

BRIDGESTONE Firestone

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

April 1996

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TBR Sidewall Repair and Identification

Background

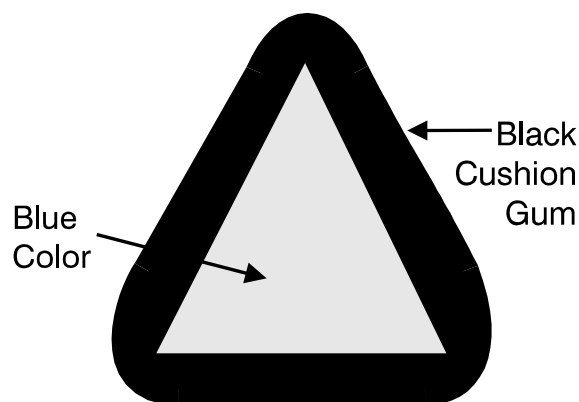
Radial truck tires can successfully be repaired in the sidewall area. When damaged body cord is removed and a reinforcing unit is used in the repair process, a radial sidewall bulge may be visible. In 1984, the Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA) issued a bulletin stating that bulges up to 3/8" in height are permitted when associated with these repairs.

Issue

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) is responsible for inspecting commercial vehicles for safety defects and placing vehicles out of service if defects such as tire separations or exposed cord/fabric are found. The inspectors, in the past have had difficulty distinguishing between sidewall bulges due to repairs (allowed) and tire separations.

Action

In October 1990, the CVSA agreed to accept the use of a blue triangular identification adjacent to a sidewall repair bulge. A vehicle will not be placed out of service if a tire repair bulge is 3/8" or less in height and is identified with an adjacent blue triangle. The retread and repair industry will be incorporating these identification patches into their sidewall repair procedures.



Sample Triangular
Identification Patch

Note: Actual Size