



To: All Sumitomo Dealers
From: TBC Corporation Quality Assurance Department
Date: May 11, 2022
Subject: **Important Safety Recall – NHTSA Recall No. 20T020**

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (Safety Act).

Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd. (SRI) has decided that certain Sumitomo brand truck tires do not comply with FMVSS 119, S6.1.2(a). SRI has initiated a voluntary safety recall of these tires. The specific tires subject to the recall are listed in the below affected tire list.

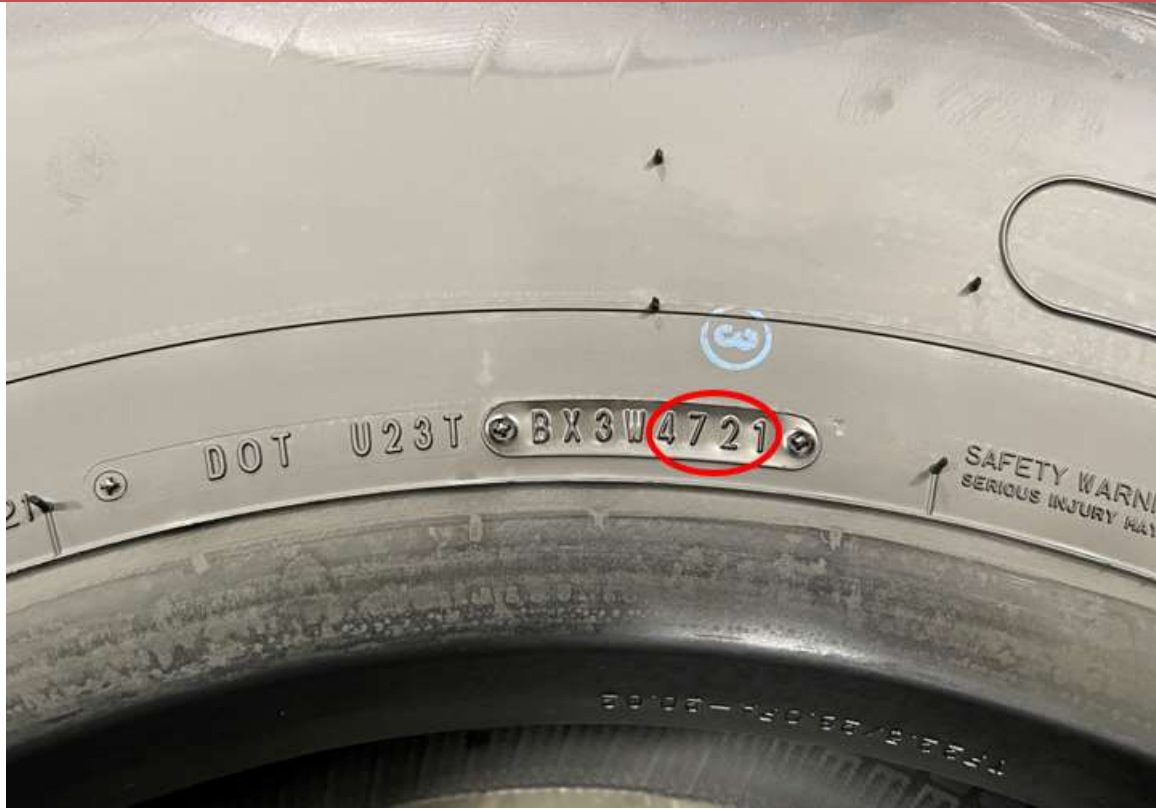
You are receiving this notice because TBC Corporation's* records indicate that you received tires that may be subject to this recall. Further, SRI is required to advise you of certain tire dealer obligations, which are detailed in this notice.

Effective immediately, a stop sale is required for Sumitomo brand tires identified in the attached affected tire list.

The affected tires that are in your dealer inventory, or may be arriving at your dealerships, must be returned to either of our Sumitomo Adjustment Centers in accordance with the instruction in the section of this letter titled **ACTIONS REQUIRED BY DEALERS.**

Affected tires that must be returned are those listed in the attached affected tire list by pattern and size, to include specific manufactured date ranges. For example, if an affected pattern and size tire is listed as showing the manufactured dates are '1120', '1220', and '1320', then under this example, dealers should return all tires showing '1120', '1220', and '1320' as the manufactured date.

The tire's manufacture date is listed in the complete DOT numbers on one side of the tire, with the last four numbers being the week and year manufactured, as shown circled in red below.



The return shipment will be at no charge to you. Any returned inventory will be credited at current cost.

If you have any difficulty identifying an affected tire, please contact our TBC Quality Assurance Department at **800-739-7698**.

