



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  
 (1-888-327-4236)  
 INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received

Repository

21 AUG 2007  
 11:08 AM

Reference No.  
 10200391

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name	[REDACTED]			Daytime Telephone Number	[REDACTED]	E-mail Address	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]			Evening Telephone Number	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
City	ROSEVILLE	State	CA	Zip Code	[REDACTED]	[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 authorized representative, provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
 Signature of Owner [REDACTED] Date 29/AUG/07

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side		Make	Model	Model Year
1STJBYP2845 [REDACTED]		AIRSTREAM	INTERNATIONAL CCD- Classic 30ft.	2004
Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number		Engine:	Fuel Type:
Sept. 2004	Toscanos 209.826.2488		No: Cylinders	Trailer
Original Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dealer's City	State	Zip Code	
	Los Banos	CA	93635	Trailer
Transmission Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Antilock Brakes	Powertrain	Vehicle Component Code	
Trailer	<input type="checkbox"/> Cruise Control	Trailer	197000 TIRES:TUBE	
			Multiple Failure: 2	

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

Incident Date(s)	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed	Failure Description
30-JUL-2007	~ 6,000 miles	0 MPH	Tread separation, see enclosed photo
		60 MPH	Blow out, loss of air

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

Tire Make	Tire Model (Name or Number)	Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)
GOODYEAR	TRAILER MARATHON RAD	ST225/75-15
DOT No. (Example: DOTM9ABC036)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Repair	Failure Location: DRIVER SIDE FRONT / Then right rear
PDHMLOR2303		
Tire Component Code	Tire Failure Type	
197000 TIRES:TUBE	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**

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash	Fire	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Deaths	Reported to Police
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	0	0	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).

TL\*THE CONTACT OWNS A 2004 AIRSTREAM INTERNATIONAL CCD. THE VEHICLE HAS GOODYEAR TRAILER MARATHON RAD, SIZE ST225/75-15 TIRES. THE CONTACT NOTICED A LARGE RUBBER FLAP HANGING FROM ONE OF THE TIRES. HE REMOVED THE TIRE FROM THE VEHICLE AND DISCOVERED A CHUNK OF RUBBER. HE STATED THAT THE TIRE WAS LOSING AIR. NO OTHER VEHICLE INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED.

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 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.

Untitled

To: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Reference No. 10200391

Subject: Failure of two Goodyear Marathon trailer tires

I am writing in reference to two tire failures we experienced on our 2004 Airstream Classic 30 foot travel trailer. I have more of these tires that show the beginnings of the same failure but have not failed because they have been removed from our trailer.

The problems started on 30 July 2007 when we were getting ready for a trip to Lassen National Park, about 200 miles from home. I went out to check the tire pressures and found the front left tire was reading 40 lbs. instead of the normal 65 lbs. cold. I assumed we had run over a nail on our last trip and the tire had lost pressure. I ran my hand over the tread and could feel the tread bulging as I ran my hand around the tire. I removed the tire and found a crescent shaped piece of rubber flapping on the inside tire wall. See enclosed photo with a business card as reference. You could see the chords on the inside tire wall. I called my local Goodyear tire store and he told me to bring the tire in. I did and was allowed \$96.75 prorated value for a new tire. The date code for this failed tire was PDHMLOR2303. The dealer was Tires Inc. 212 Harding Blvd. Roseville, CA Their invoice is 117134. While there I saw two more Marathon radials with return tags to Goodyear as these tires had failed as well. I installed the new tire and we went on our trip 1 August.

We belong to the Airstream Forums group on the internet. There are many people complaining about tread separation on these tires. Look under FORUMS top of page then look down the list under TIRES. It is one of the most discussed topics on this site. Unfortunately, most of the tread separated tires fail and destroy themselves so there is no evidence to show separation. I have tires documented with photos and samples in my yard still mounted with 65 psi in them and the tread is all high and low showing early signs of separation.

Back to our trip. We stopped at the I-5 rest stop in Williams, about 60 miles from home to check the new and old tires. The pressure was now 70 psi as the outside temp was 92 degrees. I had my wife drive ahead slowly and I ran my hands over the tires and felt no problems.

We spent 10 days at Lassen and the night before we left I ran my hands over the tires and this time I felt the same uneven tread problem as the first failed tire. The problem was not as bad but told my wife that this was probably going to be the next tire failure. We were only 200 miles from home and had a spare tire so we did not worry. The next morning, I checked the pressures next morning before we left and

found that tire was reading 60 psi, all others read 65 psi. We left for home and stopped at the first rest stop just south of Redding on I-5. I was only 82 degrees and again you could feel the right rear was showing signs of the problem. We decided to continue on on I-5 at 55 to 58 MPH following semi trucks. About 20 miles south of Redding we had to pass a much slower moving truck so my wife pulled out to pass. She went 60 MPH and about half way past the truck the trailer started to sway. She backed off and it stopped swaying so she thought it was how the road was done. The truck came up and honked his horn and pointed to our tires. We pulled behind him and stopped. Sure enough the tire had blown and there was no air. We put on our spare and made it home without further incident. I took the tire and tossed it our pool and tried to fill it but the air goes out as fast as it goes in. The leak is across the tread on the inside wall across the tread about 1-2 inches. I still have this tire mounted if you want to inspect the failure. The date code of the second failed tire is the same as the first.

