



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 9, 2012

Mr. Thomas Griffing
Manager Corporate Quality Assurance
Yokohama Tire Corporation
P.O. BOX 4550
Fullerton, CA 92834-4550

NVS-215KS
12T-025

Subject: Sidewall Cracking/Air Loss

Dear Mr. Griffing:

This letter serves to acknowledge Yokohama Tire Corporation'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:

YOKOHAMA/AVID TOURING S/215/65R16

Mfr's Report Date: September 28, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12T-025

Components:

TIRES:SIDEWALL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 10,669

Problem Description:

Yokohama Tire Corporation (Yokohama) is recalling certain AVID Touring S tires, size 215/65R16 98T SL, produced between February 2009 and April 2009. The tires may have been produced with an irregular geometry in the casing turn up area above the tire bead in the lower sidewall. This irregular geometry may lead to a lower sidewall crack resulting in a rapid loss of tire inflation.

Consequence:

Rapid air loss while the vehicle is in use may result in a tire failure that could cause a crash.

Remedy:

Yokohama will notify owners, and dealers will replace the tires free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin on, or about, October 20, 2012. Owners may contact Yokohama at 1-800-423-4544.

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).

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

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