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By Recall Management Division at 9:03 am, Apr 02, 2012



12T-007  
(3 pages)

March 30, 2012

**SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
**NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION**  
400 7th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Gentlemen:

Guizhou Tyre Coporation has decided that a non-compliance which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in two thousand six hundred and sixty three (2,663) tires as set forth in the attached Defect and Noncompliance Information Report dated March 30, 2012.

A copy of this letter, with attachments, is being emailed to the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) for review by ODI of the proposed owner notification letters pursuant to 49 CFR Section 573.6(c)(10). We are asking ODI to approve the sample owner letters. Hard copy will follow. Unless advised otherwise by ODI, owner notification will begin April 9, 2012. Copies of the appropriate notification to dealers and customers are attached as exhibits in response to Item 9 of the Defect and Noncompliance Information Report.

GTC North America will provide the required quarterly report on the status of the above-mentioned campaign.

Please advise of the NHTSA assigned campaign number.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brooke Ott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brooke Ott

Attachments

cc: Office of Defects Investigation  
Department of Transportation  
**NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION**  
400 7th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590  
Fax Number 202/366-7882

**DEL-NAT TIRE CORPORATION**  
**DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT**

DATE: 3/30/2012

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.:

DEL-NAT NO.: DN-12-0329

**1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER**

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Guizhou Tyre I/E Co. LTD

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

**BRAND NAME**

**OWNER**

Chaparral Radial XT

Del-Nat Tire Corporation

**2. POTENTIAL NUMBER OF AFFECTED TIRES** (Including a description of the basis for the determination of the recall population and a description of how these items differ from similar items not included in the recall):

<b>Description (including size)</b>	<b>Inclusive Dates of Manufacture (week and year)</b>	<b>Number of Potentially Affected Units</b>	<b>Estimated Percent Containing Defect or Non-compliance</b>
P235/75R15 Chaparral Radial XT	September 2008 through December 2009	2,663	100%

**3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:** 2,663

**4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT:** 100.0%

**5. DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE** (Including brief summary and detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of nature and physical location of the defect or 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.

**6. CHRONOLOGY OF ALL PRINCIPLE EVENTS THAT WERE THE BASIS FOR THE EXISTENCE OF A SAFETY RELATED DEFECT** (Including a summary of all warranty claims, field service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt):

- NHTSA randomly tested three (3) tires and found that one (1) tire had a high speed failure and two (2) tires had endurance failures. GTC North America, Inc. was notified by NHTSA on December 5, 2011 concerning these failures. GTC North America, Inc. notified Del-Nat Tire Corporation of these failures on March 13, 2012. Until this time we were not aware of any defects with this tire.

**DEL-NAT TIRE CORPORATION**  
**DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT**

Were 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 and there are no similar tires being produced. In December 2009 the factory exited this business due to the 421 proclamation.
- GTC North America, Inc. was notified by NHTSA in December of 2011 of a possible defect in the tire. They were asked to fill out a questionnaire and submit to NHTSA. After the submission they 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 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.

**7. COMPLIANCE TESTING OR OTHER DATA THAT WAS THE BASIS FOR DETERMINING THE EXISTENCE OF NONCOMPLIANCE:**

The existence of the condition was determined by NHTSA after testing three (3) random tires.

**8. STATEMENT OF MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO REMEDY THE DEFECT OR NONCOMPLIANCE:**

- Distributors who purchased these tires will be notified of this action no later than April 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 replaced with an equal or better tire from another manufacturer since this tire line was discontinued from production in 2009 and we do not have any similar tires being manufactured.
- 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 returned 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.