

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 22T-021

**Manufacturer Name :** Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations**Submission Date :** DEC 23, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22T-021**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations

Number of potentially involved : 8,464

Address : 200 4th Avenue South

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Nashville TN 37201

Company phone : 1-800-847-3272

**Tire Information :**

Tire Brand 1 : Firestone

Tire Line : Destination LE2

Tire Size : P265/65R17 110S

**Descriptive Information :** This is a highway all-season passenger tire. The potentially impacted tires may contain bead cuts/tears caused by one of the de-palletizers at a Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC ("BATO") plant in Wilson, NC, between July 22, 2022 and August 8, 2022. A de-palletizer is not part of the manufacturing process – it unstacks tires and loads them individually to a conveyor and onto a trailer for shipment.

The potentially impacted Destination LE2 tires were shipped only to Toyota as original equipment for the Toyota Tacoma. Tires for the replacement channel do not pass through a de-palletizer and are not affected by this condition. Up to 1,620 tires of this tire model/size passed through the affected de-palletizer. Of those 1,620 tires, only a small portion came into contact with the exposed sharp edge of the de-palletizer that caused the potential condition. However, owners of 1,620 tires of this tire model/size produced during the stated production date range will need to be notified of this issue and instructed on how to identify potentially impacted tires.

Production Dates : JUN 19, 2022 - JUL 16, 2022

**TIN (Tire Identification Number)**

Plant ID	Size code	Optional Code	Begin M Code	End M Code
W2	AH	DE3	2522	2822

Tire Brand 2 : Bridgestone  
Tire Line : Alenza Sport A/S  
Tire Size : 235/55R20 102V

**Descriptive Information :** This is a cross-over/SUV/touring all-season passenger tire. The potentially impacted tires may contain bead cuts/tears caused by one of the de-palletizers at a BATO plant in Wilson, NC, between July 22, 2022 and August 8, 2022. A de-palletizer is not part of the manufacturing process – it unstacks tires and loads them individually to a conveyor and onto a trailer for shipment. The potentially impacted Alenza Sport A/S tires were shipped only to Toyota as original equipment for the Toyota Highlander. Tires for the replacement channel do not pass through a de-palletizer and are not affected by this condition. Only 3,373 tires of this tire model/size passed through the affected de-palletizer. Of those 3,373 tires, only a small portion came into contact with the exposed sharp edge of the de-palletizer that caused the potential condition. However, owners of 6,768 tires of this tire model/size produced during the stated production date range will need to be notified of this issue and instructed on how to identify potentially impacted tires.

Production Dates : JUN 12, 2022 - JUL 09, 2022

**TIN (Tire Identification Number)**

Plant ID	Size code	Optional Code	Begin M Code	End M Code
1W2	8A	ALA1	2422	2722

Tire Brand 3 : Bridgestone  
Tire Line : Turanza EL440  
Tire Size : 235/50R18 97V

**Descriptive Information :** This is a grand touring all-season passenger tire. The potentially impacted tires may contain bead cuts/tears caused by one of the de-palletizers at a BATO plant in Wilson, NC, between July 22, 2022 and August 8, 2022. A de-palletizer is not part of the manufacturing process – it unstacks tires and loads them individually to a conveyor and onto a trailer for shipment.

The potentially impacted Turanza EL440 tires were shipped only to Honda as original equipment for the Acura TLX. Tires for the replacement channel do not pass through a de-palletizer and are not affected by this condition.

Only 71 tires of this tire model/size passed through the affected de-palletizer. Of those 71 tires, only a small portion came into contact with the exposed sharp edge of the de-palletizer that caused the potential condition. However, owners of 76 tires of this tire model/size produced during the stated production date range will need to be notified of this issue and instructed on how to identify potentially impacted tires.

