

Vehicle Practice

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TIRE MAINTENANCE & REPLACEMENT

Practice:

INTRODUCTION

This tire practice establishes uniform guidelines for all classes of vehicle tire maintenance, operation and replacement.

In general, "Original Equipment Manufacturer" tires or equivalent are specified for all vehicles for the replacements. In order to achieve maximum economics and efficiency, tire care plays an important role.

It is the responsibility of the operators and supervisors to ensure daily inspections, weekly inflation checks, scheduled maintenance, good driving practices and the guidelines in this practice are carried out.

Used tires must be returned to a tire retailer for disposal.

The practice headings are:

- 1.0 Definition of Tire Terms
- 2.0 Vehicle Operator's and Supervisor's Care and Maintenance
- 3.0 Service Centre and Outside Garage Tire Maintenance
- 4.0 Tread Wear Depth Measurement (Minimums for Replacement)
- 5.0 Retread and New Tire Replacement Guidelines
- 6.0 Procedures for Ordering Tires

1.0 DEFINITION OF TIRE TERMS

1.1 Tire Load Range

Is indicated by a letter shown on the tire, usually shown on orders, etc., immediately following the tire size, for example, L78-15"D". The load range indicates the maximum load to be carried on the tire. On older tires, the term "Ply Rating" was used in place of Load Range.

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Fleet Services



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Load Range can be converted to Ply Rating as Follows

Load Range		Ply Rating
A	=	2 PR
B	=	4 PR
C	=	6 PR
D	=	8 PR
E	=	10 PR
F	=	12 PR
G	=	14 PR
H	=	16 PR

If load range or ply rating are not shown on a tire, the tire capacity is directly shown, such as "2400 lbs. max."

1.2 **Retread Tires**

A tire that has had the old tread removed and a new tread bonded to it.

20 **VEHICLE OPERATOR'S AND SUPERVISOR'S CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

2.1 **Operator Responsibility**

During Daily Inspection a check is made for flats, uneven wear and partially inflated tires. Problems are to be reported to the supervisor.

Weekly, the operator checks the cold air pressure in tires with a gauge. Rated tire pressures are found on placards mounted on door posts, glove boxes, and operators' manual, or if the above is not available, you would check the tire sidewalls.

If excessive tire overheating occurs, a Service Centre or tire shop should be asked to identify and, if necessary, correct it. Pressure build-up in an overheated tire is not to be bled-off as it will cause the air pressure to drop below cold starting pressure when the tire returns to normal.

During driving, sidewall scuffing and damage is to be avoided where possible.

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2.2 **Supervisor's Responsibility**

Monitors the operator to ensure checks are done.

Supervisors arrange work to be done through qualified outside garages or NSPI Vehicle Service Centres.

3.0 **SERVICE CENTRE AND OUTSIDE GARAGE TIRE MAINTENANCE**

3.1 **Rotation of Tires on Single Wheel Vehicles**

To achieve maximum life, tires should be rotated in accordance with the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations. Consult your Owner's Manual.

3.2 **Dual Wheel Tire Rotation**

Dual wheel tires shall be rotated as uneven wear occurs from the inner to the outer position on one side or from the left to right side of the vehicle as required. Rotation of tires, particularly on cornermount derricks, extends the life of tires

4.0 **TIRE TREAD DEPTH (MEASUREMENT)**

The measured amount of tire tread (using a gauge) in 32nd of an inch or millimetres (mm). Readings shall be taken in any two adjacent and most worn major tread grooves of the tire, each being measured at two points of most wear at least 15 inches apart circumferentially. (Use Dill #5059E depth gauge or equivalent.)

4.1 **Tread Wear Depth Minimums**

Tires on vehicles are to be replaced when the tread depth reaches 5/32 or 4mm.

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5.0 RETREAD AND NEW TIRE REPLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

When tread wear depth minimums are reached either purchase new tires or retreads using these guidelines:

Class 1 & 2 vehicles - replace with new tires.

Class 3 vehicles, single wheel radial tires equipped drive axle - Replace with new tires (retreads may be used if approved by the Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor).

Class 3 vehicle, dual wheel radial tire equipped drive axle - Replace with retreads, retreaded casings from the builders stock are acceptable. Do not mix load ranges and tread width; use casing of same manufacturer.

Class 4, 5 & 6 vehicles, radial tire equipped drive axle(s) - replace tires with retreads using our casings. Do not mix load ranges and tread width; use casing of same manufacturer and H load range.

Class 3, 4, 5 & 6 vehicles, radial tire equipped steering axle - replace with new tires, use worn tire casings for rear retreads.

6.0 PROCEDURE FOR ORDERING TIRES

6.1 Who Orders Vehicle Replacement Tires

The supervisor responsible for the vehicle will have replacement tires supplied by the nearest NSPI authorized distributor or, if not practical, make alternate arrangements through the Fleet Maintenance Planner.