



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 24, 2012

MR. D E STANLEY
VICE PRESIDENT
PRODUCT QUALITY & PLANT TECHNOLOGY
THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
1144 EAST MARKET STREET
AKRON, OH 44316

NVS-215kjs
12T-003

SUBJECT: PARTIAL TREAD SEPARATION

DEAR MR. STANLEY:

This letter serves to acknowledge The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company's (Goodyear) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the tires 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.

Tires/Tire Brands/Tire Sizes:

GOODYEAR /WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR/LT325/60R18 LRE
GOODYEAR /WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR/LT235/80R17 LRE
GOODYEAR /WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR/LT245/75R17 LRE
GOODYEAR /WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR/LT275/70R18 LRE
GOODYEAR /WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR/LT265/70R17 LRE
GOODYEAR /WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR/LT285/70R17 LRD

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12T-003 **Mfg's Report Date:** February 22, 2012

Components: TIRES:TREAD/BELT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 40,915

Summary:

GOODYEAR IS RECALLING CERTAIN WRANGLER SILENT ARMOR TIRES, SIZES LT235/80R17 LRE, LT325/60R18 LRE, LT275/70R18 LRE, LT265/70R17 LRE, LT245/75R17 LRE, AND LT285/70R17 LRD, PRODUCED FROM THE 9TH WEEK OF 2009, THROUGH THE 22ND WEEK OF 2009 (MARCH 31ST THROUGH MAY 31ST). THESE TIRES MAY EXPERIENCE A PARTIAL TREAD AREA SEPARATION UNDER CERTAIN SEVERE USAGE CONDITIONS.

Consequence:

PARTIAL TREAD SEPARATION COULD LEAD TO VEHICLE DAMAGE WHEN THE SEPARATED TREAD STRIKES THE VEHICLE. A TREAD SEPARATION COULD ALSO CAUSE A TIRE FAILURE THAT COULD RESULT IN A MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH.

Remedy:

GOODYEAR WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPLACE THE TIRES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE MARCH 22, 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT GOODYEAR AT 1-800-592-3267.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please provide Goodyear's understanding as to what is the cause of the tread separation on these tires.

Please be reminded of the following:

We have received Goodyear's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete. 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).

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jennifer" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Timian".

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement