



Notification to Dealer

Michelin Americas Truck Tires has notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that it is recalling a maximum of 4,000 Michelin XDE M/S commercial truck tires after its quality control system alerted the company to a condition that could possibly result in rapid air loss.

This decision was taken after a tire did not meet Michelin's high quality standard during a normal internal inspection. To date, there have been no accidents or injuries reported and no property damage claims filed. The company is replacing all potentially affected tires produced during the same period in a comprehensive commitment to retrieve from the market any tire that does not perform to Michelin quality standards.

The recalled tires were produced at various periods during DOT weeks 21 through 43 (May-October 2004). To check if tires shipped to you are included in this action, please check the DOT codes found on the sidewall of the tire just above the wheel rim, printed in small type. There are no issues with tires outside of these DOT weeks.

Our records indicate that you may have received tires manufactured during this time period.

As a result, Michelin asks you to take the following actions:

1. Immediately stop selling these tires and check your inventory for the specific DOT identification numbers affected. These tires must not be sold or used.
2. Immediately count your inventory of the affected tires, with the specific DOT identification numbers, and
3. **As required by law**, immediately provide Michelin with a list of customers that you have sold affected tires to between June 1, 2004 and November 30, 2004. This list should include the following information: name, address, city, state, zip code, phone number, MSPN, quantity and date of mounting/sale. Michelin will contact these customers to directly arrange inspection and if necessary, replacement of these tires.
4. All affected recalled tires must be disabled in accordance with the NHTSA Disposition of Recalled Tires provision. Please see enclosed instructions.
5. Return the recalled tires to Michelin Americas Truck Tires as soon as possible. If you have additional questions, please contact Michelin 800-847-8475.

All of the affected tires were produced at various periods in week 21 through 43 this year (May-October, 2004) and begin with the DOT marking HJ and end with 2104 through 4304 and include the Michelin tires below:

<u>MSPN:</u>	<u>Tire Description:</u>
87904	10R22.5 Michelin XDE M/S Load Range F
87357	10R22.5 Michelin XDE M/S Load Range G
67243	10R22.5 Michelin XDE M/S Load Range F BL
67032	10R22.5 Michelin XDE M/S Load Range G DUO
98505	10R22.5 Michelin XDE M/S Load Range G BL

Any affected tires that you have in stock will be replaced free of charge. Replacement tires are now available.

To return recalled tires currently in your inventory, contact Michelin at 800-847-8475 to arrange pick-up. The company will pay all freight and handling charges associated with this action and issue a credit to your account for the tires returned.

If these tires were sold to another retailer, please contact the retailer, as we have contacted you. Ask them to immediately stop sales of the recalled tires and return any remaining inventory to you as quickly as possible using your normal procedures.

If your customer sold the tires to another party, please collect the name, address and telephone number of the customer to whom the tires were sold. Michelin will use this information to notify consumers as soon as possible. If you have any additional questions, please contact your director of commercial business (DOCB) or your channel manager.

Commitment to quality and respect for the customer are our highest priorities. We regret the circumstances that led to this action and know you understand our reasons for wanting to retrieve these tires.

Sincerely,



Tom Diez
Vice President, Commercial Sales
Michelin Americas Truck Tires



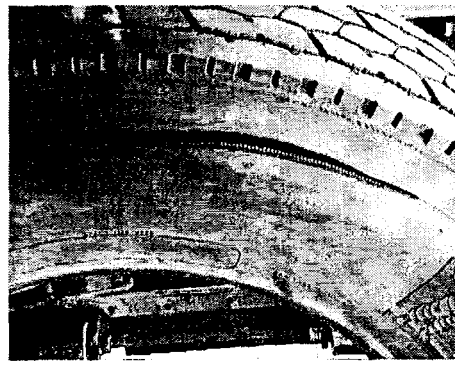
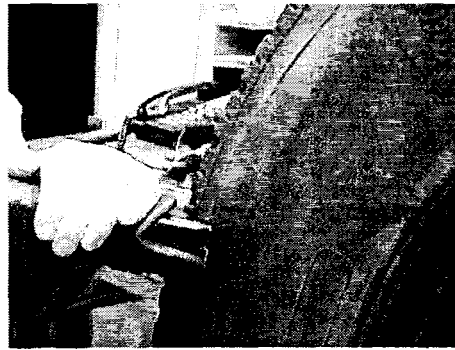
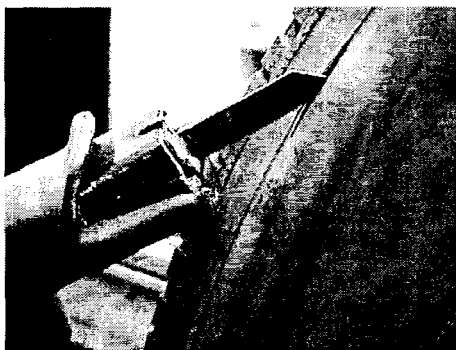
Yves Billioux
Quality Director
Michelin Americas Truck Tires

