

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

September 8, 2017

Mr. Chris Kennedy VP Finance & Operations Triangle Tire USA 117 Seaboard Lane F100 Franklin, TN 37067 NEF-150KS 17T-014

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Tire may not Hold Air due to Hole/FMVSS 109

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

This letter serves to acknowledge Triangle Tire USA's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

TRIANGLE/TR643/ST225/75R15

Mfr's Report Date: August 16, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17T-014

**Components:** 

**TIRES** 

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 288

## **Problem Description:**

Triangle Tire USA (Triangle) is recalling certain Triangle TR643 tires, size ST225/75R15, with DOT codes of 0517 and 0617 (produced during 5th and 6th weeks of 2017) sold as replacement tires for cargo and recreational trailers. Due to a specific mold irregularity, the tires may have a small hole where the sidewall and the tread meet, resulting in an air leak. As such, these tires fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 109, "New Pneumatic and Certain Specialty Tires."

### **Consequence:**

If the tire does not stay inflated, it can it can lead to tire failure, increasing the risk of a crash.

# Remedy:

Triangle will notify owners, and dealers will replace the tires, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 15, 2017. Owners may contact Triangle customer service at 1-615-610-5050 or find additional information at www.triangletireus.com.

#### **Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

The information in your report suggests that Triangle may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations Enforcement

