

#### NHTSA Recall Number 13T-012

December 17, 2013

#### Subject: SAFETY RECALL NOTICE for Associate Dealers

Dear MAST Dealer,

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

Michelin North America, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in one version of a specific size of the MICHELIN LTX M/S tire, and it is included in a safety recall.

The recalled tire is the MICHELIN LTX M/S LT225/75R16 LRE.

These tires are typically found on such vehicles as commercial light trucks, full-sized heavy duty vans, small RVs and some large pickup trucks.

This is a safety recall of approximately 1.2 million tires that were sold in the U.S. Market. This condition may increase the risk of tire failure and a vehicle crash.

You are receiving this letter because our records indicate that you may have purchased one or more of the recalled tires.

Further, MAST is required to advise you of certain tire dealer obligations, which are detailed on page 4 of this notice.

The following chart provides the Tire Description, DOT (Department of Transportation) sequence identifier and DOT production periods of the manufacturing populations which contain the recalled tires. The DOT information is molded into the sidewall of each tire: the DOT sequence number and the DOT date code, which is a 2-digit week and a 2-digit year of production, which are given in the DOT production period information. For example, "2312" refers to the 23rd week of the year 2012. See Appendix A.

Tire Description	MSPN	DOT Sequence	DOT Production Periods (Inclusive)				
MICHELIN LTX M/S LT225/75R16 LRE	25516	B3JHAKEX	0210 to 2512				

Only tires matching all four elements (Tire Description, MSPN, DOT Sequence and DOT Production Periods) are part of this recall. To determine if you have received tires that are included in this recall, please check the DOT information found on the sidewall of the tire as explained in Appendix A.

#### Provide Consumer Care the List of Tire Owners

As a result of this safety recall, you are required to take the following Dealer action to immediately provide MAST Consumer Care with a list of Tire Owners to whom you sold the tires that have been recalled.

Please send the following information:

First Name( Business ), