Part 573 Safety Recall Report 17T-002

Manufacturer Name : Continental Tire the Americas, LLC.
Submission Date : JAN 20, 2017
NHTSA Recall No. : 17T-002
Manufacturer Recall No. : NR

Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Continental Tire the Americas, LLC.
Address : 1830 Macmillan Park Drive
Fort Mill SC 29707
Company phone : 704-583-4882

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 325
Estimated percentage with defect : 50 %

Tire Information :

Tire Brand 1 : GENERAL TIRE
Tire Line : GRABBER
Tire Size : 33x12.50R18 LT 118Q
Descriptive Information : Light Truck, Load Range E, extreme terrain tire sold in the replacement market.
Production Dates : MAY 03, 2015 - MAY 16, 2015

TIN (Tire Identification Number)

Plant ID	Size code	OptionalCode	Begin M Code	End M Code
A3	CB	1YC	1815	1915

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected tires have a lack of adhesion within the belt package.
FMVSS 1 : NR
FMVSS 2 : NR
Description of the Safety Risk : Affected tires may exhibit localized tread wear, excessive vibration, noise and bulging in the tread area. With continued use, the tires could experience a partial or full tread/belt loss, which could increase the risk of serious injury or death.
Description of the Cause : Due to an isolated incident in the manufacturing process, the affected tires have contamination in the belt package.
Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Affected tires may exhibit localized tread wear, excessive vibration, noise and/or bulging in the tread area.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name :	NR
Address :	NR
	NR
Country :	NR

Chronology :

In August 2015, one tire was tested according to CTA's internal product conformance test and did not meet CTA's internal standards. CTA initiated an internal investigation, including the testing of additional tires from the same production week. These additionally tested tires passed all testing.
In March 2016, one tire was returned to CTA's warranty center with a bulge in the innerliner. The tire was shipped to the Mt. Vernon manufacturing plant for analysis. The manufacturing plant conducted a root cause analysis but was unable to make a final determination of the root cause. Nevertheless CTA continued to monitor returns for this tire.
In October 2016, two tires were returned to CTA's warranty center, one with a tread/belt detachment and one with a bulge in the innerliner. Both tires were shipped to CTA's technical center for further analysis. Various tests were performed, including chemical analysis to determine if contamination was a factor. The analysis showed that both tires had weak bonding between the steel belts. CTA escalated its internal investigation based on the four analyzed tires and placed a quality hold on this tire in all warehouse locations.
In November 2016, two tires with bulges in the innerliner were returned to CTA's warranty center. Both tires were sent to CTA's technical center for further analysis. Additional analysis was performed on tires from CTA's warehouse, which also indicated weak bonding in the belt package.
On January 12, 2017, based on the investigation, CTA determined that the manufacturing defect is safety relevant and made the decision to initiate this recall. All returned tires with the condition were manufactured in DOT week 1815, however CTA determined that some affected tires may have also been cured in DOT week 1915 and therefore, CTA is recalling that week. CTA is not aware of any claims of personal injury or death involving these tires.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	CTA will conduct a safety recall campaign to replace the subject tires that have been sold as replacement tires or are in dealer inventories. All known customers, distributors, dealers and independent outlets will receive notification of the campaign, instructions on how to identify the subject tires, information regarding removal of the subject tires from service, and instructions on the return/disposal of affected tires. CTA will offer to reimburse the replacement cost for any customer who, prior to this campaign, replaced these tires due to the condition described above. CTA will provide a draft reimbursement form for NHTSA’s review, under

	separate cover, in the near future.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	Remedy tires are from DOT weeks other than DOT week codes 1815 and 1915.
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	It was determined that an isolated event caused the manufacturing defect in DOT week code 1815 and 1915. No tires from DOT week 1915 have been returned with the condition, but under an abundance of caution, CTA is also recalling week code 1915. Other DOT weeks were not affected.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	CTA will notify distributors, as well as all independent outlets that are authorized to replace the tires that are the subject of this recall, of their responsibilities in accordance with Section 573.6(c)(9). Distributors and outlets will be instructed to return affected tires to CTA for disposal.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	FEB 10, 2017 - FEB 17, 2017
Planned Owner Notification Date :	FEB 10, 2017 - FEB 28, 2017

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name :	NR
Address :	NR
	NR
Country :	NR
Company Phone :	NR

* NR - Not Reported