



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Mr. Richard D. Teeple
General Counsel
Cooper Tire & Rubber Company
Lima & Western Avenues
Findlay, OH 45540

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

NSA-11paw
99T-004

MAR - 9 1999

Dear Mr. Teeple:

We have reviewed Cooper Tire & Rubber Company's (Cooper) Defect Information Report dated February 19, 1999, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 216 Cooper (148) Cobra Radial G/T P215/70R14 (Serial Nos. 3DHYC28468, 478, 488) manufactured from November 15, through December 5, 1998; and (68) Viper Radial GT P215/70R14 (Serial Nos. 3DHYUDN468 and 478) manufactured from November 15, through November 28, 1998. These tires may not have adequate rubber coverage of the belt edge due to low tread gauge under the shoulder slots. If separation is not detected, continued use can cause the ply cords to break and the tubeless liner to tear losing the inflating air. The assigned ID Number for this recall is 99T-004 (Cooper Recall No. 106).

Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within 1 month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers begins. Also, as stated in your report, dealer/owner notification letter mailing is expected to begin March 1, 1999. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due April 30, 1999.

Also, in every quarterly report, we request that Cooper identify, separately, the number of tires which were returned or otherwise remedied from manufacturer, distributor, and dealer/retailer inventory from that returned or otherwise addressed by the tire owners.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5227 or by fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jonathan D. White, Chief
Recall Analysis Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Safety Assurance

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF
DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. ~~99T-004~~ by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

FEB 24 1999

Part 573 Report Date: February 19, 1999

MANUFACTURER: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: Richard D. Teeple, Vice President and General Counsel

FAX: (419) 424-7320

SUBJECT: 216 Cooper (148) Cobra Radial G/T P215/70R14 (Serial Nos. 3DHYC28468, 478, 488) manufactured from November 15, through December 5, 1998; and (68) Viper Radial GT P215/70R14 (Serial Nos. 3DHYUDN468 and 478) manufactured from November 15, through November 28, 1998. These tires may not have adequate rubber coverage of the belt edge due to low tread gauge under the shoulder slots. If separation is not detected, continued use can cause the ply cords to break and the tubeless liner to tear losing the inflating air. *Cooper Campaign No. 106.*

This is an initial acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

We have reviewed your draft owner/dealer notification letters and they meet the requirements of Part 577.

Also, as stated in your report, dealer/owner notification letter mailing is expected to begin March 1, 1999. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due April 30, 1999.

If you have any questions, please call:



Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst or Jonathan White, Chief
on (202) 366-5227 or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Analysis Division