

U.S. Department
of TransportationNational Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

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

MAY 30 2012

02-MAY-2012

Repository ☐Reference No.
10457123

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

ASTOR

State

FL

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

The information you provide will be used to identify potential safety-related defects. We may share your information with the applicable vehicle manufacturer during an investigation or recall in accordance with the routine uses described in the agency's Privacy Act notice. See 49 FR 53971 (Sep. 3, 2004).

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

JN8HD17S1NW

Make

NISSAN

Model

PATHFINDER

Model Year

1992

Date Purchased

8-20-1992

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

Scott Nissan - out of business

Engine:

No. Cylinders

6

Fuel Type:

GAS

Original Owner

☒

Dealer's City

Hollywood

State

FL

Zip Code

33023

Transmission Type

Auto

☒ Antilock Brakes

Powertrain

☒ Cruise Control

Multiple Failure:

—

Incident Date(s)

19-APR-2012

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Vehicle Component Codes: 190000 TIRES, 192000 TIRES: SIDEWALL

Actually tire rubber separated from Steel belt.

Failure Mileage

115680

Failure Speed

65

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

SIGMA

Tire Model (Name or Number)

STAMPEDE

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

* 235/75R15

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

OTHL-TX6-1304-EOR9

☐ Original Equipment☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location: PASSENGER SIDE REAR

Tire Component Code

192000 TIRES:SIDEWALL

rubber separated from Steel

Tire Failure Type: Separated

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

☐ 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).

TL* THE CONTACT OWNS A 1992 NISSAN PATHFINDER EQUIPPED WITH SIGMA STAMPEDE TIRES. THE CONTACT STATED THAT THE REAR PASSENGER TIRE SEPARATED ALONG THE SIDEWALL WHILE DRIVING 65 MPH. AS A RESULT OF THE FAILURE, THE FUEL HOSES WERE FRACTURED AND LEAKING FUEL. ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE HELPED RECONNECT THE FUEL HOSES AND INSTALLED A SPARE TIRE. THE VEHICLE WAS TOWED TO AN INDEPENDENT REPAIR SHOP AND REPLACEMENT TIRES WERE PURCHASED. THE MANUFACTURER WAS MADE AWARE OF THE FAILURE AND OFFERED NO ASSISTANCE. THE FAILURE MILEAGE ON THE TIRE WAS 19,505.

separated the rubber from the steel layer not damage to vehicle over 1,150,000 so far sidewall.

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.

fire
Kingdom
was
the
original
seller
as well
as the
replace-
ment
place.

my package / sent to Tbc
Crawford
Cooper

5/11/12

Re: file # 2032200 ts

may 10, 2012

To who it may concern

I am sending this letter along with the requested information regarding this incident of tire separation to Crawford u.s. property & casualty, tbc corporation and cooper tire & rubber co. product liability dept. of ohio. I will also be emailing pictures of the tire in question to cooper_tire@us.crawco.com, that is the only email address I have. I am sending pictures that I copied from the email to tbc and cooper tire with this notification.

I will not be sending the tire, which I still have in my possession, that will remain with me until this problem has been satisfied to my expectations. I am trying to settle this out of court between you and me, if that becomes impossible then I will have no choice but to hire an attorney and for that I would need to have the tire. I will be happy to have any of your reps come and inspect the tire or I will take it, within a reasonable distance to an agreed upon location for your inspection, again this tire will not leave my possession until this is settled.

I have filed a complaint with the ohio bbb as well as the dept of transportation car safety hotline.

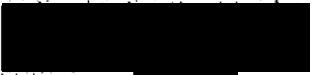
I am very grateful that neither of us suffered any permanent or fatal injuries due to the defectiveness of this tire, and this was the third of a set of four that failed on us with less than 20,000 miles on 65,000 mile tires, shameful I must say.

I have knowledge of other cases of this happening from digging around online, I also feel that there are probably many more complaints but if folks turn over the tires in question to your company what makes anyone feel that you are going to voluntarily recall or reimburse them for damage.

I can only say in clear conscious there is no way I can do that and then turn around in the future and hear of someone dying and me not have said anything.

