



Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC  
 200 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
 Nashville, TN USA 37201

October 8, 2018

**NHTSA ID: 18T011**

**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**

Dear Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC (“BATO”) has decided that certain all position, wide base radial commercial truck tires used in severe service applications as identified below may fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 119. BATO has initiated a voluntary recall of these tires. These tires were sold beginning in June 2018.

You are receiving this letter because BATO’s records indicate that you have purchased tires that may be the subject of this safety recall. The tires subject to the recall are listed below.

TIRE SIZE	DESCRIPTION	DOT CODE			DOT Week/Year	
					START	END
425/65R22.5	BRIDGESTONE M864	2C	A2	3NU	2318	2418
425/65R22.5	BRIDGESTONE M860A	2C	A2	3VT	2518	2518
425/65R22.5	BRIDGESTONE M854	2C	A2	3NR	2418	2518
425/65R22.5	FIRESTONE FS818	4D	A2	9HR	2318	2418

**REASON FOR THE RECALL**

The subject tires may not comply with the endurance test requirement as prescribed under Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 119.

In affected tires, there may be a risk of exposure of steel body cords in the sidewall to the environment, which could lead to deterioration of the cords in that area. If a rapid air loss occurs due to that condition while the vehicle is operating, there may be an increased risk of a crash. Affected tires may exhibit a bulge in a sidewall blister location. Affected tires already in use may exhibit exposed steel body ply cords and/or rubber cracking in a blister location.

## TIRE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

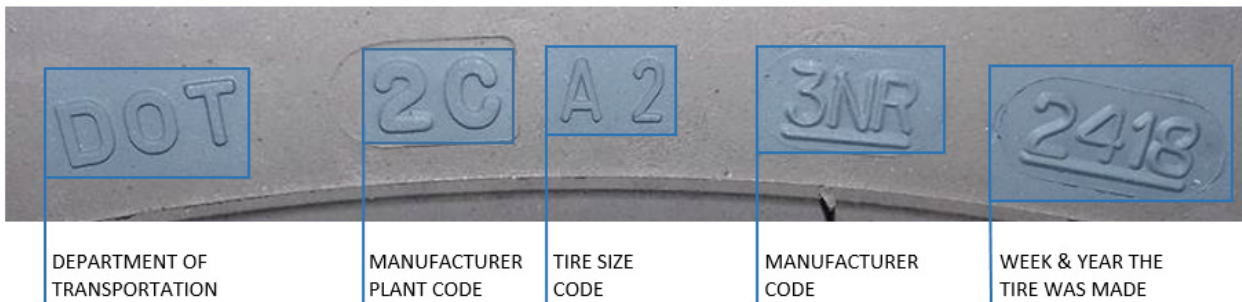
Consistent with the company’s longstanding commitment to safety, customer satisfaction and service, BATO will replace any tire subject to the recall with new tires, and mount the replacement tires, *all at no charge to you.*

Replacement tires are available as of September 5, 2018. If you own tires that match the exact description of the size, pattern and Department of Transportation (“DOT”) code and production period range, you are urged to contact your local Bridgestone dealer to arrange verification and replacement at no charge through March 4, 2019. To locate an authorized Bridgestone dealer near you, please call 1-855-389-3459, or visit our website: [commercial.firestone.com/en-us/solutions/truck-and-bus.html](http://commercial.firestone.com/en-us/solutions/truck-and-bus.html).

Any tire that is the subject of this recall will be replaced with a comparable Bridgestone or Firestone all position, wide base radial commercial tire in size 425/65R22.5 manufactured outside of the affected production range. If a Bridgestone brand or Firestone brand tire is not currently available, a suitable competitive product may be used as a replacement tire.

### DESCRIPTION OF TIRES COVERED AND HOW TO IDENTIFY THEM

The tire’s DOT serial number can be found on the sidewall just above the rim. In the visual example below, the DOT serial number ends with “2418”, which indicates that the tire was made in the 24<sup>th</sup> week of 2018.



There are four tire patterns and several DOT serial numbers included in this recall (see the chart below). If you believe you may have one of these tires, please examine your tires’ sidewalls to see if any of them match the DOT serial number information in the chart provided below.

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					START	END
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425/65R22.5	BRIDGESTONE M860A	2C	A2	3VT	2518	2518
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Any tires that match the above descriptions are subject to this recall and should be replaced. If you have any questions about whether your tires are covered by this recall, please contact your

local authorized Bridgestone dealer. To identify one of these stores near you, call 1-855-389-3459 or visit our website listed above.

### **HOW TO HAVE YOUR TIRES REPLACED**

If your tires are included in this recall, or if you need assistance in determining whether your tires are covered, please contact any authorized Bridgestone dealer to schedule an appointment. Replacement tires are readily available as of September 5, 2018; however, in the unlikely event that replacement tires are not available at the store you have contacted, tires will be ordered for you, and you will be notified when your replacement tires are in-store.

BATO strongly recommends that you act as soon as possible to replace your tires if they are included in this recall.

### **REIMBURSEMENT TO CUSTOMERS FOR AFFECTED TIRES PRIOR TO RECALL**

If you had purchased tires subject to this recall and have already paid for a replacement due to the condition associated with this recall, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement.

Requests for reimbursement may include parts, labor, fees and taxes. Reimbursements may be limited to the amount the replacement would have cost if completed by an authorized Bridgestone dealer. To be eligible for reimbursement, you must present records documenting the following information to BATO for review:

- The name and address of the person or company that paid for replacement.
- The pattern name, size and DOT identification numbers (including date codes) of the replaced tire(s).
- A description of the problem that occurred with the replaced tire(s).
- The name of the servicing entity that replaced the tire(s) and the date(s) of the replacement.
- The total cost paid to replace the tire(s) that is being claimed.
- Proof of payment (copy of front and back of cancelled check or copy of credit card receipt)

### **PROBLEMS OR CONCERNS**

If you have any problems or concerns about this recall, or if your authorized Bridgestone dealer does not make the necessary replacements free of charge, please contact Technical Services at 1-800- 847-3272.

You may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>, if you believe that:

- (A) BATO or an authorized Bridgestone dealer has failed or is unable to remedy the defect or noncompliance without charge; or

(B) BATO has failed or is unable to remedy the defect or noncompliance without charge after the date specified in this notification on which replacement tires will be available.

We regret the inconvenience that this recall may cause you, but we are certain you will understand our continued commitment to your safety.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC