

567.7) after having previously been certified in accordance with Part 567 of this chapter are not subject to the requirements of S7.1 through S7.4. Instead, vehicles that are manufactured

in two or more stages or that are altered must comply with this standard beginning on September 1, 2008.

TABLES TO § 571.138

TABLE 1—LOW TIRE PRESSURE WARNING TELLTALE—MINIMUM ACTIVATION PRESSURE

Column 1—tire type	Column 2—maximum or rated inflation pressure		Column 3—minimum activation pressure	
	(kPa)	(psi)	(kPa)	(psi)
P-metric—Standard Load .....	240, 300, or 350	35, 44, or 51	140 140 140	20 20 20
P-metric—Extra Load .....	280 or 340	41 or 49	160 160	23 23
Load Range C .....	350	51	200	29
Load Range D .....	450	65	240	35
Load Range E .....	550	80	240	35

[70 FR 18187, Apr. 8, 2005, as amended at 70 FR 53100, Sept. 7, 2005]

**§ 571.139 Standard No. 139; New pneumatic radial tires for light vehicles.**

S1. *Scope and purpose.* This standard specifies tire dimensions, test requirements, labeling requirements, and defines tire load ratings.

S2. *Application.* This standard applies to new pneumatic radial tires for use on motor vehicles (other than motorcycles and low speed vehicles) that have a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 10,000 pounds or less and that were manufactured after 1975. This standard does not apply to special tires (ST) for trailers in highway service, tires for use on farm implements (FI) in agricultural service with intermittent highway use, and tires with rim diameters of 8 inches and below.

S3. *Definitions.*

*Intended outboard sidewall* means:

(1) The sidewall that contains a whitewall, bears white lettering or bears manufacturer, brand, and/or model name molding that is higher or deeper than the same molding on the other sidewall of the tire, or

(2) The outward facing sidewall of an asymmetrical tire that has a particular side that must always face outward when mounted on a vehicle.

S4. *Tire and rim matching information.*

S4.1. Each manufacturer of tires must ensure that a listing of the rims that may be used with each tire that it produces is provided to the public in accordance with S4.1.1 and S4.1.2.

S4.1.1 Each rim listing for a tire must include dimensional specifications and a diagram of the rim and must be in one of the following forms:

(a) Listed by manufacturer name or brand name in a document furnished to dealers of the manufacturer's tires, to any person upon request, and in duplicate to: Docket Section, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or

(b) Contained in publications, current at the date of manufacture of the tire or any later date, of at least one of the following organizations:

- (1) The Tire and Rim Association.
- (2) The European Tyre and Rim Technical Organization.
- (3) Japan Automobile Tire Manufacturers' Association, Inc.
- (4) Tyre & Rim Association of Australia.
- (5) Associacao Latino Americana de Pneus e Aros (Brazil).
- (6) South African Bureau of Standards.

S4.1.2 A listing compiled in accordance with paragraph (a) of S4.1.1 need not include dimensional specifications or a diagram of a rim whose dimensional specifications and diagram are contained in a listing published in accordance with paragraph (b) of S4.1.1.

S4.2. Information contained in a publication specified in S4.1.1(b) that lists general categories of tires and rims by size designation, type of construction, and/or intended use, is considered to be manufacturer's information required

by S4.1 for the listed tires, unless the publication itself or specific information provided according to S4.1(a) indicates otherwise.

S5. *General requirements.* [Reserved]

S5.5 *Tire Markings.* Except as specified in paragraphs (a) through (h) of S5.5, each tire must be marked on each sidewall with the information specified in S5.5 (a) through (d) and on one sidewall with the information specified in S5.5 (e) through (h) according to the phase-in schedule specified in S7 of this standard. The markings must be placed between the maximum section width and the bead on at least one sidewall, unless the maximum section width of the tire is located in an area that is not more than one-fourth of the distance from the bead to the shoulder of the tire. If the maximum section width falls within that area, those markings must appear between the bead and a point one-half the distance from the bead to the shoulder of the tire, on at least one sidewall. The markings must be in letters and numerals not less than 0.078 inches high and raised above or sunk below the tire surface not less than 0.015 inch.

(a) The symbol DOT, which constitutes a certification that the tire conforms to applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards;

(b) The tire size designation as listed in the documents and publications specified in S4.1.1 of this standard;

(c) The maximum permissible inflation pressure, subject to the limitations of S5.5.4 through S5.5.6 of this standard;

(d) The maximum load rating;

(e) The generic name of each cord material used in the plies (both sidewall and tread area) of the tire;

(f) The actual number of plies in the sidewall, and the actual number of plies in the tread area, if different;

(g) The term “tubeless” or “tube type,” as applicable; and

(h) The word “radial,” if the tire is a radial ply tire.

S5.5.1 *Tire identification number.*

(a) *Tires manufactured before September 1, 2009.* Each tire must be labeled with the tire identification number required by 49 CFR part 574 on a sidewall of the tire. Except for retreaded tires, either the tire identification number or

a partial tire identification number, containing all characters in the tire identification number, except for the date code and, at the discretion of the manufacturer, any optional code, must be labeled on the other sidewall of the tire.

