

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER CO  
Form 11-K  
June 27, 2001

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Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

ITEM 1. Not applicable.

ITEM 2. Not applicable.

ITEM 3. Not applicable.

ITEM 4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PLAN

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2000

Commission File No. 1-4329

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE	34-4297750
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(I.R.S. employer identification no.)

Lima and Western Avenues, Findlay, Ohio 45840  
(Address of principal executive offices)  
(Zip code)

(419) 423-1321  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

ITEM 1. Not applicable.

ITEM 2. Not applicable.

ITEM 3. Not applicable.

ITEM 4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PLAN

The Financial Statements of the Cooper Tire & Rubber Company Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000, together with the report of Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, are attached to this Annual Report on Form 11-K. The Financial Statements and the notes thereto are presented in lieu of the financial statements required by items 1, 2 and 3 of Form 11-K and were prepared in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

EXHIBITS:

(23) Consent of Independent Auditors

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Plan Administrator has duly caused this Annual Report to be signed by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER  
COMPANY

/s/ Philip G. Weaver

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PHILIP G. WEAVER  
Vice President and Chief Financial  
Officer  
Plan Administrator

Date: June 25, 2001

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

December 31, 2000 and 1999  
Year Ended December 31, 2000

With Report of Independent Auditors

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Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2000 and 1999  
Year Ended December 31, 2000

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Report of Independent Auditors

Pre-Tax Savings Plan Committee  
 Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
 Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Cooper Tire & Rubber Company Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn) ( Plan ) as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan at December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2000, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets held for investment purposes at end of year as of December 31, 2000 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan s management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

June 7, 2001

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Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
 Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	<b>December 31</b>	
	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>
Investments, at market:		
Interest in investment trust	<b>\$1,279,363</b>	\$1,246,595
Mutual funds	<b>1,027,298</b>	792,471

2,306,661 12,039,066 Cash 15,800 11,857 Receivables: Participant  
 contributions 8,299 Employer  
 contributions 147,699 134,952 Interest  
 receivable 11

Net assets available for  
 benefits \$2,478,470 \$2,185,875

*See accompanying notes.*

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Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
 Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year Ended December 31, 2000

Additions:  
 Employer  
 contributions \$147,699 Participant  
 contributions 492,316 Interest  
 and  
 dividends 145,021 Other 154

Total  
 additions 785,190 Deductions: Net  
 depreciation in fair value of  
 investments 367,832 Benefit  
 payments 124,763

Total deductions 492,595

Net increase 292,595 Net  
 assets available for benefits  
 at beginning of  
 year 2,185,875

Net assets available for  
 benefits at end of  
 year \$2,478,470

*See accompanying notes.*

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Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2000

**1. Description of Plan**

The following description of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn) (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

**General**

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all hourly employees who have completed 30 days of continuous credited service and are covered by the collective bargaining agreement between the United Steelworkers of America Local #634 and Cooper Tire & Rubber Company (the Company). The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

**Contributions**

Each year, participants may contribute up to 15 percent of their pretax compensation. Participants may direct their contributions to any of the Plan's investment fund options.

The employer contributions to the Plan are made annually by the Company as provided in the Plan document and at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors. All employer contributions are invested in Cooper Tire & Rubber Company common stock until they become vested, after which they are invested as directed by the participant.

**Participant Accounts**

Individual accounts are maintained for each participant in the Plan. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and their allocation of the Company's contributions and Plan earnings.

**Forfeitures**

Forfeitures are used by the Company to reduce its obligation. Forfeitures unused at December 31, 2000 were \$3,770.

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**Vesting**

The participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. After five years, the participants are vested in the Company's contributions plus actual earnings thereon.

### **Participant Withdrawals**

In the event of retirement, death, termination, permanent disability or other separation from service, participants are entitled to receive an amount equal to the value of the vested interest in their accounts. Payment of benefits may be taken in a lump sum distribution or in two lump sum installments.

In the event of hardship, as defined, participants may make a partial or full distribution of their accounts, subject to certain tax withholdings.

### **Termination of the Plan**

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right, under the Plan, to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA.

