by highways and rural roads [43, 94]. The research did not take into account the impact of braking events on tire wear because each tested vehicle moved on an asphalt surface at a constant speed, without changing the direction of movement and without braking. Based on the PM$_{10}$ and PM$_{2.5}$ tire wear EFs, it was estimated that tire tread wear was responsible for 5% of PM$_{10}$ particle emissions, 16% of which were classified as airborne PM$_{2.5}$ particles [67, 161]. The EF values of PM$_{10}$ for the SI vehicle, the CI vehicle and the electric vehicle were 7.9, 8.4 and 10.1 mg/V·km, respectively, and the EF for PM$_{2.5}$ was 1.3, 1.3 and 1.6 mg/V·km respectively. Typically, the degree of tire tread wear was strongly related to the weight of the vehicle and the maximum torque of the drivetrain. In the case of the tested vehicles, the maximum torque values of the vehicle powered by a spark ignition engine, a compression ignition engine and an electric vehicle were 265 Nm, 320 Nm and 395 Nm, respectively [43, 94, 161]. However, since the vehicles travelled on the test track at a constant speed, the effect of the torque difference on tire wear was negligible. Differences in PM EF tire wear depending on vehicle type resulted primarily from the difference in vehicle weight [161].

### 3. Formation mechanisms of particulate matter not related to the combustion process

Non-combustion particles arise from a variety of vehicle-related sources. The main sources are:

- Wear of brake friction elements. Emissions resulting from brake wear arise both as a result of mechanical processes, due to the impact of friction on brake linings and discs during braking, as well as volatilization processes of brake pad materials as a result of very high local temperatures [156]. PM emissions from brakes depend on the type and geometry of the brakes, the wheels and the rim. The flow of air through the rims to cool the brakes and discs also plays a key role in the wear characteristics. Emissions are also sensitive to the driving style of the driver. Studies have shown that PM emissions caused by mechanical processes are usually larger and contain particles with larger diameters, and are therefore decisive for the volume of PM mass emissions. Emissions resulting from thermal processes include much smaller particles, they are strongly correlated with brake temperature and constitute the vast majority of PN concentrations [99, 114, 122, 142, 156, 164]. The contribution of PM$_{2.5}$ typically accounts for about one third of the total PM$_{10}$ emissions from wear of friction brake components [53].

- Tire wear. The surface of the tire in contact with the road surface is gradually abraded. This leads to the formation of large amounts of small rubber particles that cover a wide range of sizes below 10 micrometers, thus contributing to the formation of PM$_{10}$ and PM$_{2.5}$. Generally, emissions from tire wear arise mechanically as a result of friction between the tire tread and the road surface or as a result of the volatilization of substances [53, 99]. Studies show that ultrafine PM concentrations are generally low [52, 99] and usually correlate with "abnormal" or "extreme" driving conditions [98].

- Road surface wear. Friction between the tire surface and the road surface not only leads to tire abrasion, but also to the abrasion of the road surface.

- Suspended road dust. Dust from various sources, including abrasion products of various vehicle elements, settles on road surfaces. Road dust studies have shown that much of it falls within the particle size range PM$_{2.5}$ and PM$_{10}$.

The mechanical interactions between the brake pad and the disc generates brake wear particles (BWP) of various sizes during the braking process [154]. Most studies indicate a unimodal mass distribution of BWP sizes with diameters in the range of 1–10 μm [59, 75, 76, 84, 88, 112]. The quantitative distribution of BWP depends on factors such as...
brake pad material [115, 128] and operation history [35]. Moreover, the brake temperature may influence the BWP size distribution above the critical brake temperature in the range (140°C < T_{cr} < 240°C) when the smallest BWPs are generated [8, 9, 35, 107]. The research has shown that at temperatures T > 185°C, particles with a size of 0.011–0.029 µm were numerically predominant [110]. Other studies [8] found that the emission of particles with a size of 0.011–0.034 µm increased for temperatures in the range of 165–190°C. It was also found that the average density of the particle material slightly depended on the aerodynamic diameter of the particle in the range of 0.06–10 µm, which means that the mass fraction of ultrafine particles in PM_{10} can be assumed to be equal to the volume fraction [8]. To sum up, the following statements could be made:

- The temperature of the brake friction elements has a significant influence on the number and mass fractions of ultrafine particles [110].
- At temperatures below 200°C, ultrafine particles have no measurable mass contribution to PM_{10} [110].
- At temperatures above 200°C, the mass share of ultrafine particles in PM_{10} reached several dozen percent. This friction generally increased with temperature and decreased with slip duration [110].