What's the Issue:

SRI has determined that some tires among a population of approximately 5,956 Sumitomo truck tires may not meet the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 119, *New pneumatic tires for motor vehicles with a GVWR of more than 4,536 kilograms (10,000 pounds) and motorcycles*. Specifically, subject tires that complete the endurance test in FMVSS 119 S7.2 may be susceptible to developing visible deformation in a single, small area of the bead (near the upper edge of the rim flange). This deformation may violate FMVSS 119 S6.1.2(a).

What SRI is Doing:

Consistent with SRI's longstanding commitment to safety and customer satisfaction and service, owners of any affected tires that match the size, line, the Department of Transportation (DOT) tire identification number (TIN), and the production period provided in the affected tire list are urged to contact a Sumitomo dealer to arrange verification and replacement at no charge through November 21, 2022.

Any tire subject to this recall will be replaced with a comparable Sumitomo tire. In the event that a Sumitomo brand tire is not currently available, a suitable competitive product may be used as a replacement.

Upon receipt of this notice, however, dealers are prohibited under Federal law from continuing to sell any affected tires that remain in their inventory.

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY DEALERS

As a result of this safety recall and federal law, you are required to take the following actions. Examine your tire inventory, and any tires that meet the above description are subject to this recall and cannot be sold. To determine if you have received tires that are included in this recall, please check the DOT TIN found on the sidewall of the tire as explained above. If you have tires that meet the above description, immediately stop the sale. Immediately count your inventory of affected tires and record specific DOT TINs.

Promptly return all recalled tires from your inventory to TBC as per company directions. You will be compensated for all recalled (new) tires that you return from inventory. All tires removed from inventory under this recall campaign must be rendered permanently unserviceable. To render the tire unserviceable, please utilize one of the following three options:

Option 1: Drill a 1” nominal (plus or minus ¼” tolerance) hole through the sidewall using the 1” hole saw. Rotate the recalled tire approximately 180 degrees and drill a second hole through the sidewall. Drilling additional holes beyond the two specified is not necessary. Drilling holes in the other sidewall is not necessary.

Option 2: Cut between body cords in the sidewall area of the tire. The cut shall be a minimum of 3-inches long. Making more than one continuous 3-inch minimum length cut or cutting more than one sidewall is not necessary.

Option 3: Use a “Bead Notching” machine to permanently remove a section of the bead from the tire. It is not necessary to remove more than one section of bead or to remove a section of bead from more than one side of the tire.

Please do not alter the DOT TIN in any way as we will check it to validate that the returned tire meets the recall criteria.

Provide TBC the List of Owners of Recalled Tires

Please check your sales records to determine if you have sold any of the tires listed in the attached table, which are subject to this recall. If you find that you have sold any of the tires covered under this recall, please send the following information for each customer to TBC so that the customer can be added to the voluntary safety recall mailing list:

Customer/Fleet Name:	
Address (street, city, state, ZIP code):	
Date of Sale/Mounting:	
Quantity Sold/Mounted:	

Please send the customer information by email to Scott Davis, Senior Manager of Quality Assurance, at sdavis@tbccorp.com. Please use the subject line: "Recall No. 20T020 Customer Information."

Alternatively, you may mail the customer information to:

TBC / Sumitomo Adjustment Center
Attn: Recall no. 20T020
1000 TBC Way
Rossville, TN 38066

Customers who are identified as potential purchasers of the affected tires will be issued a letter requesting that the owner check their tires to determine if they are subject to the voluntary safety recall. If the customer is unable to determine whether the tires are part of this recall, the customer will be instructed to contact an authorized Sumitomo dealer or call TBC Quality Assurance Department at **800-739-7698**.

Replacement of Mounted Tires

Customers who visit an authorized Sumitomo dealer in connection with this recall must have all tires inspected in order to determine whether the DOT TIN is an exact match as indicated above. Please make sure to check each tire closely. If the DOT TIN does not exactly match the description above, the tire is not part of the recall. Any tire with the DOT TIN described in the affected tire list must be replaced immediately without charge (including mounting and balancing) to the customer. Dealers will be reimbursed \$35 for mounting and balancing for each tire replaced in service.

Please do NOT alter the DOT TIN in any way as we will check it to validate that the returned tire meets the recall criteria. Dealers must secure the recalled tires. All tires removed from service under this recall must be rendered permanently unserviceable. To render the tire unserviceable, please utilize one of the following three options:

Option 1: Drill a 1" nominal (plus or minus ¼" tolerance) hole through the sidewall using the 1" hole saw. Rotate the recalled tire approximately 180 degrees and drill a second hole through the sidewall. Drilling additional holes beyond the two specified is not necessary. Drilling holes in the other sidewall is not necessary.

Option 2: Cut between body cords in the sidewall area of the tire. The cut shall be a minimum of 3-inches long. Making more than one continuous 3-inch minimum length cut or cutting more than one sidewall is not necessary.

Option 3: Use a "Bead Notching" machine to permanently remove a section of the bead from the tire. It is not necessary to remove more than one section of bead or to remove a section of bead from more than one side of the tire.