## **2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### **Basis of Accounting**

The accompanying financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

### **Investment Valuation and Recognition**

Except for the investment contracts held in the Investment Trust, the Plan's investments are stated at fair value, which equals the quoted market price on the last business day of the plan year.

Investment contracts are recorded at their contract values, which represent contributions and reinvested income, less any withdrawals plus accrued interest, because these investments have fully benefit-responsive features. There are no reserves against contract values for credit risk of contract issues or otherwise. The average yield was approximately 6.5% in 2000. The crediting interest rate for these investment contracts is reset monthly by the issuer but cannot be less than zero and ranged from 5.3% to 9.9% at December 31, 2000.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

### **Administrative Expenses**

The Company pays the administrative expenses of the Plan.

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#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### 3. Investments

During 2000, the Plan's investments (including investments purchased, sold as well as held during the year) depreciated in fair value as follows:

Interest in investment trust	<b>\$(329,176)</b>
Mutual funds <b>(38,656)</b>	
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	<b>\$(367,832)</b>
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Investments that exceed 5% of the Plan assets available for benefits are as follows:

	<b>December 31</b>	
	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>
Investment Company of America Fund	<b>\$506,668</b>	\$421,187
American Washington Mutual Investors Fund <b>442,853</b>		369,371

### 4. Investment Trust

Certain investments of the Plan are held in an Investment Trust, which also combines similar investments of the other defined contribution plans sponsored by the Company. The Plan's interest in the Investment Trust was determined by the Plan's relative asset value to the Investment Trust's total asset value at the end of the year. Investment income is allocated to the Plan based on its pro-rata share in the net assets of the Investment Trust.

At December 31, 2000 and 1999, the Plan's interest in the net assets of the Investment Trust was approximately 0.8% and 0.6%, respectively.

The following presents the value of the investments in the Investment Trust:

	<b>December 31</b>	
	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>
Cooper Tire & Rubber Company common stock*	<b>\$101,494,282</b>	\$133,140,436
Money market mutual fund <b>3,773,708</b>		1,897,149
Investment contracts at contract value <b>54,655,337</b>		62,821,875
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Total assets <b>\$159,923,327</b>		\$197,859,460
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\* Nonparticipant-directed



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The fair value of the investment contracts was \$51,218,102 at December 31, 2000.

Investment income for the Investment Trust for the year ended December 31, 2000 is as follows:

Interest and dividends	<b>\$7,881,591</b>
Net depreciation in fair value of investments: Common stock(43,252,781)Money market mutual fund	

**5. Nonparticipant-Directed Investments**

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company common stock is a nonparticipant-directed investment. Information about the significant components of changes in net assets related to the nonparticipant-directed investment for the year ended December 31, 2000 is as follows:

Contributions	<b>\$ 13,500,000</b>
Dividends3,999,978Net depreciation in fair value of investment(43,252,781)Participant withdrawals(2,136,916)Transfers out to other investment options(3,756,432)	

**6. Income Tax Status**

The Plan has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service dated September 9, 1996, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code ) and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the Code to maintain its qualification. The Plan administrator has indicated that it will take the necessary steps, if any, to maintain the Plan s qualified status.

**7. Related Party Transactions**

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by the trustee, National City Bank, and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. There have been no known prohibited transactions with a party-in-interest.

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Cooper Tire & Rubber Company  
 Pre-Tax Savings Plan (Auburn)  
 Employer ID # 34-4297750  
 Plan # 015

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Schedule H, Line 4(i) Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes At End of Year

December 31, 2000

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Identity of Issue	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Current Value
* National City Bank Aim Funds Group Balanced Fund Class A Shares 3,067 American Funds American Washington Mutual Investors Fund 442,853 American Funds Investment Company of America Fund 506,668 * National City Bank Armada Equity Index Fund #4216,504 Invesco Funds Dynamics Fund 24,413 Janus Funds Janus Worldwide Fund 18,352 MFS Family of Funds Massachusetts Investors Growth Stock Funds 13,380	Armada Government Money Market Fund #509	\$2,061
\$1,027,298		

\* *Party-in-interest.*