IMPORTANT – Disposition of Recalled Tires

New TREAD Act provisions effective November 12, 2004 require that Michelin North America, Inc. make you aware of the following information and tire dealer obligations:

1. It is a violation of Federal law to knowingly sell or lease a new or used tire which has been recalled
2. If a dealer knowingly sells or leases new or used recalled tires; that such a sale must be reported to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington,, DC 20590 within five working days of such a release. in a report containing the following information:
 - i) a statement that the report is being submitted pursuant to 49 CFR 573.10(a);
 - ii) the name, address and phone number of the person who purchased or leased the tire;
 - iii) the name of the manufacturer of the tire;
 - iv) the tire's brand name, model name, and size;
 - iv) the tire's DOT identification number;
 - v) the date of the sale or lease; and
 - vi) the name, address, and telephone number of the seller or lessor.
3. Under Federal law, Michelin is required to report (by dealer name and address) any known instances of its dealers selling or leasing new or used recalled tires
4. Federal law requires that each recalled tire be disabled by the dealer within 24 hours after the tire is received
5. The 10R22.5 Michelin XDE LRF and LRG commercial truck tires that you receive in connection with this recall must be disabled by cutting (with a reciprocating saw) a circumferentially-oriented hole in one sidewall which is at least 12" (twelve inches) in length. Use of a three-inch, metal-cutting saw blade is recommended.

TIRE DISPOSITION ILLUSTRATIONS



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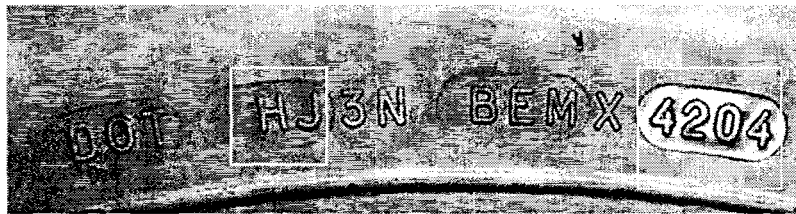
6. On a monthly basis, Michelin owned or controlled dealers must report to Michelin North America the number of recalled tires removed from vehicles by the dealer that have not been rendered unsuitable for resale for installation on a motor vehicle within the specified timeframe (other than those returned for testing). The report must include a description of any such failure to act in accordance with Michelin's disablement and disposal plan.
7. Please contact Michelin Customer Service at 800-847-8475. You will receive shipping instructions to return these recalled tires to Michelin for proper disposal.
8. On a monthly basis, Michelin owned or controlled dealers must report to Michelin North America the number of recalled tires disposed of in violation of these instructions or in violation of any of applicable state and local laws or regulations. The report must include a description of any such failure to act in accordance with Michelin' disposal plan.
9. These notifications and instructions must be communicated to all employees of this dealership who are involved in the removal, disablement, or disposal of recalled tires.

ABOUT DOT MARKINGS

DOT markings serve as the tire's fingerprint and signify compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation Minimum Performance Standards. The DOT code can be found on the sidewall right above the rim. Make sure your tire is the same make and model (Michelin XDE M/S Load Range F or Load Range G) and look for a **DOT code on the sidewall that begins with HJ and ends with numbers 2104 through 4304** (Please see below illustration). If you have difficulty identifying the tire's DOT code, please contact Michelin at 888-622-2306.

The first two characters HJ designate the tire's manufacturing location. The final four numbers denote the date the tire was produced with the first two indicating the week and the last two numbers indicating the year. Michelin XDE M/S Load Range F and Load Range G commercial truck tires produced between weeks 2104 and 4304 are affected by this action.

DOT MARKING ILLUSTRATION



Tire
Manufacturing
Location

Tire
Production
Date
(Week/Year)