

2006 NOV -2 PM 2: 15

October 23, 2006

US Dept. of Transportation
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 Office of Defects Investigation
 NSA; - 10.01, 400 Seventh Street, SW
 Washington, DC 20590

10173229

Subject: Honda Accord - IHGCM56 [REDACTED]
 Michelin Tire
 Energy MXV4 Radial XSE
 Model No. P205/60R16 91V
 Mfr. Date: 0906
 Mileage at time of Failure -- 2605 Miles

Dear NHTSA Representatives:

Current Action

I originally sent a letter to your office, copy attached, dated September 7, 2006. This letter was returned because of the insufficient address. Incidentally, this address was from the new owner manuals issued by both Toyota and Honda. I then called and spent about an hour on the phone with one of your representatives only never to receive a copy of the report. I called after three weeks only to be told no report could be located.

Original Report

We have sent two letters to Michelin dated June 19, 2006, and August 4, 2006 regarding a problem with a new Michelin Energy MXV4 Radial XSE tire, Model No. P205/60R16 91V. The second letter was sent with a delivery confirmation because Michelin ignored the first letter. After the second letter, Michelin's customer service called and told us to take the tire to a nearby authorized Michelin Tire Center to have the tire inspected. Upon completion of the inspection by the service manager Dave at Sears in Palm Beach Gardens, he called Michelin (Sears had the phone number) and spoke with their representative to report his inspection findings. We did this on Tuesday August 15, 2006. The tire center we went to is located at:

[REDACTED]
 Palm Beach Gardens, FL [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

Michelin
 11/3/06

Page 2 - October 23, 2006
Report

After Dave, the employee at Sears inspected the tire, he could not identify any punctures or distinguishing marks that would have caused this tire to go flat. He did identify some damage inside the tire and the tread thickness was 10/32.

I called the National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator at the US Department of Transportation in Washington, DC at (888) 327-4236. They told me that 21 tires of this specific brand and model tire have been reported as failing, going flat, for no specific reason. I guess based upon the lack of response from Michelin, we will be number 22. I also plan on forwarding this tire at my expense to American Honda Motor Company in Torrance, CA. Since Honda is a very driven engineering company both from the engineering and management side of the automotive business I am sure they will be interested in the type and quality of tires being installed on their vehicles.

As a courtesy to Michelin, I have also copied them on this letter. If you wish to contact me, my phone number is [REDACTED]

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Palm Beach Gardens, FL [REDACTED]

Cc: Michelin North America
P.O. Box 19001
Greenville, SC 29602-9001

September 7, 2006

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Michelin Tire
Energy MXV4 Radial XSE
Model No. P205/60R16 91V
Mfr. Date: 0906
Mileage at time of Failure - 2605 Miles

Dear NHTSA Representatives:

We have sent two letters to Michelin dated June 19, 2006, and August 4, 2006 regarding a problem with a new Michelin Energy MXV4 Radial XSE tire, Model No. P205/60R16 91V. The second letter was sent with a delivery confirmation because Michelin ignored the first letter. After the second letter, Michelin's customer service called and told us to take the tire to a nearby authorized Michelin Tire Center to have the tire inspected. Upon completion of the inspection by the service manager Dave at Sears in Palm Beach Gardens, he called Michelin (Sears had the phone number) and spoke with their representative to report his inspection findings. We did this on Tuesday August 15, 2006. The tire center we went to is located at:

[REDACTED]
Palm Beach Gardens, FL [REDACTED]

Service Mgr. Dave @ (561) 775-8428

After Dave, the employee at Sears inspected the tire, he could not identify any punctures or distinguishing marks that would have caused this tire to go flat. He did identify some damage inside the tire and the tread thickness was 10/32

I called the National Highway Traffic Safety Administrator at the US Department of Transportation in Washington, DC at (888) 327-4236. They told me that 21 tires of this specific brand and model tire have been reported as failing, going flat, for no specific reason. I guess based upon the lack of response from Michelin, we will be number 22. I also plan on forwarding this tire at my expense to American Honda Motor Company in Torrance, CA. Since Honda is a very driven engineering company both from the engineering and management side of the automotive business I am sure they will be interested in the type and quality of tires being installed on their vehicles.



Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS

888-327-4236
www.safercar.gov

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY	
Date Received	Repository <input type="checkbox"/>
Reference No.	

Name: [REDACTED]
 Street No.: [REDACTED] Apt. No.: [REDACTED]
 City: Palm Bch Gardens State: FL

Dwelling Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
 Evening Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
 E-mail: [REDACTED]

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
 In the absence of authorization, NHTSA will not investigate or when you make a complaint about recall performance on your vehicle.
 Signature of Owner: [REDACTED] Date: 10, 27, 06

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification number located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 1HGCM5634G
 Make: HONDA Model: ACCORD Year: 06 Current Mileage: 5098
 Date Purchased: [REDACTED] Dealer's Name and Title: POMPANO HONDA Engine: [REDACTED] Fuel Type: Diesel Hybrid Gas Other
 Original Owner Dealer's City: POMPANO BCH State: FL Zip Code: 33064 No. Cylinders: 4
 Transmission Type: Manual Automatic
 Powertrain: All-Wheel Drive Rear-Wheel Drive Front-Wheel Drive Four-Wheel Drive
 Anti-lock Brakes Cruise Control

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component Name: MICHELIN TIRE Incident Date(s): JUNE 9, 2006 Failure Mileage: 2605 Failure Speed: 70MPH Failure Location: Driver Passenger Front Rear

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make/Brand: MICHELIN Tire Model/Line: ENERGY MXV4 Tire Size (Example: P215/65R1108): P205/60R16 91V
 Failed Structure: Tread Sidewall Bead TREADWEAR + TO TRACTION A TEMP. A DOT No. (Example: DOT MALBAC038 on sidewall): DOT B97R FW6X 0906 Original Equipment Prior Repair
 Failure Type: Blowout Blister Crack Torn Tread Separation Road Hazard Out of Round

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model Number and Name: [REDACTED]
 Seat Type: Infant Booster Integrated Convertible Other
 Installed in Vehicle/seat/other: Vehicle safety belt LATCH system*
 Failed Part. Describe Failure Below: Base Harness/Buckle LATCH Connector Shell Handle Other
 *Vehicle info required

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(es).)

Crash: Yes No Fire: Yes No
 Number of Persons Injured: 0 Number of Deaths: 0 Police Report No.: NONE

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(es):
(SEE ATTACHED DESCRIPTION) - THIS INFORMATION WAS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED BUT NHTSA COULD NOT FIND REPORT TIRE BLOWOUT AT 70MPH. MICHELIN REFUSED TO HONOR WARRANTY. THEY TOLD ME THEIR TIRES DO NOT FAIL. SUPV. AT MICHELIN TOLD ME I DAMAGED THE TIRE.

Continue on back.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Mail postage free or fax to 202-368-7882