

TYRE INSPECTION PROGRAMME

From October 1st 2004, The Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards will begin implementing its tyre inspection program. Inspection will be done in the presence of the Tyre Importer or his/her agent and a Customs Officer. All Used Tyres will be inspected whereas a representative sample of New Tyres will be inspected.

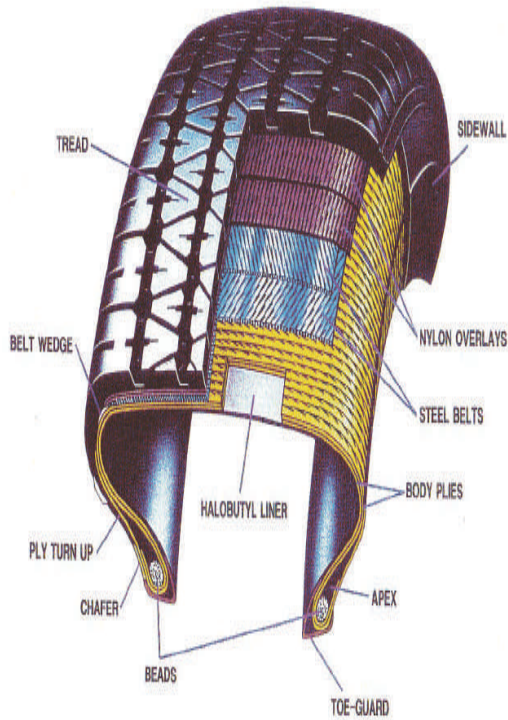


Tyre Inspectors at work

S A I N T L U C I A B U R E A U
O F S T A N D A R D S



Guidelines for the Preparation of Tyres and Premises for Inspection.



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Compulsory Standards Compliance Programme (CSCP)

The Compulsory Standards Compliance Programme of the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards is designed to ensure that products sold in St. Lucia, for which compulsory standards exist, conform to acceptable standards pertaining to health, safety, performance and labelling. This programme applies to products which are manufactured locally as well imports. Tyres is one such product.



Unsafe Tyres can cause

Effective October 01, 2004 all new and used tyres entering the island must undergo a process of rigorous inspection, before being retailed on the local market. This quality control programme is designed to minimize the entry of sub standard, defective tyres into the local market.

Tyres will be inspected to ensure that they conform to the requirements specified in the National Standard for Pneumatic Tyres for Passenger Cars (SLNS 41:2001) and the proposed Standard for Pneumatic Tyres for vehicles other than passenger cars.

Why Inspect Tyres

The SLBS Tyre Inspection programme is designed to promote best practice in tyre importation and distribution and will provide a importers with a level of assurance that tyres (particularly used tyres) are safe and serviceable and will give consumers value for money.

Things to do Before Inspection

Before tyres can be inspected by the SLBS Tyre Inspection Team, the following must be done by importers:

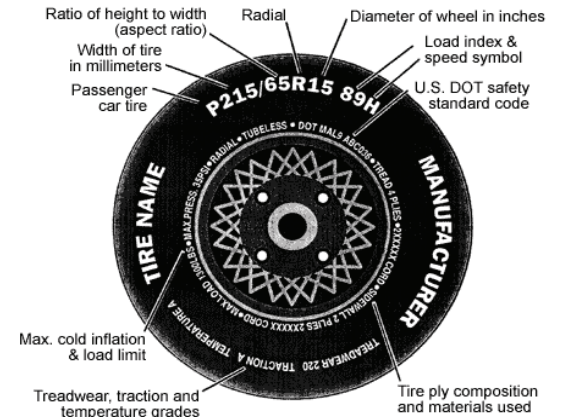
Prepare Tyres - tyres must be free of foreign material including water, dirt and mud that may interfere with the inspection. Tyre must be cleaned and dried if necessary.

Prepare Premises - the importer is required to provide a warehouse that is adequate for inspection. The warehouse should have good lighting and ventilation. It should provide adequate protection from the sun and rain. There should be sufficient space for the inspector and assistants to work safely.

Poor quality tyres are a contributory factor in many road accidents and can significantly impede the performance of the vehicle. Consequently tyres which do not pass the inspections will be rejected, isolated and disposed of by methods approved by the SLBS.

Inspectors will be checking for the following:

- ◆ Brand Name
- ◆ Country of Origin
- ◆ DOT No. or similar marking
- ◆ Tread Depth
- ◆ Sidewall
- ◆ Casing
- ◆ Bead Cracking
- ◆ Tread wear Indicator
- ◆ Maximum Pressure and Maximum Load Ratings
- ◆ Dimensional and Constructional Characteristics
- ◆ Tread wear, Traction and Temperature Ratings



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