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May 13, 2021

Sent via UPS overnight letter

Steven Cliff
Acting Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Continental Tire the Americas, LLC – Petition for Exemption
based
on an Inconsequential Noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle
Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 574.

Dear Mr. Cliff,

On April 20, 2021, Continental Tire the Americas, LLC (“CTA”), submitted a Noncompliance Information Report to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). This is a noncompliance with the FMVSS number 574, “Tire Identification & Recordkeeping.”

CTA seeks exemption from the notice and remedy requirements of the Motor Vehicle Safety Act, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30118(d) and § 30120(h) and 49 CFR Part 556, on the basis that the noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

1. Background

CTA determined that six tires with a partially missing DOT identification were sold into the U.S. market missing the 3-digit plant code and the 6-digit manufacturers identification number. Three of these tires were located prior to reaching the general public and returned to CTA by a CTA tire dealer. Three tires remain in the U.S. market.

1. Michelin North America, Inc., Grant of Inconsequential Noncompliance.
Federal Register/ Vol.85 [Docket No. NHTSA-2019-0013, Notice 2] June 22, 2020.

Under section VI. NHTSA's Analysis, the determination was made that: "*The DOT symbol is stamped within the TIN code and still readily available in case an end-user would be in search of the DOT symbol as a sign of the certification of the subject tires. The symbol DOT is marked on the tire and accurately communicates the manufacturer's certification that the tire conforms to FMVSS No. 139.*"

2. Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, Grant of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance.
Federal Register/ Vol.82 [Docket No. NHTSA-2017-0027, Notice 2] November 15, 2017.
3. Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, Grant of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance.
Federal Register/ Vol.82 [Docket No. NHTSA-2016-0071, Notice 2] April 11, 2017.

General Considerations:

All tires covered by this petition meet or exceed the performance requirements of FMVSS No. 139, as well as the other labeling requirements of the standard.

CTA quarantined all existing inventory of these tires containing the noncompliant tire sidewall labeling with only three tires remaining in the market.

The DOT noncompliance was limited to the initial production tires made only during week 1020. All tires of this model produced after week 1020 have a complete DOT TIN marking.

CTA is not aware of any tire failures related to performance which resulted in an accident, injury, property damage, customer complaint, or any field reports associated with the mislabeling.

NHTSA has previously granted petitions for inconsequentiality for similar noncompliant DOT TIN markings.

3. Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, CTA requests NHTSA to decide that the noncompliance identified in this petition is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety, and to



Continental Tire the Americas, LLC

Tire Report

NHTSA ID: 21T007 Transaction ID: 21-00315-25889-11 ()

Required fields indicated with *

Manufacturer: Continental Tire the Americas, LLC

1830 Macmillan Park Drive
Fort Mill SC 29707

[Harald Morgenstern](#) Manager NHTSA Compliance
704-583-4877,

This is a Noncompliance Report. Filing a petition pursuant to [49 CFR 556](#)

Tire Information

General Altimax RT43 175/65R14 82T

- * **Tire Brand:** General
- * **Tire Line:** Altimax RT43
- * **Tire Size:** 175/65R14 82T

Descriptive Information:

Continental Tire determined that six tires with a partially missing DOT number were sold into the USA market. Three of these tires were returned from a dealer which made Continental Tire aware of the noncompliance.

Production Dates Begin: 03/08/2020
End: 03/14/2020

Tire Identification Number (TIN)

* Plant ID code:	* Size code:	Optional code:	* Beg. Date Code:	* End. Date Code:	036
0F	934V	1020	1020		

Number potentially involved: 3 **Estimated percentage of involved with defect:** 100%

Defect / Noncompliance Description

For this Defect/Noncompliance:

* Describe the defect or noncompliance:

The noncompliant tires are missing the three digit Plant code and the six digit Manufacturer's code on both sidewalls of the tires as required under 49 CFR 574.5 Tire Identification Requirements. The tire line, size and county of origin remain identifiable.

* Describe the safety risk:

Inconsequential to Safety

Identify any warning which can precede or occur:

If a noncompliance, provide the applicable FMVSS:

574 - Tire Identification & Recordkeeping

If applicable, provide any further FMVSS affected:

Describe the cause:

These were pre-serial production tires not intended for sale.

This Recall affects all vehicles.

If applicable, identify the manufacturer of the defective or noncompliant component. If the manufacturer of the component is unknown, provide the information for the company that supplied the subject component.

Component manufacturer

Company Information

Company Name:

Country:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip/Postal Code:

Company Contact Information

First Name:

Last Name:

Position:

Email:

Phone:

Involved Components

If the defect or noncompliance involves a specific component(s), identify that component(s) below.

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21T-007

Manufacturer Name : Continental Tire the Americas, LLC**Submission Date :** APR 20, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21T-007**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Continental Tire the Americas, LLC

Address : 1830 Macmillan Park Drive

Fort Mill SC 29707

Company phone : 704-583-4882

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 3

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Tire Information :

Tire Brand 1 : General

Tire Line : Altimax RT43

Tire Size : 175/65R14 82T

Descriptive Information : Continental Tire determined that six tires with a partially missing DOT number were sold into the USA market. Three of these tires were returned from a dealer which made Continental Tire aware of the noncompliance.

Production Dates : MAR 08, 2020 - MAR 14, 2020

TIN (Tire Identification Number)

Plant ID	Size code	Optional Code	Begin M Code	End M Code
036	0F	934V	1020	1020

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : The noncompliant tires are missing the three digit Plant code and the six digit Manufacturer's code on both sidewalls of the tires as required under 49 CFR 574.5 Tire Identification Requirements. The tire line, size and county of origin remain identifiable.

FMVSS 1 : 574 - Tire Identification & Recordkeeping

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Inconsequential to Safety**Description of the Cause :** These were pre-serial production tires not intended for sale.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

NR

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : NR

How Remedy Component Differs
from Recalled Component : NRIdentify How/When Recall Condition
was Corrected in Production : NR**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : NR

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR
Address : NR
NR
Country : NR
Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported