



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

DOT Auto Safety Hotline  
**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**  
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects  
1-888-DASH-2-DOT  
(1-888-327-4238)  
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

2005 NOV -2 PM 2:42  
28-JUL-2005

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received:  Repository   
Reference No. 10130125

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: WESTFIELD State: MA Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number: [REDACTED] E-mail Address: [REDACTED]  
Evening Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  YES  NO  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 1/1

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 1G1E5S123V0 [REDACTED]  
Make: KING OF THE ROAD Model: ROYALTE Model Year: 1997  
Date Purchased: 01-OCT-88 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Engine: \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Original Owner:  Dealer's City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Transmission Type: \_\_\_\_\_  Antilock Brakes Powertrain: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle Component Code: 181000 TIRES:TREAD/BELT  
 Cruise Control Multiple Failure: 1

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Incident Date(s): 19-FEB-2005 Failure Mileage: 6000 Failure Speed: 50

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make: FIRESTONE Tire Model (Name or Number): STEELTEX R45 Tire Size (Example P215/65R15): LT265/75R16E  
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036): DOT VAW8JAM349  Original Equipment Failure Location: PASSENGER SIDE FRONT  
 Prior Repair  
Tire Component Code: 181000 TIRES:TREAD/BELT Tire Failure Type: TREAD SEPARATION

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE**

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Manufactured: \_\_\_\_\_ Model No./Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Seat Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Installation System: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child Seat Component Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Failed Part: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION**

Crash:  Yes  No Fire:  Yes  No  
Number of Persons Injured: 0 Number of Deaths: 0 Reported to Police: N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).  
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

BT: WHILE TRAVELING ON HIGHWAY AT 50 MPH THE TREAD ON THE TIRES PEELED OFF. THIS OCCURRED ON RIGHT CURB SIDE OF A 5TH WHEEL TRAILER. THE TIRE TREAD SLAPPED THE FENDER AREA OF THE TRAILER WHICH RESULTED IN \$3,000 DAMAGE TO THAT TRAILER. THE TIRE CARCASS REMAINED INFLATED TO 90 PSI EVEN THOUGH THE TREAD SEPARATED. CONSUMER NOTICED THIS IMMEDIATELY, THEREFORE ADDITIONAL DAMAGE OR AN ACCIDENT DID NOT RESULT. TOOK VEHICLE TO A DEALER, WHO WOULD NOT REPAIR OR REPLACE TIRE, REQUIRING THE CONSUMER TO DEAL WITH FIRESTONE. TIRE AND TREAD WAS SENT TO FIRESTONE, AND THEY REFUSED THE CLAIM BECAUSE THEY FELT THE TIRE WAS UNDER INFLATED. CONSUMER HAD SEVERAL CORRESPONDENCES WITH FIRESTONE, WHO REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE ANY CLAIMS. CONSUMER REPLACED THE TIRES. CONSUMER FEEL THE TIRES WERE NOT SUITABLE FOR THE TRAILER APPLICATION. FIRESTONE, MODEL STEELTEX R45, LT 265/75R16E. \*AK

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974, Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

TREAD SEPARATED AND PEELLED OFF TIRE CASING CAUSING DAMAGE TO TRAILER BY THE TREAD SLAPPING THE UNDERSIDE AND SIDE OF THE TRAILER - FIRESTONE HAS DENIED ANY RESPONSIBILITY CLAIMING THE TIRE HAD BEEN UNDERINFLATED. (SAME STORY FIRESTONE GAVE REGARDING FORD EXPLORER TIRE FAILURE) I CAN SAY WITH ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY THAT THE TIRE HAS NEVER BEEN RUN UNDERINFLATED. I BELIEVE THE TIRE WAS DEFECTIVE AND FIRESTONE NEEDS TO ACCEPT COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE TIRE FAILURE

10/13/05

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300



NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-216 400 7th Street, SW Washington, DC 20590



VEHICLE OWNER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE

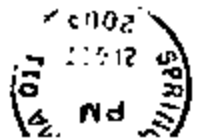
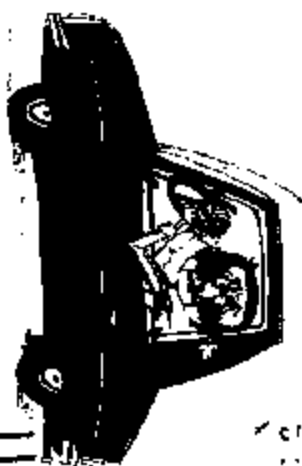
TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS COMPLETE THIS FORM OR

DASH2DOT

and dial toll free at

1-888-DASH-2-DOT 1-888-327-4238

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