Claims Procedure:

All new or used affected tires must be returned following the instructions listed below:

All affected tires are to be listed on a separate TBC Adjustment Claim Form #35. Mark “New Recall” on new (never mounted) tires and “Used Recall” on tires removed from service on the sidewall, as well as the claim form.

Ship tires along with the yellow copies used as packing list of the claim to:

**TBC / Sumitomo Adjustment Center
1000 TBC Way
Rossville, TN 38066**

Ship freight collect using the following carrier except in California:

YRC Freight System – 800-610-6500

Freight should be billed to the Rossville, TN warehouse at above address. B/L must be marked “**NMFC item number 157230 Class 110**”

State of California only:

California locations must return adjustment tires using **ESTES** Freight Line. You can access the correct terminal to contact at www.estes-express.com or call TBC’s Adjustment Department for assistance. Tires must be palletized and shrink wrapped. Tires are to be shipped freight collect with third party billing to:

**Account # 0459730
Tire Kingdom
10292 Harry J. Parrish Blvd.
Manassas, VA 20110**

Important: The following statement must appear on the bill of lading: “Class 110 Rubber Tires for Warranty Consideration”.

If you have any questions, please contact TBC’s Quality Assurance Department at **800-739-7698**.

Disposition of Tires Subject to a Safety-Related Recall

SRI is required to advise you of the following information:

IT IS A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW FOR A DEALER TO SELL, LEASE, REUSE, OR RESELL A RECALLED TIRE.

If a dealer knowingly sells or leases new or used recalled tires, the sale must be reported to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590 or call the tollfree Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153); or go to www.nhtsa.gov within five working days of such a release to report the following information:

- 1) A statement that a report is being submitted pursuant to 49 CFR 573.10(a);
- 2) The name, address, and phone number of the person who purchased or leased the tire;
- 3) The name of the manufacturer of the tire;
- 4) The tire's brand name, model name, and size;
- 5) The tire DOT identification number and press identification number;
- 6) The date of the sale or lease; and
- 7) The name, address, and telephone number of the seller or lessor.

These notifications and instructions must be communicated to all employees of this dealership who are involved in the inspection and removal of recalled tires.

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While we regret any inconvenience this may cause, SRI is determined to maintain a high level of tire quality and customer satisfaction.

Please refer all customer inquiries to the TBC Quality Assurance Department at **800-739-7698**.

Affected Tire List

Product Code	Brand	Size/Line	Plant ID	Size Code	Opt Code	DOT Week
5530759	Sumitomo	11R24.5 16PR ST900	U2	4F	6XAW	0920
5532059	Sumitomo	11R24.5 16PR ST528	U2	4F	6XJW	0620/0820/0920
5532052	Sumitomo	11R22.5 16PR ST528	U2	3T	6XJW	1120/1520/1620
5532651	Sumitomo	11R22.5 144/142L ST710SE	U2	3T	5X8W	1020/1120
5532678	Sumitomo	285/75R24.5 144/141L ST710SE	U2	BP	5X8W	0820/1020
5532658	Sumitomo	11R24.5 146/143L ST710SE	U2	4F	5X8W	0420/0520
5532878	Sumitomo	285/75R24.5 144/141L ST778+ SE	U2	BP	5X1W	0420/0820
5532859	Sumitomo	11R24.5 149/146L ST778+ SE	U2	4F	6X1W	0420/0520
5532978	Sumitomo	285/75R24.5 144/141L ST709 SE	U2	BP	5X8W	0420
5532959	Sumitomo	11R24.5 149/146L ST709 SE	U2	4F	6X8W	0620
5531252	Sumitomo	11R22.5 146/144L ST908N	U2	3T	6X3W	1420
5533252	Sumitomo	11R22.5 146/143L ST788SE	U2	3T	6XFW	0720/0820/0920/1020
5533259	Sumitomo	11R24.5 149/146L ST788SE	U2	4F	6XFW	0420/0520/0620/1120/1220
5533278	Sumitomo	285/75R24.5 147/144L ST788SE	U2	BP	6XFW	0820/1020
5533352	Sumitomo	11R22.5 146/143L ST719SE	U2	3T	6X3W	0620/0720/0820/0920/1020
5533359	Sumitomo	11R24.5 149/146L ST719SE	U2	4F	6X3W	0620/0720/1120/1220
5533378	Sumitomo	285/75R24.5 147/144L ST719SE	U2	BP	6X3W	1020
5533178	Sumitomo	285/75R24.5 144/141L ST948SE	U2	BP	5XBW	0420/0820
5533159	Sumitomo	11R24.5 149/146L ST948SE	U2	4F	6XBW	0520

5532459	Sumitomo	11R24.5 149/146L ST938	V4	4F	6XTW	2220
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*TBC Corporation is the exclusive U.S. importer of Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd. (SRI) manufactured Sumitomo brand truck tires.

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4300 TBC Way – Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 – 561-383-3100
www.tbccorp.com