To: All Customers

**PASSENGER & LIGHT TRUCK TIRE SAFETY**

For safety and good tire performance consumers must properly care for, maintain and inspect their tires. In the interest of providing this IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO THE CONSUMER, Cooper has developed a form for “Passenger & Light Truck Tire Safety”. A supply of these forms in enclosed. The form is to be given to prospective and tire purchasers. It allows you to complete a small area of the form with specific vehicle, tire size, purchase date and recommended tire pressure information, thereby customizing the form for the specific consumer/vehicle.

It is suggested that you attach one of these forms to the consumer copy of each of your tire sales invoices. You should also consider displaying the form at your sales counter or customer waiting area. This will show your valuable customer that you CARE by informing them of how to care for, maintain and inspect their tires.

The Passenger and Light Truck Tire Safety forms and this Service Bulletin are available to your at no cost. They may be ordered through the Consumer Relations Department or Advertising Department, Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, Findlay, Ohio 45840 by requesting the form number listed below and on the back of the form. If you wholesale tires to other dealers (sub-dealers), each must receive a copy of this Service Bulletin and a supply of the Safety forms. Please advise Cooper of the number of Service Bulletins and Safety forms that are needed and we will provide them to you as quickly as possible.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the Consumer Relations Department at 1-800-854-6288.

Attachment: Passenger and Light Truck Tire Safety Form #860-101-9016
PASSenger & Light Truck Tire Safety

For safety and good performance, you must take care of your tires. Follow instructions contained in this brochure.

Correct tire pressure is very important. Proper inflation pressure for your tires may be found in the vehicle owner's manual or the vehicle's tire information placard.

Your Vehicle:
- Year
- Make/Model

Your Tire Size:

Tire Purchase Date:

Recommended Pressures:
- Front
- Rear

Check tire pressures when tires are cold at least once a month before driving and before long trips.

Safety Warning
Disregarding any of the safety precautions and instructions contained in this brochure may result in tire failure or explosion causing serious personal injury or death.

Warning!
Driving on any tire that does not have the correct inflation pressure is dangerous.

Any underinflated tire builds up excessive heat that may result in sudden tire destruction.

The correct inflation pressures for your tires have been written by your tire dealer in the spaces above. These pressures must be maintained as a minimum. Do not exceed the pressure indicated on the tire sidewall.

Refer to the tire placard on the vehicle (check vehicle and/or vehicle owners manual for placard location) for the recommended operating pressures.

Check tire inflation pressures (including the spare) at least once a month when tires are cold and before long trips.

Failure to maintain correct inflation may result in improper vehicle handling, and may cause rapid and irregular tire wear, sudden tire destruction, loss of vehicle control and serious personal injury. Therefore, inflation pressures should be checked at least once a month and always prior to long distance trips. Any tire is susceptible to losing air pressure if not properly maintained.

Pressures should be checked when tires are cold; in other words, before they have been driven on. Driving, even for a short distance, causes tires to heat up and air pressure to increase.

High speed driving can be dangerous.
Correct inflation pressure is especially important. However, at high speeds, even with the correct inflation pressures, a road hazard is more difficult to avoid and if contact is made, has a greater chance of causing tire damage than at a lower speed. Moreover, driving at high speed reduces the reaction time available to avoid accidents and bring your vehicle to a safe stop.

Inspect Your Tires. Do not drive on a damaged tire or wheel.

Any time you see any damage to your tires or wheels replace with spare at once and immediately see your tire dealer. When inspecting your tires, including the spare, check your air pressures. If your pressure check indicates that one of your tires has lost pressure of two pounds or more, look for signs of penetrations, valve leakage, or wheel damage that may account for the air loss.

Always look for bulges, cracks, cuts, penetrations and abnormal tire wear particularly on the edges of the tire tread which may be caused by misalignment or underinflation. If any such damage is found, the tire must be inspected by any tire dealer at once. Use of a damaged tire could result in sudden tire destruction.