During the production process, after the pressing machine, the brake pads are heat treated by scorching. In this process, the surface of the blocks is exposed to high temperature (usually above 700°C) for a short time (from several dozen seconds to several minutes) [25, 97]. This results in the removal of the less thermally stable phenolic resin as a result of the carbonization reaction, and its absence increases the brittleness of the surface, which becomes more abrasive than the surface of brake pads that were not scorched. Higher abrasiveness of the friction surface results in faster smoothing of both new pads and new friction surfaces of discs, but on the other hand it is responsible for greater wear of pads and discs, and therefore increased PM emissions when they start to be used. Due to carbonization reactions, the friction surface of new brake pads may consist of more condensed organic substances, including volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds. These compounds can evaporate from the friction surface when breaking and be released in the form of ultrafine particles smaller than 0.1 µm. A more adhesive nature of the friction phenomenon begins to take place as the contact surfaces become smoother as a result of abrasive polishing accompanied by the formation of a stable friction layer. The presence of stable primary and secondary contact surfaces is believed to be crucial to maintaining the desired friction parameters without excessive wear due to abrasion caused by the movement of loose abrasive particles [25, 96, 120].

Tire wear particulates are produced mechanically as a result of shear forces occurring between the tire tread and the road surface. The physical properties of such particles vary depending on driving style, tire material, road condition, the weather, etc. [69]. Tribological mechanisms of rubber wear are known and understood, including fatigue wear, friction wear, adhesive wear, and chemical erosion wear [1, 34, 36, 89, 118, 123, 152, 162]. As a result of friction and slip, micro-cracks and cracks in the tire and the road surface are formed, causing continuous, increasing wear. Particulate formation occurs when the accumulated local friction energy in the area of contact reaches enough energy to damage (critical energy) the tire surface in the area of contact with the road surface. Tire wear typically occurs simultaneously in different forms, as a mixture of tire wear and road surface wear, accounting for about 50% of each type of wear. Variable factors influencing tire wear include tire characteristics (e.g., its composition, construction), road surface characteristics and operating method, and vehicle characteristics (e.g., speed, cornering method, vehicle weight, and power) [11]. The tire operating temperature and the interaction of the tire surface with the road surface material are also important [3, 56, 83]. BWP sampling and TRWP (tire and road wear particles) measurements in road conditions may be carried out according to various methodologies [30, 66, 121]. Research carried out in accordance with the TRAKER method showed that particles collected behind the front wheels of a car have a PM size distribution reaching 2–3 µm, with a high content of earth’s crust elements, which indicates a high share of PM from road wear and dust [17, 89, 90].

4. Composition of solid particles not related to the combustion process

Friction elements materials of the braking systems must meet several basic requirements; the most important of which are high wear resistance, high coefficient of friction, and limited noise and vibration [20, 26, 45]. These materials can be broadly divided into organic and metallic. Other categories that are usually rarely used are ceramics, carbon (only for high brake heating temperatures), and aluminum (only for light vehicles and rear brakes) [26]. Brake pads consist of various components, the most important of which are binders, fillers, friction enhancers, reinforcing fibers and lubricants, while the brake disc is usually made of grey cast iron with additional coatings to improve performance. Fibrous ingredients play a key role in strengthening the friction material. Since the ban on asbestos, many different new fibers have been developed for use in brake friction materials. Among them, organic fibers are based on cellulose, aramid, or natural plants, while inorganic fibers are made of metals or minerals. Fibers improve the strength and tribological properties of friction materials [45, 132, 159]. The synergistic effect of different fibers is often sought to improve the performance of friction materials [45, 159].

