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By Recall Management Division at 9:24 am, Jun 08, 2012

12T-010
(11 pages)



COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
701 Lima Avenue • Findlay, OH 45840-2315

JACK JAY McCracken
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Phone: 419.424.4333
Fax: 419.831.6893
EMail: jjmccracken@coopertire.com

June 5, 2012

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED 7160 3901 9846 3710 4601

Associate Administrator for Enforcement

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

West Building

Washington, D.C. 20590

Gentlemen:

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company has decided that a defect exists in ten thousand two hundred thirty-six (10,236) tires as set forth in the attached Defect and Noncompliance Information Report dated May 30, 2012.

These tires are being voluntarily recalled.

A copy of this letter, with attachments, is being faxed 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 11, 2012. Three 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.

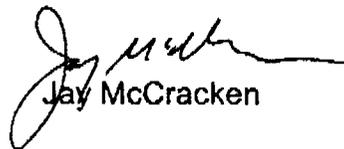
Our envelope format for owner recall notification letters as required under 49 CFR 577.5(a) has been previously approved by ODI.

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
June 5, 2012
Page 2

Cooper 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,



Jay McCracken

JJM/klb
Attachments

cc: Office of Defects Investigation "NSA-10"
Department of Transportation
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
West Building
Washington, D.C. 20590
Fax Number 202/366-1767
Attn: Mr. George Person
Recall Management Regulations

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

BRAND NAME

OWNER

See Attachments 1A – 1G

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):

<u>Description (including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates (week and year) of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of Potentially Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent Containing Defect or Noncompliance</u>
P265/70R17, 265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires	UT 0112 Jan. 1, 2012 – Jan. 7, 2012	7,198	≤ 2.0%
LT235/85R16 Load Range E Tubeless Radial tires	UT 5011 Dec. 11, 2011 -- Dec. 17, 2011	3,038	≤ 2.0%

The recall population was based on the field return data and a review of our production records. The tires being recalled differ from similar items in that they were molded with a different DOT serial week and year in accordance with 49 CFR 574.5.

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 10,236

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

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):

The affected tires may contain an unauthorized stock in the tread. The presence of this material may precipitate the formation of voids which could result in early life tread separations.

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):

We have received reports from several dealers regarding the subject tires developing early life tread separations when placed in service.

Cooper launched an internal investigation to determine what occurred and what tires were affected. The result of this investigation indicated that on December 12, 2011 and again on January 4, 2012 a project extrusion was run on the tread line. When completed, the extruder head was not properly converted back to production configuration which resulted in a small amount of non-standard stock being "mixed" with the specified tread stock. Based upon our review of production data, we estimate that a small percentage of tread was suspect and used to produce tires.

Compound reconstruction analysis conducted on adjusted tires provided conclusive evidence that the non-standard stock did pass through the extruder during these production runs of tread.

Cooper is voluntarily recalling the 10,236 tires.

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

This action was initiated based on our field adjustment data, property damage claims data, and our internal review of production data.

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

The 10,236 recalled tires with the affected DOT serial week identification numbers are to be shipped to one of our regional inspection points where they will be scrapped.

9. **ENCLOSURES, IF ANY** (Three copies of all notices, bulletins and other communications that were sent to more than one distributor, dealer or purchaser and relate directly to the defect or noncompliance):

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1A

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

BRAND NAME

OWNER

COOPER DISCOVERER H/T

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

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):

<u>Description (including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates (week and year) of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of Potentially Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent Containing Defect or Noncompliance</u>
P265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires COOPER DISCOVERER H/T	UTT6C5U0112 Jan. 1, 2012 – Jan. 7, 2012	5,194	≤ 2.0%
LT235/85R16 Load Range E Tubeless Radial tires COOPER DISCOVERER H/T	UT0RC5M5011 Dec. 11, 2011 – Dec. 17, 2011	1,740	≤ 2.0%
COOPER DISCOVERER H/T	UT0R1BH5011 Dec. 11, 2011 – Dec. 17, 2011	697	≤ 2.0%

3. **TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:** 7,631

4. **TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT:** ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1B

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

<u>BRAND NAME</u>	<u>OWNER</u>
COOPER DISCOVERER LSX	COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

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):

<u>Description (including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates (week and year) of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of Potentially Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent Containing Defect or Noncompliance</u>
265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires			
COOPER DISCOVERER LSX	UT1 YCL70112 Jan. 1, 2012 -- Jan. 7, 2012	76	≤ 2.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 76

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1C

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

<u>BRAND NAME</u>	<u>OWNER</u>
DELTA A/S SIERRADIAL	DELNAT 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):

<u>Description</u> <u>(including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates</u> <u>(week and year)</u> <u>of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Potentially</u> <u>Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent</u> <u>Containing Defect</u> <u>or Noncompliance</u>
265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires			
DELTA A/S SIERRADIAL	UT1YWHD0112 Jan. 1, 2012 – Jan. 7, 2012	350	≤ 2.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 350

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1D

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

BRAND NAME

OWNER

NATIONAL A/S COMMANDO

DELNAT 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):

<u>Description</u> <u>(including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates</u> <u>(week and year)</u> <u>of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Potentially</u> <u>Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent</u> <u>Containing Defect</u> <u>or Noncompliance</u>
265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires			
NATIONAL A/S COMMANDO	UT1YWHA0112 Jan. 1, 2012 – Jan. 7, 2012	98	≤ 2.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 98

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1E

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

<u>BRAND NAME</u>	<u>OWNER</u>
DEFINITY DAKOTA H/T	PEP BOYS

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):

<u>Description (including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates (week and year) of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of Potentially Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent Containing Defect or Noncompliance</u>
P265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires			
DEFINITY DAKOTA H/T	UTT6PA70112 Jan. 1, 2012 – Jan. 7, 2012	537	≤ 2.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 537

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1F

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

BRAND NAME

OWNER

SIGMA STAMPEDE RADIAL SUV

TBC 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):

<u>Description</u> <u>(including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates</u> <u>(week and year)</u> <u>of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Potentially</u> <u>Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent</u> <u>Containing Defect</u> <u>or Noncompliance</u>
P265/70R17 Standard Load Tubeless Radial tires			
SIGMA STAMPEDE RADIAL SUV	UTT6TX60112 Jan. 1, 2012 ~ Jan. 7, 2012	943	≤ 2.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 943

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
DEFECT AND NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

ATTACHMENT 1G

DATE: 5/30/12

NHTSA CAMPAIGN NO.

COOPER NO. 156

1. NAME OF MANUFACTURER

A. Fabricating Manufacturer: Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

B. Brand Name or Trademark Owner:

BRAND NAME

OWNER

MASTERCRAFT COURSER HTR

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

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):

<u>Description (including size)</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates (week and year) of Manufacture</u>	<u>Number of Potentially Affected Units</u>	<u>Estimated Percent Containing Defect or Noncompliance</u>
LT235/85R16 Load Range E Tubeless Radial tires			
MASTERCRAFT COURSER HTR	UT0RFL85011 Dec. 11, 2011 – Dec. 17, 2011	601	≤ 2.0%

3. TOTAL UNITS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 601

4. TOTAL ESTIMATED PERCENT CONTAINING DEFECT: ≤ 2.0%