

Part 573 Report

- **Manufactures Name:**
 - **Guizhou Tyre I/E Co. LTD**
41 Bai Hua Ave
Guiyang, Guizhou, P.R. China 550001
Virginia Che: 86-851-683-4818

- **Corporate Official, Designated Agent, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this notification and the person preparing this report:**
 - **Mark A. Lammlein**
Vice President
GTC North America, Inc.
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- **Tires containing the noncompliance:**
 - **ADVANCE EXTRA GRIP AR215**
 - **Size: P235/75R15**
 - **Manufactures date: September 2008 through December 2009**

- **Total number of tires potentially containing the noncompliance:**
 - **12,289**

- **Approximate percentage of tires to be actually recalled for noncompliance:**
 - **Unknown. We expect the percentage of the tires affected to be very small due to the age of the tires in service. There were 4 distributors that purchased this tire.**

- **Description of the noncompliance:**
 - **An air bubble on the sidewall of the tire could occur indicating a separation. Location could be anywhere on the sidewall of the tire or anywhere on the tread area. Also tread chunking could occur with the belt edge exposed resulting in air loss.**

- **Chronology of events:**
 - NHTSA randomly tested 3 tires and found that 1 tire had a high speed failure, 2 tires had endurance failures. We were notified by NHTSA on December 5, 2011 concerning these failures. Until this time we were not aware of any defects with this tire. We were advised that the tires did not comply with the requirements of FMVSS No. 139 S6.3.2(a) and FMVSS No. 139 S6.2.2(a).
 - This tire is no longer in production, there are no similar tires being produced. In December 2009 the factory exited this business due to the 421 proclamation.
 - We were notified by NHTSA in December of 2011 of a possible defect in the tire. We were asked to fill out a questionnaire and submit to NHTSA. After our submission we were notified on February 29, 2012 of the recall. As of this time we were not aware of any issues with this tire. We have had no warranty claims, no customer complaints, no injuries or no fatalities resulting from the use of this tire. This tire, in fact the entire line of light truck radial tires, was discontinued by Guizhou Tyre in December 2009 and no similar tires are being produced.

- **Remedy Plan:**
 - Distributors who purchased these tires will be notified of this action no later than March 30, 2012.
 - Notification letters will be sent to NHTSA for review and approval prior to being sent to our distributors advising them of their responsibilities concerning this recall
 - All of these recalled tires, identified in this date range, will be replaced at no charge to the distributor.
 - The distributor will be requested with an equal or better tire from one another manufacturer since this tire line was discontinued from production in 2009 and we do not manufacture any similar tires.
 - Upon proof of purchase and return of noncompliant tires, freight collect to GTC North America, full reimbursement will be made including any charges for mounting and balancing.
 - All tires return to GTC North America will be shredded by a local tire shredding company and used for recycling.
 - There have been no previous adjustments of this tire by Guizhou Tyre.