Grey cast iron (GCI) is the most commonly used material for brake discs used in cars [12, 105, 135]. However, GCI has poor corrosion resistance and excessive wear, which results in high particulate emissions from the brakes. The results of the tests have shown that corrosion of brake discs reduces the braking performance by reducing the coefficient of friction and, at the same time, significantly increases both the number and the mass of particulates emitted (between 2 and 30 times compared to a non-corroded disc under the same test conditions) [44]. Various technological processes and conditioning forms (e.g. cryogenic, thermal) are used to improve tribological parameters and reduce brake disc wear [117, 135]. Another preferred solution that may be employed is to apply a special abra-
sion resistant coating to the disc surface, e.g. a hard metal coating (HMC), using tungsten carbide, cobalt or chromium carbide [12, 151]. Another option would be to use carbon-ceramic (CC) brake discs. Despite the high costs, CC and HMC discs are becoming an increasingly popular method of reducing the amount of particles produced [44, 58, 130].

Tires typically consist of rubber/elastomers, fillers, additives, reinforcing agents and vulcanizing agents, which vary depending on the tire type and application [152]. For example, truck tires contain about 80% natural rubber, while passenger car tires contain only about 15% [21]. Some of these can be used as markers for tire wear in the environment. Such examples include components used in the vulcanization process, such as 2-(4-morpholinyl)-benzothiazole [86] and Zn, [67] or those originating from thermal decomposition of tire tread polymers [147] such as styrene, isoprene, dipentene, butadiene, vinylcyclohexene, and benzothiazole. Benzothiazoles are used in the ISO standard to determine TRWP (tire and road wear particles) [77]. Compared to particles from tires themselves, TRWP are included metals from brake linings and road surface materials and contain lower concentrations of polymers [3, 83].

The large variety in the compositions of currently used brake pads causes large differences in the chemistry and morphology of the emitted particulates [84, 95, 104, 155]. The composition of particulate matter from brakes and the degree of their emission are also influenced by the conditions in which braking occurs (pad pressure on the disc during braking, disc/pad temperature, and environmental conditions, etc.) [41, 75, 84, 88, 104, 111, 127]. Brake operations are primarily related to the emission of particulate matter Fe, Cu, Zn, Ba, and Sb, which are used as indicators of brake wear [23, 27, 70]. Moreover, gasification of the resins contained in brake pads often occurs, and hydrocarbon particles are formed [27, 41, 128]. In turn, metal oxides may be formed as a result of metal oxidation [75]. The particle size distribution from brake wear is usually homogeneous, with peak particle size ranging from 1 μm to 6 μm [16, 32, 39, 85, 87]. At the same time, many researchers, e.g. [23, 27, 41, 52, 70, 102, 124, 128] note the possibility of bi- or even multimodal PM size distribution with at least one peak in the fine and/or ultrafine fraction and increased particulate mass in the PM2.5 range. It is believed that these particles are formed by the evaporation, condensation, and aggregation of primary particles and are the result of high braking forces and high brake disc temperature [27, 59].

The most important factors affecting the intensity, degree of wear, and the formation of particles emitted by tire abrasion are the design and structure of the tire, the chemical composition of the tire material, wear resistance, tire pressure, the size of the contact area with the road surface and the tire temperature. Vehicle-related factors include driving speed, longitudinal/lateral acceleration, vehicle weight and load distribution, suspension type, braking frequency and force, and cornering frequency and sharpness. Factors related to the road surface are also important, including surface structure, macro and micro texture, porosity, road dust load, and surface binder (bitumen, cement). [36, 52, 69, 91, 98].

The chemical composition of PM emitted from tires depends on the composition of rubber/elastomers and fillers (black carbon, silica, silanes), the additives used (preservatives, antioxidants), the type of textile and metal reinforcements, and vulcanizing agents (ZnO, S, Se, Te, thiazoles, organic peroxides, nitro compounds) and process oils. The morphology of particles emitted from tires would classify them as circular/dendritic particles [36, 52, 69, 91, 98].

