



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 12, 2023

Mr. Glenn Leonardi
Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC
10 Sheridan Drive
Tonawanda, NY 14150

NEF-107HG
23T-010

Subject: Tire Sidewall May Have Puncture/FMVSS 139

Dear Mr. Leonardi:

This letter serves to acknowledge Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FALKEN/WILDPEAK AT3W/265/70R17 115T
FALKEN/WILDPEAK HT02/LT235/85R16 120/116S

Mfr's Report Date: December 7, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23T-010

Components:

TIRES:SIDEWALL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,900

Problem Description:

Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC (Sumitomo) is recalling certain Falken Wildpeak AT3W with size 265/70R17 115T and Wildpeak HT02 with size LT235/85R16 120/116S tires. Due to a manufacturing error, the tires may have a puncture in the sidewall and leak air. As such, these tires fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 139, "New Pneumatic Radial Tires for Light Vehicles."

Consequence:

A loss of air pressure can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Dealers will replace the affected tires, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed January 11, 2024. Owners may contact Sumitomo customer service at 1-877-763-0416.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Sumitomo Rubber USA, LLC's contact for this recall will be Hensly Guerra who may be reached by email at hensly.guerra1@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement