



RECEIVED

By Recall Mgt Div. at 12:29 pm, Mar 09, 2010

March 4, 2010

**SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Gentlemen:

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company has decided that a non-compliance which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in (two hundred eighty-six) (286) tires as set forth in the attached Defect and Noncompliance Information Report dated February 3, 2010.

These tires are being voluntarily recalled.

A copy of this letter, with attachments, is being faxed to the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) for review by ODI of the proposed owner notification letters pursuant to 49 CFR Section 573.6(c)(10). We are asking ODI to approve the sample owner letters. Hard copy will follow. Unless advised otherwise by ODI, owner notification will begin March 11, 2010. Three copies of the appropriate notification to dealers and customers are attached as exhibits in response to Item 9 of the Defect and Noncompliance Information Report.

Our envelope format for owner recall notification letters as required under 49 CFR 577.5(a) has been previously approved by ODI.



Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
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American Car Care Centers, Inc. will provide the required quarterly report on the status of the above-mentioned campaign.

Please advise of the NHTSA assigned campaign number.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Plank". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Becky Plank
Marketing Coordinator
American Car Care Centers, Inc.

Attachments

cc: Office of Defects Investigation "NSA-10"
Department of Transportation
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590
Fax Number 202/366-7882
Attn: Mr. George Person
Recall Management Regulations

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

DATE: 2/3/2010

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

ACCC NO. 002

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

BRAND NAME

OWNER

AMERICAN PROSPECTOR SUV

AMERICAN CAR CARE CENTERS

2. POTENTIAL NUMBER OF AFFECTED TIRES (including a description of the basis for the determination of the recall population and a description of how these items differ from similar items not included in the recall):

<u>Description</u> (including size)	<u>Inclusive Dates</u> (week and year) <u>of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Potentially</u> <u>Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent</u> <u>Containing Defect</u> <u>or Noncompliance</u>
245/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires			
AMERICAN PROSPECTOR SUV	UTNHXHH4609 Nov. 15, 2009 thru Nov. 21, 2009	286	100.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 286

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: 100.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

5. **DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE** (Including brief summary and detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance)

The affected tires fail to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR 571.139 S6.3 Tire Endurance and S6.4 Low Inflation Pressure Performance. At various mileages during the specified endurance tests, the subject tires may develop and exhibit tread chunking or cracking in the tread shoulder area.

6. **CHRONOLOGY OF ALL PRINCIPLE EVENTS THAT WERE THE BASIS FOR THE EXISTENCE OF A SAFETY RELATED DEFECT** (Including a summary of all warranty claims, field service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt):

On 12/14/09, Cooper Tire & Rubber Company noticed the anomaly on a routine surveillance tire that had been produced during DOT serial week 4909. Follow-up verification testing of regular production tires confirmed the condition. Production of the affected spec was stopped immediately and further testing initiated. Bracket testing continued in preceding production week lots with similar results observed for production weeks 4609 thru 5009. Sample tires tested from DOT production week 4509 passed the endurance tests. Through their bracket testing, they determined the anomaly existed only in the subject tires that were produced during DOT serial weeks 4609 thru 5009.

Our inventory has been completely sorted for these tires. We received 286 tires from Cooper Tire & Rubber Company of which we have accounted for 0 tires in our warehouses. There were 286 tires distributed and we are voluntarily recalling these 286 tires.

7. **COMPLIANCE TESTING OR OTHER DATA THAT WAS THE BASIS FOR DETERMINING THE EXISTENCE OF NONCOMPLIANCE:**

The existence of the condition was determined by a review of wheel test results, visual analysis, and cut tire analysis by Cooper Tire & Rubber Company.

8. **STATEMENT OF MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO REMEDY THE DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE:**

Tires with the affected DOT serial week and year identification numbers should be shipped to one of Cooper Tire's regional inspection centers. All tires returned to ACCC will be inspected for the correct DOT identification number and all tires found to have the affected DOT serial numbers will be scrapped.

The tires located in our inventory count reconciliation will also be scrapped.

9. **ENCLOSURES, IF ANY** (Three copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications that were sent to more than one distributor, dealer or purchaser and relate directly to the defect or noncompliance):