5. Methods of particle emission measurement

Measuring non-exhaust particulate emissions from ICEs posed a new technological and logistical challenge. The reason for this was the complexity of the vehicle and its operation as a whole and the difficulty of dynamically measuring PM resulting from wear and tear of mechanical components of the vehicle’s braking system and running gear. [74, 99, 100]. It is necessary to develop a unified method for sampling particulate matter emitted from the wear of brake and tire friction elements in order to obtain representative, reliable, accurate, and repeatable results. So far, various researchers have used different, non-standardized methods to sample and measure PM emissions unrelated to the engine combustion process [35, 61, 99, 103, 143, 146, 159, 164]. However, each of the methodologies used so far has its own set of drawbacks. Laboratory simulations of the brake friction elements wear are most often based on standard test cycle conditions, but the main disadvantage of such measurements is the inability to simulate the course of brake activation encountered during real driving conditions on the road. In turn, laboratory tests on tire wear do not yet use a unified standard test cycle, which makes it difficult to analyze the emission characteristics resulting from tire wear. Chassis dynamometer tests provide good control of the measurement process, but are limited by the possibility of obtaining an appropriate sample size and are not representative of real braking processes. [37, 74, 100]. Standardized emission factors for each particulate source are used to calculate emissions (Table 1). In the case of tires, specific emission factors for each vehicle type (car, truck, motorcycle, etc.) are combined with distance travelled statistics to generate an emitted mass estimate. Emission factors are expressed in mg/vehicle/km with different values for PM0, and PM2.5. Most countries use the methodology provided in the 2016 version of the EMEP/EEA Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory Guidebook (EMEP/EEA, 2016) for estimating PM emissions from tire and brake wear and road surface wear. This provides a fairly simple approach that combines PM emission factors in milligrams emitted per kilometer (mg/km) for passenger cars, light trucks, heavy goods vehicles and two-wheelers with the number of vehicle-kilometers travelled per year. For Europe, all emission factors are collected in the Guidebook [109]. Current emission factors are based on studies published between 1990 and 2000 [109], with conclusions based on indirect measurements. Hence, many publications admit that emission factors are imprecise, even in the DEFRA report [7]. The values given in the guides are indirect measurements, resulting from the total loss of the tire mass (tire weight lost is the data being measured, not the mass of airborne particles specifically). As a result, in 2021, the Working Party on Energy and Pollution (GRPE) entrusted the Particle
Measurement Programme Informal Working Group (PMP-IWG) to develop a global technical regulation (GTR) covering the sampling PM and measurement of PM emissions from brake wear of light vehicle (LDV) friction brake components for vehicles up to 3.5 t [20, 45, 129]. Similarly, in 2022, a joint task force was established within the Working Party on Noise and Tires (GRBP) and the GRPE to develop a procedure for measuring tire wear and assessing the PM wear performance of a wide range of tires available on the market [19, 129]. These two activities were carried out on the basis of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (UNECE WP.29). As part of the work on the GTR, PMP-IWG developed the first version of a test methodology comprising a set of technical procedures for measuring brake PM emissions on dynamometers [129]. These specifications include provisions for the conduct of the test [45, 129], the methodology for regulating the cooling process, the procedure for preparing the brake pads, the measurement of PM and PN emissions and the presentation of the results [45, 97, 99]. Throughout this process, it was found that the losses of emitted particles between the brake and the sampling point must be kept as low as possible. To ensure this, isokinetic sampling is necessary, where the volume flow used to cool the brake must be precisely matched to the extraction or sampling rate of the measuring device. This ensures that the measured particle mass values are reliable. To ensure that the measurement results can be related to actual conditions encountered during vehicle operation on the road, the standardized WLTP-B braking test cycle has been successfully developed [45, 74, 129]. The cycle was established using actual vehicle data, and it maps different brake application points over the required period of time. This guarantees the repeatability of the recorded PM emission resulting from the abrasion of brake friction elements. It was assumed that the measurements of PM emissions from brakes carried out on the test stand will be standardized in the future in the developed WLTP braking cycle. Due to the fact that a given vehicle model must be accurately reproduced on a test bench, the combination of the working assembly of brake pads and brake disc with the vehicle mass and its distribution has a significant impact on the observed wear patterns. These parameters must be programmed on a test bench, except for brakes used in electric vehicles. In this case, under real operating conditions, regenerative braking ensures that the friction brake is used less frequently and therefore PM emissions are lower. In September 2021, PMP-IWG organized the first Inter-Laboratory Study (ILS) to evaluate the newly developed methodology. The main ILS results were presented to the IWG in March 2022 in the form of six different presentations [155]. In June 2022, GRPE adopted GTR 24 on a broad methodology for measuring PM emissions from brakes [53, 69, 74, 95, 145]. The Global Technical Regulation (GTR 24) on PM emissions from brakes of light commercial vehicles includes harmonized measurement procedures. GTR 24 is the world’s first regulation that systematizes and establishes procedures for measuring particulate emissions from sources other than ICE exhaust gases. GTR 24 will be implemented as part of the Euro 7 exhaust emissions regulation, which aims to reduce PM and PN emissions from road transport, both for particulate matter from the combustion process in ICE and for particulate matter from NEE, and to improve air quality in Europe.

