

Rugby World Cup winner to close 10th NTDA Tyre Industry Conference

Former England international and Saracens W.R.F.C. rugby union star and TV personality **Maggie Alphonsi MBE** is to give the closing keynote speech at the 10th NTDA Tyre Industry Conference sponsored by **GB Tyres (UK) Ltd**, which will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton on Thursday 10th October 2024. The face of international women's rugby, Maggie is one of the most well-known names in women's team sports and in addition to being the winner of the Sunday Times Sportswoman of the Year in 2010, was awarded an MBE for her services to Rugby in the 2012 Birthday Honours.

Before announcing her international retirement, she represented her country seventy-four times, scored twenty-eight tries, won a World Cup, and helped England win a record breaking seven consecutive Six Nations crowns including six Grand Slams. She was also a member of the team that was crowned the BBC's Sports Personality Team of the Year in 2014.



Through her England rugby career, she has become a household name but also a media professional, and since retiring, she has commented on live rugby matches for SKY Sports, BT Sport and the BBC. In 2015 she became the first ever former female player to commentate on men's international rugby when she was signed up by ITV for the Rugby World Cup, and she continues to work with ITV Sport across their rugby coverage; most recently the 2024 men's Six Nations tournament and has featured on the BBC's Children in Need and The One Show.

In 2016, Maggie made history by becoming the first England Women's player to be elected as a National Member of the Rugby Football Union's Council. She is one of just six females on the 56-strong Council and her role is to be a person of experience and influence in the Game, which includes a leading role in the Diversity & Inclusion Steering Group. In the same year, she was inducted into the World Rugby Hall of Fame during the opening ceremonies for the Hall's first physical location in Rugby, Warwickshire.

Maggie is also the first ever former female player to become a columnist for a national newspaper, and you can regularly read her thoughts and opinions in The Telegraph, and was the first woman to win the Rugby Union Writers Club Player of the Year. In her speeches Maggie shares her experiences and considers working in a male dominated environment. She also looks at how to perform under pressure, work as a team and overcome adversity.

NTDA CEO Stefan Hay said: *"Maggie's achievements are phenomenal; she has earned so many accolades, won so many awards and trophies and is now universally acknowledged and respected across the rugby world as one of the Games ultimate professionals. We are thrilled that she will be closing the 2024 conference and would urge as many NTDA members as possible to join us at this **FREE to members** event to hear Maggie speak, you never know, she might just inspire you and change your life!"*

Further confirmed organisations and companies fielding speakers for the 10th NTDA Tyre Industry Conference are the DVSA Market Surveillance Unit, GS Yuasa Battery Sales UK Ltd, Pneumatic Components Ltd, the Professional Recovery Operators Federation, the Professional Recovery Operators Safety Executive and WhatTyre.com.

Once again, there will be the very popular trade exhibition running alongside the conference, where suppliers can book a 'pop-up stand space, literature table and two chairs for £500+VAT. Confirmed exhibitors to date are Autogem Invicta Ltd, Autotech Training, Bartec Auto ID Ltd, CAM, Martins Industries, GB Tyres (UK) Ltd, IASME, Pneumatic Components Ltd – PCL, Roadside Safety Ltd, Stork Workwear, The Garage Magazine, The Worshipful Company of Wheelwrights, Tyres and Accessories Magazine and Tyre Trade News Magazine.

For further information or to book delegates spaces or a stand space contact Alison Keitch via: info@ntda.co.uk

America's Got Talent winner to entertain at 2024 NTDA Annual Dinner & Tyre Industry Awards



Internationally acclaimed ventriloquist Paul Zerdin is confirmed as the headline act for the NTDA's 95th Annual Dinner sponsored by **Maritime Cargo Services** which will take place on Thursday 10th October at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Milton Keynes and will also be co-hosting the 11th Tyre Industry Awards Ceremony sponsored by **Sailun Tyres**.

The last few years have been extremely busy for the 2015 America's Got Talent winner, on both sides of the Atlantic. 2016 saw Paul head to the Las Vegas Strip for a headline residency at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. 2017 and 2018 saw Paul appear on spin-off shows America's Got Talent – The Champions and Britain's Got Talent – The Champions. Since then, Paul has toured the US and UK with his critically acclaimed 'All Mouth', 'Puppet Party' tours and latest UK 'Puppetman' tour, which is running throughout May and June 2024.

Paul is arguably the UK's number one ventriloquist and made his TV debut in 1993 as the host of GMTV's 'Rise and Shine'. He then went on to win ITV's The Big Big Talent Show, hosted by Jonathan Ross. Since then, he has appeared on countless TV shows including The World Stands Up (Comedy Central), The Stand Up Show (BBC1), Just for Laughs Montreal Comedy Festival, Comedy Rocks with Jason Manford (ITV1), Tonight at The London

Palladium (ITV1), Michael McIntyre's Big Christmas Show (BBC1) and three appearances at The Royal Variety Performance. Winning Series 10 of America's Got Talent in 2015, resulted in Paul and his sidekicks going viral on YouTube, receiving millions of views from all over the world.

Commenting on Paul Zerdin, Stefan Hay said: *"I have had the pleasure of working with Paul on a couple of occasions, the last being the 2014 NTDA Tyre Industry Golf Day where he went down an absolute storm with members. Since then, he has become a truly international star, and his 'Sponge Family' and comedy repertoire has grown considerably. I am delighted that he will now be performing for our dinner guests as he is an outstanding artiste and extremely funny. I am sure he will add to what is an already fantastic evening for the tyre trade!"*

More than 580 guests from across the tyre and associated automotive aftermarket have already booked for the 2024 NTDA Annual Dinner and only two full tables remain available, so if you want to join the NTDA for this premier trade networking event book now to avoid disappointment.

For further information or to make a booking contact Alison Keitch via info@ntda.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you on 10th October!

