

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 21T-015

**Manufacturer Name :** Cooper Tire & Rubber Co.

**Submission Date :** AUG 27, 2021

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21T-015

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 181



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Cooper Tire & Rubber Co.

**Address :** 701 Lima Avenue

Findlay OH 45840

**Company phone :** 4194206040

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 370

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 5 %

## Tire Information :

**Tire Brand 1 :** Hercules

**Tire Line :** Roadtour 455 Sport

**Tire Size :** 225/50R17

**Descriptive Information :** An analysis of the subject tires identified one tire building machine where tires were produced for a defined time period using an improper sidewall/chafer component. Tires outside of this defined period were produced using the proper sidewall/chafer component.

**Production Dates :** FEB 14, 2021 - FEB 20, 2021

## TIN (Tire Identification Number)

Plant ID	Size code	Optional Code	Begin M Code	End M Code
U9	40	H3T	0721	0721

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** The subject tires as manufactured may have an incorrect sidewall/chafer component that under certain conditions could result in a belt separation.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** A belt separation could lead to vehicle loss of control potentially resulting in a crash.

**Description of the Cause :** An improper sidewall/chafer component was used on one tire building machine.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** Some affected tires may have a visually distorted tread condition that could be detected prior to being placed in-service. In-service conditions may result in tire noise or vibration prior to a belt separation occurring.

**Involved Components :**

Component Name : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

On February 14, 2021, it was discovered that the sidewall/chafer component was labeled incorrectly as it left the extrusion process. The incorrect component was inadvertently delivered to a tire building machine and tires were produced. After the subject tires were produced, the tire builder discovered the error and tire production and curing were suspended and tires were held for inspection. At that time, it was believed that all of the subject tires were identified and scrapped. However, after completing inspection of tires shipped to several distribution centers, it was discovered during the week of August 16, 2021, by reviewing shipping records that 20 tires may have shipped to one customer directly from the plant. There have been no claims associated with any of these tires.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Cooper Tire & Rubber Company (Cooper Tire) will initiate a voluntary safety recall of the subject tires. Cooper Tire will contact registered owners that purchased tires of the specified date range by registered mail. Customer correspondence will explain the issue, and include instructions on how to obtain replacement tires, as well as instructions for collecting reimbursement for remedies made prior to the recall. All tires found to have an affected DOT identification number will be replaced and will be scrapped according to applicable law. Consumers who have had their tires replaced before this recall may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall.

In accordance with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. § 573.6(c) (9) (i), Cooper Tire & Rubber Company will make dealers aware of the legal requirements associated with the prohibition against the sale of recalled tires through a Dealer Notification Letter that will be submitted to the agency separately pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 573.6(c) (10). The program for disposing of all recalled tires returned to Cooper Tire & Rubber Company will comply with applicable state and local laws and regulations regarding the disposal of tires, and to the extent possible, tires will be channeled into a category of positive reuse or another alternative beneficial non-vehicular reuse, instead of being disposed of in landfills.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy tires were built to specification using the correct sidewall/ chafer component.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The issue was identified after the improper sidewall component was used at the tire machine and the machine was being refilled with the correct component. The improper sidewall component was limited to one reel and that reel was consumed within the impacted serial week.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : NR

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 01, 2021 - OCT 31, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 01, 2021 - OCT 31, 2021

## 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