(b) *Tires manufactured on or after September 1, 2009.* Each tire must be labeled with the tire identification number required by 49 CFR part 574 on the intended outboard sidewall of the tire. Except for retreaded tires, either the tire identification number or a partial tire identification number, containing all characters in the tire identification number, except for the date code and, at the discretion of the manufacturer, any optional code, must be labeled on the other sidewall of the tire. Except for retreaded tires, if a tire does not have an intended outboard sidewall, the tire must be labeled with the tire identification number required by 49 CFR part 574 on one sidewall and with either the tire identification number or a partial tire identification number, containing all characters in the tire identification number except for the date code and, at the discretion of the manufacturer, any optional code, on the other sidewall.

S5.5.2 [Reserved]

S5.5.3 Each tire must be labeled with the name of the manufacturer, or brand name and number assigned to the manufacturer in the manner specified in 49 CFR part 574.

S5.5.4 For passenger car tires, if the maximum inflation pressure of a tire is 240, 280, 290, 300, 330, 340, 350 or 390 kPa, then:

(a) Each marking of that inflation pressure pursuant to S5.5(c) must be followed in parenthesis by the equivalent psi, rounded to the next higher whole number; and

(b) Each marking of the tire’s maximum load rating pursuant to S5.5(d) in kilograms must be followed in parenthesis by the equivalent load rating in pounds, rounded to the nearest whole number.

S5.5.5 If the maximum inflation pressure of a tire is 420 kPa (60 psi), the tire must have permanently molded into or onto both sidewalls, in letters and numerals not less than ½ inch high, the words “Inflate to 60 psi” or

“Inflate to 420 kPa (60 psi).” On both sidewalls, the words must be positioned in an area between the tire shoulder and the bead of the tire. However, the words must be also positioned on the tire so that they are not obstructed by the flange of any rim designated for use with that tire in this standard or in Standard No. 110 (§571.110 of this part).

S5.5.6 For LT tires, the maximum permissible inflation pressure shown must be the inflation pressure that corresponds to the maximum load of the tire for the tire size as specified in one of the publications described in S4.1.1.(b) of §571.139. At the manufacturer's option, the shown inflation pressure may be as much as 10 psi (69 kPa) greater than the inflation pressure corresponding to the specified maximum load.

S6. *Test procedures, conditions and performance requirements.* [Reserved]

S7. *Phase-in schedule for tire markings.*

S7.1 *Tires manufactured on or after September 1, 2005 and before September 1, 2006.* For tires manufactured on or after September 1, 2005 and before September 1, 2006, the number of tires complying with S4, S5.5, S5.5.1, S5.5.2, S5.5.3, S5.5.4, S5.5.5, and S5.5.6 of this standard must be equal to not less than 40% of the manufacturer's production during that period.

S7.2 *Tires manufactured on or after September 1, 2006 and before September 1, 2007.* For tires manufactured on or after September 1, 2006 and before September 1, 2007, the number of tires complying with S4, S5.5, S5.5.1, S5.5.2, S5.5.3, S5.5.4, S5.5.5, and S5.5.6 of this standard must be equal to not less than 70% of the manufacturer's production during that period.

S7.3 *Tires manufactured on or after September 1, 2007.* Each tire must comply with S4, S5.5, S5.5.1, S5.5.2, S5.5.3, S5.5.4, S5.5.5, and S5.5.6 of this standard.

[67 FR 69627, Nov. 18, 2002, as amended at 69 FR 31319, June 3, 2004]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTES: 1. At 68 FR 38150, June 26, 2003, §571.139 was amended by revising S3 and S5, adding S5.1 through S5.4, adding the text of S6, and adding S6.1 through S6.6, effective June 1, 2007. At 71 FR 877, Jan. 6, 2006, the effective date was delayed until Sept. 1, 2007. For the convenience of the user,

the revised and added text is set forth as follows:

**§ 571.139 Standard No. 139; New pneumatic radial tires for light vehicles.**

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*S3. Definitions*

*Bead* means the part of the tire that is made of steel wires, wrapped or reinforced by ply cords and that is shaped to fit the rim.

*Bead separation* means a breakdown of the bond between components in the bead.

*Bias ply tire* means a pneumatic tire in which the ply cords that extend to the beads are laid at alternate angles substantially less than 90 degrees to the centerline of the tread.

*Carcass* means the tire structure, except tread and sidewall rubber which, when inflated, bears the load.

*Chunking* means the breaking away of pieces of the tread or sidewall.

*Cord* means the strands forming the plies in the tire.

*Cord separation* means the parting of cords from adjacent rubber compounds.

*Cracking* means any parting within the tread, sidewall, or inner liner of the tire extending to cord material.

*CT* means a pneumatic tire with an inverted flange tire and rim system in which the rim is designed with rim flanges pointed radially inward and the tire is designed to fit on the underside of the rim in a manner that encloses the rim flanges inside the air cavity of the tire.

*Extra load tire* means a tire designed to operate at higher loads and at higher inflation pressures than the corresponding standard tire.

*Groove* means the space between two adjacent tread ribs.

*Innerliner* means the layer(s) forming the inside surface of a tubeless tire that contains the inflating medium within the tire.

*Innerliner separation* means the parting of the innerliner from cord material in the carcass.

*Light truck (LT) tire* means a tire designated by its manufacturer as primarily intended for use on lightweight trucks or multipurpose passenger vehicles.

*Load rating* means the maximum load that a tire is rated to carry for a given inflation pressure.

*Maximum load rating* means the load rating for a tire at the maximum permissible inflation pressure for that tire.

*Maximum permissible inflation pressure* means the maximum cold inflation pressure to which a tire may be inflated.

*Measuring rim* means the rim on which a tire is fitted for physical dimension requirements.