6. Euro 7 – particles not related to the combustion process

The scope of the proposed Euro 7 standard goes beyond the current vehicle type approval requirements contained in Euro 6 [45, 74, 129]. The Euro 7 standard extends regulatory requirements to the type approval of braking systems and tires, in particular with regard to particulate emissions and the occurring abrasion process. The regulation applies to tires of classes C1 (passenger cars and commercial vehicles), C2 (light commercial vehicles) and C3 (heavy commercial vehicles), in accordance with UN Regulation 117. As a result, the Euro 7 standard will include a requirement to limit the maximum emissions of PM_{10} particulate matter from brake pads and tires. Generally speaking, for electric cars it will be 3 mg/km, for combustion passenger cars, hybrids and hydrogen cars 7 mg/km, and for large vans and delivery vehicles 11 mg/km [7, 27]. The Euro 7 emission standard will apply for the first time to the type approval of new models of light vehicles and their braking systems 2.5 years after the regulation enters into force – Fig. 2. A year later, all newly registered vehicles will have to meet the new Euro 7 requirements. Euro 7 heavy goods vehicles will apply to new vehicle models 4 years after entry into force, and after 5 years to all new vehicles.

Regardless of the final date of introduction of the Euro 7 standard (currently set for July 1, 2030), brake particle limits for heavy goods vehicles will only begin to apply from 2030. In the case of tires, abrasion limits will be introduced in July 2028 for class C1 tires, in April 2030 for class C2 tires, and in April 2032 for class C3 tires [27].

Compared to ICE-powered vehicles, electric and electrified vehicles can reduce PM emissions from brakes by using regenerative braking. In practice, this means that instead of brakes, an electric motor operating in generator mode is used to slow the vehicle down. This technological difference was reflected in the requirements of the Euro 7 standard by establishing lower particulate limits for electric vehicles compared to other types of drive systems – Table 4 [27].

In the first step, Euro 7 lists particulate matter emission limits for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles N_{i} until the end of 2029. Starting in 2030, the regulation also provides particulate emission limits extended to buses and trucks of categories M_{i}, M_{s}, and N_{i}, N_{s}. Particulate emissions from braking systems for M_{i} and N_{s} vehicles will be tested in accordance with UN Global Technical Regulation No. 24.8.
A test procedure for PM measurements from truck braking systems has not been developed yet (Table 4) [27].