All tires will wear out faster when subjected to high speeds as well as hard cornering, rapid starts, sudden stops, frequent driving on roads which are in poor condition, and off road use. Roads with holes and rocks or other objects can damage tires and cause misalignment of your vehicle. When you drive on such roads, drive on them carefully and slowly, and before driving at normal or highway speeds, examine your tires for any damage, such as cuts or penetrations.

Worn out Tires are Dangerous
Tires contain "wear-bands" in the grooves of the tire tread which show up when only 2/32nds of an inch (1.6mm) tread is remaining. At this stage, your tires must be replaced. Tires worn beyond this stage are dangerous.

Do not overload—driving on any overloaded tire is dangerous.
The maximum load rating of your tires is marked on the tire sidewall. Do not exceed these ratings. Follow the loading instructions of the manufacturer of your vehicle; this should ensure that your tires are not overloaded. Tires which are loaded beyond their maximum allowable loads for the particular application will build up excessive heat that may result in sudden tire destruction.

Do not exceed the gross axle weight ratings for any axle on your vehicle.

Trailer Towing
If you anticipate towing a trailer, you should see your tire dealer for advice concerning the correct size of tire and pressures. Tire size and pressures will depend upon the type and size of trailer and hitch utilized, but in no case must the maximum cold inflation pressure or the maximum tire load rating be exceeded. The only sure way to prevent overload is to weigh, axle by axle, the fully-loaded vehicles on reliable platform scales. Check the tire placard and the owners manual supplied by the manufacturer of your vehicle for further recommendations on trailer towing.

Wheel Alignment and Balancing are Important for Safety and Maximum Mileage from your Tires
Inspect your tires regularly:
At least once a month inspect your tires closely for signs of uneven wear.
Uneven wear patterns may be caused by improper inflation pressures, misalignment, improper balance or suspension neglect. If not corrected, further tire damage will occur. These conditions not only shorten the life of your tires, but adversely affect the handling characteristics of your vehicle which could be dangerous.

If any of these conditions exist, the cause may often be corrected at your tire dealer's or other service facility. Your tires will then last longer.
TIRE ROTATION

If irregular wear becomes apparent or if the rate of wear on the tires is uneven, the tires should be rotated to alleviate the problem. Check your vehicle for any mechanical problems and correct if necessary. The rotation pattern or procedure indicated in your limited warranty and the vehicle manufacturer’s owners manual should be followed. For tires on front wheel drive vehicles and/or all season tires on any vehicle, it is recommended that these tires be rotated every 8,000 miles to equalize the rate of wear.

TIRE MIXING CAN BE DANGEROUS

Most passenger tires today are radial tires and for best performance it is recommended that the same size and type of tire be used on all four wheel positions unless different sizes, front and rear, were specified as original equipment. Check the vehicle placard. If only two radials are mounted with two non-radials, the radials should be mounted on the rear. If tires of different types are mixed on a vehicle in any configuration, they should not be used for long periods and speeds should be kept to a minimum.

Mixing or matching of tires on 4-wheel drive vehicles requires special precautions. Always check vehicle manufacturers’ Owners Manual for their recommendations.

TIRE ALTERATIONS ARE DANGEROUS

Do not perform any alteration on your tires. Alterations may prevent proper performance, leading to tire damage, which can result in sudden tire destruction. Tires which have been altered are excluded from warranty coverage.

REPAIRS—SEE ANY TIRE DEALER AT ONCE

If any tire has sustained a puncture, have the tire dismounted and inspected internally by any tire dealer for possible damage that may have occurred.

Punctures in the tread of passenger tires which do not exceed 1/4-inch (6mm) in diameter can be repaired by following Rubber Manufacturers’ Association (RMA) recommended repair procedures. Do not use externally-applied plug repairs.

If the tire has a puncture in the tread which exceeds 1/4-inch (6mm) or if more than one radial ply per casing ply is damaged, the tire must be replaced.

STORAGE

Tires should be stored in a cool dry place indoors so that there is no danger of water collecting inside them. Serious problems occur with tube type tires when they are mounted with water trapped between the tire and the tube. Due to pressurization, the liquid can pass through the inner liner and into the casing ply. This can result in sudden tire failure. Most of the problems of this nature, encountered with tube type tires, have been due to improper storage which permitted water to enter the casing between the tire and tube prior to mounting.