I have looked at other tires we have removed from the trailer still mounted with 65 psi and there are some really separated tires in my yard.

Untitled

Because of the failures reported on the Airstream Forums group we had our tires inspected and rotated along with wheel bearing check in May 2007 at Toscano's in Los Banos, where we bought the trailer September 2004. They reported no issues with the tires. We traveled from Los Banos to Cambria and then home, about 350 miles total. Then we went to Bogega Bay in June, a trip of about 200 miles. Then one tire failure in our yard and one on the way home from Lassen. I am very careful to check the tires before we leave and before we go to our next destination or home so I believe even with my being careful these tires are not very good for their application.

Our trailer is stored at home on the north side in our side yard. The right side of the trailer is proteded by a fence and tree that allow only 30 minutes or less a day of some sun hitting the tires. The left side sees no more than 1.5 to 2 hours of sun per day and the tires are in the shade from 1:30 on daily.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
Roseville, CA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] home





**TIRES, INC. . . . .**

212 HARDING BLVD SUITE W  
 ROSEVILLE, CA 95678-2813  
 (916) 786-8473, BAR REG# AC116464, I.D. CAL982341331  
 FEDERAL TAX ID# 942584933



**INVOICE**  
**117134**

07/30/07 07/30/07  
 10:31 AM 01:51 PM  
 TERR: 5675  
 NONSIG: 165212

PAGE: 01

BILL TO: [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 ROSEVILLE, CA [REDACTED]

PHONE 1..... [REDACTED]  
 PHONE 2..... [REDACTED]  
 DATE REQUESTED 07/30/07  
 TIME REQUESTED  
 RETURN PARTS.. NO  
 SALESMAN..... 005 / 005

VEH YEAR/MAKE. 04 TRAILER  
 VEHICLE MODEL. TRAILER  
 VEHICLE COLOR. [REDACTED]  
 LICENSE/STATE. [REDACTED] / CA  
 ODOMETR IN/OUT 000001 / 000001  
 PRIOR INVOICE. NEW CUSTOMER

ACCOUNT # COB TC CUST# TYPE/STATE AUTHORIZATION CREDIT CARD NO.  
 567500051 V 01 04361 0 CA 030342 HDC 2320

SLSM	TECH	PRODUCT CODE	BC	QTY	DESCRIPTION	PARTS	LBR/EXCISE	LINE TOTAL
005		762-173-406-0 QTY. 1- NO.	B	1-	ST225/75R15D MTHN TRLR BSLRPTL TTC PDHMLOR2303	96.75	.00	96.75-
005		762-173-406-0 QTY. 1 NO.	R	1	ST225/75R15D MTHN TRLR BSLRPTL TTC OHHMLHR2307	129.00	.00	129.00
005	076	041-263	R	1	NEW VALVE STEM	2.50	.00	2.50
005	076	044-263	R	1	WHEEL BALANCE - COMPUTER SPIN	2.50	8.00	10.50
005	076	048-150	R	1	12 POINT VEHICLE INSPECTION CHECK BRAKES, REMOVE WHEELS AND BRAKE DRUMS AS REQUIRED, INSPECT STEERING AND SUSPENSION, SHOCKS, STRUTS, EXHAUST SYSTEM, WIPERS, LIGHTS, COOLING SYSTEM, BELTS AND HOSE, TRANSMISSION, BATTERY AND STARTER.	.00	.00	.00

THIS SHOP IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE OR THEFT WHEN VEHICLE IS LEFT  
 WE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR BROKEN OR DAMAGED HUB CAPS UPON REMOVAL  
 HAND TORQUE ALL LUG NUTS TO MFG SPEC. TECHS SIGN...../

OVERNIGHT OUTSIDE IN LOT.  
 OR INSTALLATION CUST INT.....  
 12 POINT INSP. IS VISUAL ONLY

X-----  
 CUSTOMER AUTHORIZATION FOR TOTAL

**INVOICE TOTAL**

CHARGED AMOUNT 49.70  
 STATE TIRE FEE 1.75  
 TAXABLE AMOUNT 37.25

PARTS TOTAL..... 37.25  
 LABOR TOTAL..... 8.00  
 SUB TOTAL..... 45.25  
 SALES TAX..... 2.70

**\$49.70**

TREAD L/F..... 11/32 TREAD R/F..... 8/32 TREAD R/R..... 8/32 TREAD L/R..... 8/32

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT SAFETY WARNING AND WARRANTY INFORMATION**

**HAVE A QUESTION OR PROBLEM?**  
 Please tell our store manager. We value your opinion as much as your  
 business. Should you need additional assistance, call our  
**CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE LINE 1-800-321-2136**