### Table 4 Particulate matter emission limits during braking for Euro 7 [27]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Powertrain type</th>
<th>Vehicle categories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Until December 2029</td>
<td>Battery electric vehicles</td>
<td>M/N1 class I &amp; II 3 mg/km 5 mg/km none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other powertrain types</td>
<td>N1 class III 7 mg/km 11 mg/km none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2030 – December 2034</td>
<td>Battery electric vehicles</td>
<td>M/N2 and M/N3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other powertrain types</td>
<td>N1 class III 7 mg/km 11 mg/km none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From January 2035</td>
<td>All powertrain types</td>
<td>M/N1 class I &amp; II 3 mg/km none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig. 3. Dates of introducing tire wear limits through the Euro 7 standard [27]**

The Euro 7 standard will also introduce limits on PM emissions from tire abrasion. As a consequence, only tires with abrasion rates below the Euro 7 limits will receive type approval. The required testing procedure and emission limits are currently being developed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and will be introduced as an amendment to the Euro 7 regulations. If the UNECE regulation is not adopted in time, the Commission will be given the authority to develop a procedure for assessing PM emissions from tires and setting limits on this emission. As shown in Fig. 3, the Euro 7 requirements will cover different tire classes at different times – first, C1 tires from July 2028, then C2 tires from April 2030, and finally, C3 tires from April 2032. The order of introduction will be the same for all categories. In the first stage, the Euro 7 standard will apply to new tire models that receive type approval for the first time. A year later, new vehicles placed on the market will have to be equipped with Euro 7 approved tires, and a year later all tires placed on the market must meet Euro 7 requirements.

### 7. Conclusions

- Emissions of particulate matter not related to the engine combustion process (resulting from wear of brake friction elements and tire friction processes with the road surface) are currently unregulated both in terms of measurement methodology as well as emission limits.
- Non exhaust PM vehicle emissions have already exceeded PM emissions from exhaust gases as the main source of particulate matter emissions from road traffic. Despite this, this major source of PM emissions from road traffic is currently not covered by any legal regulation to control and limit these emissions.
- The health risks posed by particulate matter emitted from braking systems and tire abrasion are not yet clearly understood in their entirety. This requires multidisciplinary research efforts to adopt effective and appropriate evidence-based emissions reduction legislation and strategies to protect human health.
- When taking action to reduce particulate emissions resulting from the wear of brake friction elements and tire abrasion, the chemical profile of the emissions, as well as the total mass and number of particles, should be taken into account.
- With the growing popularity of alternative vehicle powertrains, NEEs are increasingly contributing to air pollution. This is reflected in mitigation strategies through new requirements that will be introduced by the Euro7 emissions standard, which plans to take into account non-combustion emissions for the first time.
- Measuring particulate emissions not related to the combustion process in the engine presents a new technological challenge. This is due to the complexity of the vehicle and its operation as a whole and to the difficulty of dynamically measuring particulate emissions caused by the wear of both friction brake components and tires.
- One of the main reasons for the observed inconsistencies in the particulate matter measurements (PM and PN) is the lack of a unified, standardized methodology for sampling and measuring both particulate matter caused by brake elements abrasion and tire wear.
- Realistic PM coefficients with NEE are necessary to reliably calculate the contribution of PM emissions from brake and tire wear to air pollution, but also to estimate the reduction potential of these emissions through the use of new or existing technologies and improved formulae for brake and tire friction components.

### Nomenclature

- BWP: brake wear particles
- CC: carbon ceramic
- ECE: Economic Commission for Europe
- EF: emission factor
- EU: European Union
- GCI: grey cast iron
- GTR: global technical regulation
- HMC: hard metal coated discs
- ICE: Internal Combustion Engine
- ILS: inter-laboratory study
- LACT: Los Angeles City Traffic
- LDV: light duty vehicles
- LM: low-metallic
- NAO: non-asbestos organics
- NEE: non exhaust emissions
- OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- PHEV: plug-in hybrid electric vehicles
- PM: particle matter
- PMP: particle measurement programme
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PMP-IWG Particle Measurement Programme Informal Working Group
PoD pin-on-disc
RDE real driving emission
SM semi-metallic
SUV sports utility vehicle
TRWP tire and road wear particles
TWP tire wear particles
UNECE United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
WLTP Worldwide Light Duty Test Procedure

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