

JAN - 9 2001

Mr. Robert J. Wyant
Division Vice President, Corporate Quality Assurance
Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.
50 Century Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37214

NSA-11kjs
01T-001

Dear Mr. Wyant:

We have reviewed Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.'s (Bridgestone/Firestone) Defect Information Report dated January 2, 2001, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 8,000 Firestone Wilderness LE tires (both black and raised white letter tires) produced during the week of April 24, 2000 (the seventeenth week of 2000) at the Cuernavaca, Mexico plant with tire Serial Numbers V672WL11700 (black sidewall) and V672WL21700 (raised white letters). These tires were used as original equipment on model year 2000 Yukon XL 1500 Series vehicles and were also offered as optional equipment on the 2000 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 Series vehicles. Tread separation can occur due to a lack of adhesion between the wire and skim compound in the first steel belt. Tread belt separation may be evidenced by irregular wear, noise, or vibration. With continued use, it may lead to complete separation of the tread/belt package from the tire carcass, possibly resulting in a vehicle crash, personal injury, or death. *The assigned NHTSA identification number for this campaign is 01T-001.*

Bridgestone/Firestone is responsible for the remedy of these tires from this date forward, regardless of age or ownership.

Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. The current calendar quarter began on January 1 and ends on March 31, 2001. It is our understanding that Bridgestone/Firestone will begin owner notification in January 2001. Therefore, Bridgestone/Firestone's first quarterly report will be due by April 30, 2001.

The following chart provides due dates for each of the six quarterly reports.

<u>QUARTER</u>	<u>QUARTER BEGINS</u>	<u>QUARTER ENDS</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
1 st Quarter	January 1, 2001	March 31, 2001	April 30, 2001
2 nd Quarter	April 1, 2001	June 30, 2001	July 30, 2001
3 rd Quarter	July 1, 2001	September 30, 2001	October 30, 2001
4 th Quarter	October 1, 2001	December 31, 2001	January 30, 2002
5 th Quarter	January 1, 2002	March 31, 2002	April 30, 2002
6 th Quarter	April 1, 2002	June 30, 2002	July 31, 2002

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kelly Schuler at (202) 366-5227 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,



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

cc: Paul Jackson Rice
Counsel for Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.
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