I expect to hear from someone within a reasonable time or I will be forced to take further legal action.

Sincerely,


Astoria, fl


(incident report)

4/19/2012 around 9:45 am we were heading north on st rd 417 in florida, suddenly the car felt like the rear end fell off, i thought we were going to crash, my husband, [REDACTED] got the car to the side of the road, we got out as gas poured out the rear of our car. our tire had separated and tore off the fuel and vent lines as well as the wheel well mldg, mudflap and damaged the body also. i called tire kingdom, we have the roadside assistance policy, to get a tow, fortunately the gas leakage slowed and the road ranger came by to help. we cancelled the tow from tire kingdom and between [REDACTED] and the road ranger they rigged the fuel and vent lines back up temporarily, put our spare on and after close to 4 hours in the 95 degree heat we were back on the road. our first stop was tire kingdom #129, 2612 s. woodland blvd, deland, fl 32720, we told the mgr. bryan byrne what happened and also informed him that this was the 3rd of a set of 4 tires that we had a problem with..for the record he was very helpful, apologetic and concerned that no one was injured or killed due to the separation, he also said he felt tire #4 was also fine on tread but showing signs of trouble...

original tire info:

sigma stampede rad suv p235/75r15, 7f64

original purchase date 7/23/04 (96,175 mileage)

\$ 107.00 each plus tax, etc

65,000 tire warranty

1st replacement 8/5/10 (113,160 mileage)

2nd replacement 5/3/11 (114,032 mileage)

3rd incident 4/19/12 (115,680 mileage)

..3 tires shot in 19,505 miles..

he filled out a product liability report and said he could work with us better if we had another set of cooper tires put on rather than change mfg, we agreed and got 4 of the cooper

discoverer h/t p235/75r15 105s, 50513

cost \$ 139.99 each plus tax. etc

we were given credit for the money we were charged for tires #1 & #2, prorated amount as well as for tires #3 & #4...

total cost was 559.96 plus tax, etc

credited amount was \$356.00 plus tax, etc

leaving us with a balance of \$ 221.48 which we paid, finally around 8:30 pm we got home.

4/24/2012 we got a letter from crawford u.s. property & casualty co.thru certified mail saying they required 8 steps for me to do before they will consider my claim, the first being the return of the tire, as well as estimates, photos, etc, they also several times in the letter state that basically they will decide within 45 days if this was the result of defective tires or shoddy owner maintenance, and usually its the owners fault, we have records of tire maintenance, etc.

i called them that day and said i will let them inspect the tire but no way am i going to send it to them directly, it will not be going anywhere until we were satisfied with a decision on this matter, i also said i would wait 3 days for someone to get back to me, no one has contacted me as of today, 5/1/2012. i have all my paperwork from the original purchase thru this incident which i will send them copies, i got 2 estimates for the car repair, \$1,110.67 and \$1,142.78. in addition my husband lost that day of work, we lost close to a tank of gas, i spent 4-5 days down due to a flare up of my fibromyalgia along with stress blisters across my lower face, which i have pictures of, plus the time to run around and get the paperwork, estimates, etc and still not 1 person even had the decency to even call and say hey we are sorry, glad you are alive.

in these papers they also have a no tire, no consideration clause, i am sorry but i feel if i give up the tire then i have no leg to stand on, i am willing to send them pictures, copies of bills, maintenance, etc., they can have someone come here and inspect it. i am going to wait for

your response before sending anybody anything, thank you for your time and assistance, i truly thought we were going to die.

initial tire purchase	\$ 574.19
replacement difference	221.48
loss of 4/19/12 work-randy	200.00
gas lost on roadside	50.00
mileage/time to get est	100.00
flare up downtime	priceless
car repair	1,200.00
punitive damages	tbd

i feel we are due compensation for what we went thru and what could have happened here, i also feel if this is a continuing problem with these tires then they should be recalled immediately before someone else has to go thru this or someone dies.





Subj: RE: FILE # 2032200 TS....PICTURES OF TIRE SEPARATION
Date: 5/10/2012 2:05:58 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: cooper_tire@us.crawco.com
CC: [REDACTED]





