

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL



COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
Findlay, Ohio 45840 419-423-1321

September 1, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. – 21T014

Dear Distributor or Dealer:

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

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company (Cooper Tire) has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Cooper tires identified as follows:

Product Name	Size	DOT Serial Number	Brand
Evolution H/T	245/70R16	UT 9H 1J9 1723	COOPER

The DOT identification number is molded into each tire, and is composed of a DOT sequence, followed by a four-digit DOT date code. As an example, the following illustration shows what this number would look like for one of the affected tires in the chart above (Cooper Evolution H/T, Size 245/70R16). For this tire, the DOT sequence begins with UT9H1J9 --- and ends with a date code (2-digit week and 2-digit year), which is 1723, inclusive. In the example below it is 1723.



The affected tires as manufactured date code portion of the Tire Identification Number (TIN) incorrectly states the week and year of manufacture on the intended outboard side. **The correct week and year of manufacture is 2317 and the subject tires are incorrectly marked 1723.** After the 17th week of 2023, a consumer who has one of these tires could believe it was manufactured in 2023 when it was manufactured in 2017. This incorrect marking could be confusing to the consumer because Cooper Tire recommends that tires be replaced if 10 years have passed since the date of manufacture.

Cooper Tire is recalling all of the tires with the identification numbers above. Check your inventory for these specific identification numbers. Effective immediately, you or your dealers must not sell any of the tires listed and described above.

“YOU ARE PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW FROM SELLING OR LEASING NEW OR USED TIRES COVERED BY THIS NOTIFICATION.”

If a dealer knowingly sells or leases new or used recalled tires, that sale must be reported to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, NHTSA, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20590, within five working days after a person to whom the sale or lease has been made has taken possession of that tire. The required contents for such report are provided in NHTSA’s regulation at 49 C.F.R. § 573.10.

You should also comply with the following instructions regarding the return of new and used recall tires at no charge in accordance with such provisions.

PROCEDURE FOR RETURN AND CREDIT OF RECALLED TIRES

NEW TIRES:

All recalled new tires existing in your inventory, or in your sub-dealers' inventories, should be returned immediately in one shipment, freight collect to the designated inspection point for your area as indicated on the attached map. To assure proper handling, these tires should be listed on the standard Manufacturer's Tire Claim Form. In order to expedite the sorting and crediting process, please use a crayon and write the words, "New Recall" on the sidewall of the tire and on the Claim Form in the comments section.

Upon verification by Cooper Tire that the tires returned are within the recall group, we will issue credit to you based upon your last invoice price of the tires.

USED TIRES:

Cooper Tire's registration records are being searched and consumers who have purchased tires with the subject identification number(s) are being notified of the RECALL. Attached for your information is a copy of the notification being sent to such consumers. Tires removed from consumer vehicles as a result of this RECALL should be replaced with tires of like size and construction bearing identification numbers other than those listed above.

We have advised the consumer to return their recalled tire(s) and this letter to you. If your inspection verifies that the consumer has a tire(s) with the suspect identification number, the tire(s) should be replaced, mounted and balanced at no charge, if presented for remedy within one-hundred and eighty (180) days after (i) receipt of this letter or (ii) notice that a replacement tire(s) is available (if not available at the time of the inspection). It is expected that replacement tire(s) will be available at the time of inspection. Please ensure that you have the correct replacement tires in inventory. However, if the tires are not available at the time of inspection, they will be available within twenty-one (21) days. After expiration of the one-hundred and eighty (180) days, tires will be replaced under our normal adjustment policy.

We have advised the consumer that it will take approximately thirty (30) minutes each to replace the recalled tires. For any tires removed from consumer vehicles during such one-hundred and eighty (180) day period, Cooper Tire will authorize an allowance of \$17.50 per tire to cover mounting and balancing.

Tires removed from consumer vehicles must be listed on our standard Manufacturer's Tire Claim Form. The Claim Form must be properly completed and signed by the consumer and the consumer's copy of the recall letter attached.

For the purpose of the RECALL, the Claim Form must include RECALL tires only. The word "RECALL" must be printed directly across from the name and address on the claim form in the comments section. All tires should be identified in crayon with the Claim Form reference number per standard adjustment procedures. Also, please write the words, "Used Recall" on the sidewall of the tire.

Upon verification by Cooper Tire, credit will be issued to you on a no charge replacement basis if replaced by you and returned to Cooper on or before two hundred and ten (210) days after notice of this RECALL.

All Claim Forms for both "New Recall" and "Used Recall" tire(s) should be mailed to Cooper Tire & Rubber Company using the standard tire adjustment procedures. Please mail the claim forms one to two days before shipping the tires. Remember: DO NOT ship the Claim Forms with the tires.

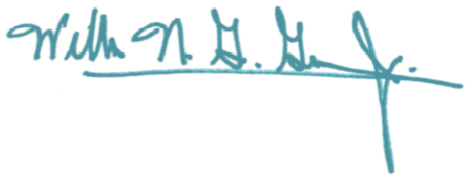
Within 24 hours of receiving a tire covered by this Recall or identifying a tire covered by this Recall in your inventory, any such tire should be rendered unsuitable for resale for installation on motor vehicles. Examples of this includes but are not limited to: cut one or two beads completely through in two places 180 degrees apart; or make one or more 6" (minimum length) circumferential cut in one sidewall or shoulder completely through the carcass.

You should return in one shipment all recalled new and used tires to the inspection point as indicated on the attached map. These tires should be classified as SCRAP and shipped as SCRAP RUBBER TIRES, freight collect. Freight collect privileges apply only within the prescribed time period. Any tires returned after the designated time will be handled under our regular tire adjustment procedures.

Cooper Tire requests that you advise it of those customers of yours, if any, who have purchased any of the tires described above for which registration forms have not previously been submitted so that such customers can be advised of the recall and the replacement of their recalled tires can be scheduled.

We certainly apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. If you have any questions pertaining to the implementation of this RECALL or need assistance, please contact the Cooper Tire Consumer Relations Department at 800-854-6288

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William N. G. Geaman, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

William N. G. Geaman, Jr.
Manager, Consumer Quality Systems

Attachments:

Cooper Tire Draft Consumer Letter
RIP Map