When tires are stored they should be stored in a cool place away from sources of heat and ozone such as hot pipes and electric motors. Be sure that surfaces on which tires are stored are clean and free from grease, gasoline or other substances which could deteriorate the rubber. Tires exposed to these materials during storage or driving may be weakened and subject to sudden failure.

DRIVING ON STUDED PASSENGER TIRES
(In states where legally permitted)

Only new passenger tires should be fitted with studs. For maximum effectiveness all four M+S tires on a vehicle should be fitted with studs. If only the two rear tires are studded, maximum efficiency in handling and braking will not be realized. On vehicles with front wheel drive, adverse handling characteristics can be introduced by mounting studded snow tires on front wheels only.

TIRE SPINNING IS DANGEROUS

Excessive spinning can cause a tire to “explode”. Avoid tire spinning. The centrifugal forces created by a rapidly spinning tire can cause an explosion by tearing the tire apart. These forces act on the complete tire structure and can be of such magnitude as to break beads as well as rupturing the entire carcass.

When stuck on ice, snow, mud, or wet grass, etc., the vehicle should be rocked gently (alternately using forward and reverse gears) with the least amount of wheel spinning. DO NOT exceed 35 m.p.h. as indicated on the speedometer. Never allow anyone to stand near or directly ahead of or behind the spinning tire.

Do not spin if a drive wheel is off the ground. SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH can result from the explosion of a spinning tire.

TIRE MOUNTING CAN BE DANGEROUS

Tire mounting can be dangerous and should be done by trained persons using proper tools and procedures. Your tires should be mounted on wheels which are in good, clean condition. Bent, chipped or rusted wheels may cause tire damage. Have your dealer check the size and condition of the wheels before mounting new tires. Be sure rim/wheel manufacturer’s recommendations are followed. The inside of the tire must be free of foreign material.

Old valves may leak. When new tubeless tires are mounted, have new valves of the correct type installed. Be sure that all of your valves have suitable valve caps.

The sidewalls of radial tires flex more than non-radial tires. Because of this, tube-type radial tires require special tubes. Radial tubes should be used with radial tube-type tires. The use of other tubes, not designed for radial tires, will result in tube failure causing sudden tire destruction. Always use a new tube when mounting a new tube-type tire.

SPEED RATED TIRES

When replacement of tires is desired, consult the placard (normally located on a door frame, door edge, or glove box door) or the owner’s manual for correct size. If the tires shown on the vehicle placard do not have speed ratings, the appropriate size tire with any speed rating may be applied. When the placard tire size nomenclature contains a speed symbol, for example P205/60HR15 or P205/60HR15 90H, the replacement tire must have the same or higher speed rating symbol. If the speed capability of the vehicle is to be maintained, IF THE REPLACEMENT TIRE IS NOT SPEED RATED, THE SPEED CAPABILITY OF THE VEHICLE IS LIMITED BY THE SPEED CAPABILITY OF THE REPLACEMENT TIRE. A Cooper-produced non-speed rated tire’s maximum speed is 85 m.p.h. (137 km/h).

REMEMBER

TO AVOID DAMAGE TO YOUR TIRES AND POSSIBLE ACCIDENT:

- TIRE MOUNTING SHOULD BE DONE ONLY BY TRAINED PERSONS USING PROPER TOOLS AND PROCEDURES.
- CHECK TIRE PRESSURES AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH WHEN TIRES ARE COLD AND BEFORE LONG TRIPS.
- DO NOT UNDERINFLATE/OVERINFLATE.
- DO NOT OVERLOAD.
- DRIVE AT MODERATE SPEEDS, OBSERVE LEGAL LIMITS.
- AVOID DRIVING OVER POTHOLES, OBSTACLES, CURBS OR EDGES OF PAVEMENT.
- AVOID EXCESSIVE WHEEL SPINNING.
- IF YOU SEE ANY DAMAGE TO A TIRE, REPLACE WITH SPARE AND SEE YOUR TIRE DEALER.
- IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TIRE DEALER OR CALL 1-800-854-6288.

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