



June 9, 2005

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Enforcement
ODI NVS-216, Reference No. 10115079
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

*Glad to
10115079*

Dear Mr. Jimenez:

I am submitting information Big Dog Motorcycles, L.L.C., has received from AVON TYRES regarding a front tire that was replaced on Mr. Loyd's Big Dog Motorcycles Chopper motorcycle and returned to them for analysis.

If you have any questions I would be happy to discuss any of the details of this matter,

Sincerely,

Luke McAfee
Legal Administrator
Big Dog Motorcycles, L.L.C.

*NAAR
P. 2
6/22/05*

Luke McAfee

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2005 8:27 AM
To: Luke McAfee
Subject: FW: Avon Tire

Luke-
Here is the information I received from Avon regarding the tire that was returned. If you have any other questions, feel free to contact [REDACTED]
Thanks
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2005 8:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Avon Tire

Dear [REDACTED]
I saw the correspondence on the tire issue you were inquiring on earlier. After looking at the specific tire in question I have concluded that it was a mold closure issue. Essentially, it typically evolves from excessive air that gets trapped in the mold as the tire is being manufactured. It does not possess a safety issue to the rider in any way. We, as other tire manufacturers, occasionally will see this. Sometimes it does not present itself, until after the tire has some mileage on it as was the case on this specific tire. This is considered a normal warranty issue. Unless NHTSA contacted us we do not need to peruse it further. Have a nice day.
Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Lynnwood, WA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Avon Tyres, your only contact with the road

April 13, 2005

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation
400 7th Street, SW (NSA-11)
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Taylor:

I am responding to [REDACTED] Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire that I received on March 29.

I have reviewed our records that pertain to this matter and I have spoken to Mr. [REDACTED]. While the Express Warrant that accompanies the sale of our motorcycles excludes tires as a covered item, we have made an exception for Mr. [REDACTED]. A new tire has been installed on Mr. [REDACTED] motorcycle by our dealer in Tulsa, OK.

The tire was returned to me, and it did exhibit unusual wear characteristics. I will be forwarding the tire to the manufacturer, Avon Tyres, for analysis, later today. I will provide you with any information I receive from them regarding this tire.

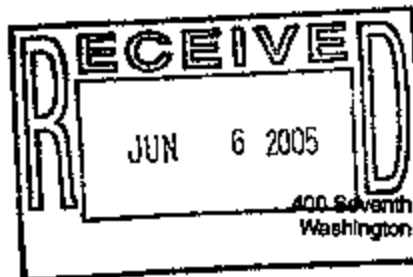
If you have additional questions or if additional information is required, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Luke McAfee
Legal Administrator



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**



MAY 26 2005

Mr. Luke McAfee
1520 E. Douglas Avenue
Wichita, KS 67214

NVS-216 mrc
Ref No. 10119344

Dear Mr. McAfee:

Thank you for your correspondence dated April 13, 2005, concerning motorcycle tires. Your correspondence was received on April 26, 2005. Due to limited resources we were not able to respond to you in a more timely manner. We regret any inconvenience our delay may have caused you.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain serious safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. We cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

Thank you for responding to Mr. Loyd's request in a timely manner. Your letter will be added to Mr. Loyd's file (Ref No. 10115079). When you receive the information from Avon Tyres, please forward a copy to:

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Enforcement
ODI NVS-216, Reference No. 10115079
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20590.

Sincerely,

Alberto A. Jimenez, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4236