**Production Dates :** JUN 20, 2021 - JUL 03, 2021

### TIN (Tire Identification Number)

Plant ID	Size code	Optional Code	Begin M Code	End M Code
1W2	1P	JB21	2521	2621

### Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** Bridgestone has determined that a small quantity of tires may have sustained cuts/tears to the inner liner rubber in the bead area during the tire sorting and loading process. These cuts/tears could expose body ply cords or bead wires, which could cause the tire to lose air or lead to damage within the tire.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** If this condition remains undetected, air and moisture could migrate within the tire and damage the belts or bead wires. This damage could cause a rapid air loss, potentially leading to loss of vehicle control and an increased risk of a crash.

**Description of the Cause :** A protective plastic “shoe,” at the base of a robotic arm used to unstack tires, rotated out of position. This exposed a sharp edge on the robotic arm of the de-palletizer to the inside of certain tires. The bead areas of a small quantity of tires may have been cut by this edge during the unstacking process. Only tires that passed through the impacted de-palletizer between July 22, 2022 and August 8, 2022 were potentially exposed to this edge.

**Identification of Any Warning :** Tires with cuts/tears in the bead area could lose air. Vehicles equipped with a Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) may detect and notify drivers of a

that can Occur : loss of tire air pressure at higher-than-normal rates. If undetected, damage could progress over time and tires could exhibit noise, vibration, handling disturbance, sidewall bulges, and/or irregular tread wear.

## Involved Components :

Component Name : N/A

Component Description : N/A

Component Part Number : N/A

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

## Chronology :

August 10, 2022: Toyota mounting facility notified BATO of a potential bead cut/tear condition observed in a small quantity of tires.

August 11, 2022: BATO authorized a third-party sort at two Toyota mounting facilities. BATO requested that Toyota return any potentially impacted tires to BATO.

August 12, 2022 – Late September 2022: A product freeze on potentially impacted tire inventory was initiated. BATO conducted an investigation into this issue, including root cause analysis and evaluation of the potential safety risks related to this condition.

Late September 2022 – Mid-October 2022: BATO conducted a lot trace to identify potentially affected tires that were shipped to its customers.

October 26, 2022: Bridgestone's Quality Committee (QC) met and recommended a voluntary recall of the affected tires.

October 27, 2022: BATO senior management approved the QC's recommendation to voluntarily recall the affected tires.

BATO is not aware of any accidents, injuries or consumer complaints related to this condition.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : Owners of the potentially impacted tires will be instructed to take their vehicle to a Bridgestone/Firestone retailer for inspection. Tires exhibiting this condition upon inspection will be replaced with a comparable Bridgestone or Firestone brand tire or other suitable replacement at no charge. Retailers will be notified of their responsibilities under 49 CFR part 573.6(c)(9). All of the potentially impacted tires remain under the manufacturer's warranty. Therefore, under 49 CFR 577.11(e), BATO requests an exemption from the reimbursement plan requirements.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The replacement tires will not contain the potential bead cut/tear condition because BATO identified and remedied the root cause.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The affected de-palletizer has been out of service since August 9, 2022. Therefore, tires shipped from the Wilson, NC plant after August 8, 2022 do not have the potential bead cut/tear condition.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : All known customers and Bridgestone/Firestone retailers will receive notification of the recall, instructions on how to identify the potentially impacted tires, information regarding the removal of the impacted tires from service, and instructions on the return and disposal of the impacted tires. Notifications will be sent in accordance with the stated "Planned Dealer Notification Date" and "Planned Owner Notification Date." Acura TLX customers will be notified according to the schedule in DIR 22V950 filed by American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 06, 2022 - DEC 15, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 21, 2022 - JAN 03, 2023

**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 : American Honda Motor Co.

Address : 1919 Torrance Blvd  
Torrance CA 90501

Country : US

Company Phone : 8882342138

Name : Toyota Motor North America Inc.

Address : 6565 Headquarters Dr.  
Plano TX 75024

Country : US

Company Phone : 8003314331

\* NR - Not Reported