# French for the unsuspecting!



File reference: Leadership

Author/Dept : TCRE

Creation/Date : JULY 2015

Classification : D2

1



**Donald Mackenzie** 

Head of Personnel and Communications for the Dundee Site

- Introduction to Michelin
- Meet some of our French speakers
- Conclusion
- Questions





**World Major tyre industry player** 15.5% market share, No.1 or 2

Global sales of €21.7 Billion Operating across 170 countries

#### **Production sites**

69 plants in 18 countries produce:

- 176 million tyres, cycle to Space Shuttle
- 10 million maps and guides

#### Highly-qualified staff

113,000 of all backgrounds and cultures including 6,000 in the Group's R & D

French is the first language of the company!

#### **An Introduction to Michelin in Dundee**

MICHELIN 44 YEARS IN DUNDEE Employ ~850 People ~£45m per year into local economy Site 32 Hectares, 7 Hectares of Buildings Currently in the middle of a transformational investment project



#### **An Introduction to Michelin in Dundee**

Our Products III Car 13", 14", 15" & 16" tyres III 7.5m tyres per year, 23.5k tyres/day III Flex +20%, -24% III 95% Exported outside the UK III ~30% Exported ex Europe inc China & India









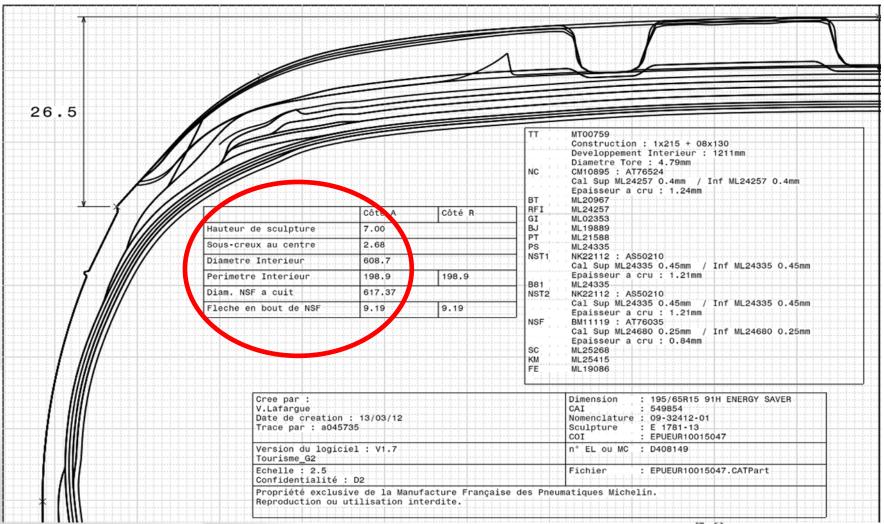
### Dave Stopper - Carnoustie



- B Eng Civil Engineering
- **III O Grade French**
- Competent written and spoken
- **Uses French every day**
- *Employed as a green tyre designer*
- Technical adaption of tyre to Dundee equipment



#### Technical drawing of a tyre





Page 8

#### Rhona Crofts - Abernethy



- **III** Phd in Chemistry
- O Grade French, Latin Higher
- Speaks French, Spanish, German and Russian and a working knowledge of Mandarin
- Uses her languages weekly – has worked in China, Russia and France
- Operations and Quality manager



#### Michelle Lawrence- Dundee



- Went to Craigie High
- Has French standard grade
- Works in the supply chain and deals with people from France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Poland
- Common Language is French. She has no choice!

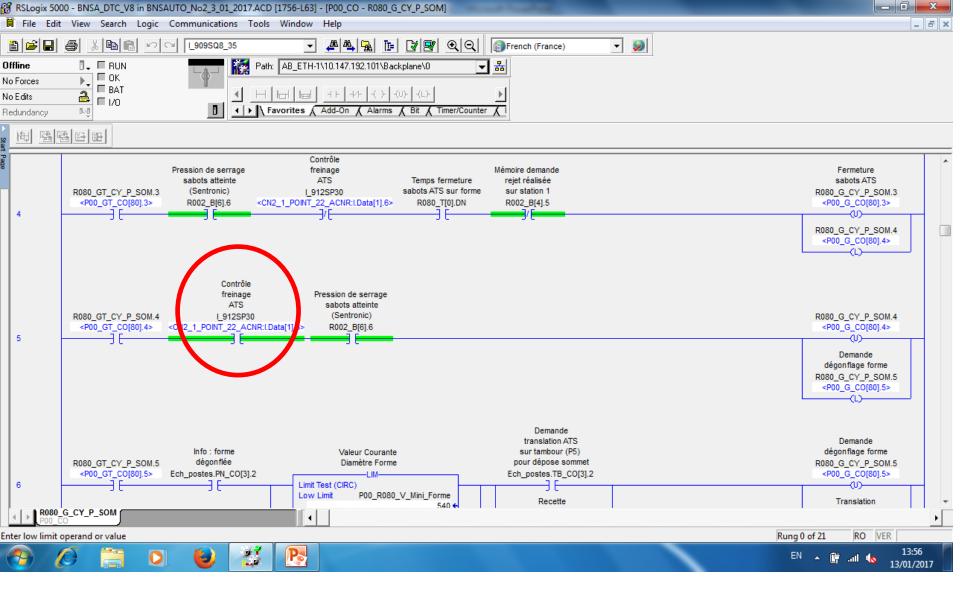


### **Rory Fagan - Dundee**



Michelin Apprenticeship
Spanish standard grade
Engineering trainer
Learnt French at Michelin to understand drawings and machinery





Careers/Choices and Decisions?

Do you know what you want to do?

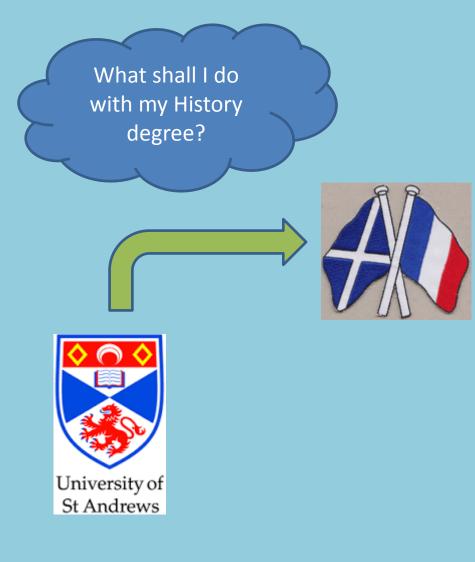
Were you lucky enough to have a choice?

# Did you choose something from a young age and follow it?

Or is it all a bit vague.....let's see now/maybe?



#### **Donald Mackenzie**







# My office for two years!

#### **My French Qualifications!**



A ! Aged 29

## What do I do now?

- **III** Responsible for all People Issues and all Communications
- **III** HR professional Chartered member of the CIPD
- Manage a team of approx. 10 professionals
- Part of Site Senior Management Team Direction, Strategy, Business Results. Deputy to Factory Manager.
- Work in Dundee, part of a UK team, sit on various European groups
- I need French. I am not very good, my grammar is poor.....but there is no choice
- **III** Meetings, Link ups, e-mails, seminars, training
- Could still actively be learning French but just now I have other priorities.
- **III** Possible next job is in France?





- Language allows us to do our job, it is not a job in itself
- Nobody that I have introduced you to today specialised in French or another modern language at School or University
- We are all humbled by the language ability of our European colleagues
- To be part of something, you need to get involvedWe all give it a go!



**Conclusion** 

## **Questions?**

