



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

March 27, 2018

Mr. Neil Cole
Les Schwab
20900 Cooley Road
Bend, OR 97701

NEF-150SM
18T-002

Subject: Retread May Separate from Tire

Dear Mr. Cole:

This letter serves to acknowledge Les Schwab'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:

LES SCHWAB/RETREADED TIRES/RS

Mfr's Report Date: March 15, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18T-002

Components:

TIRES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 41,336

Problem Description:

Les Schwab is recalling certain steel-belted radial truck tires that Les Schwab retreaded for their customers. The vulcanizing compound used during the retreading may not have been completely cured, resulting in incomplete adhesion of the tread to tire casing. The potentially affected retreaded tires were manufactured at Les Schwab's three retread facilities during calendar weeks 42 through 50 of 2017 and have the DOTR numbers: RDNJ4217RS - RDNJ5017RS, RNVK4417RS - RNVK5017RS and RCEE4217RS - RCEE5017RS.

Consequence:

The incompletely cured vulcanizing compound can result in the tire tread separating from the tire casing, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Les Schwab will notify the customers that had their tires retreaded, and will exchange the affected tires for properly retreaded ones, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Les Schwab at 1-541-447-4136.

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.

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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information, with their dates of receipt. Please provide this information as soon as possible.

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 Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@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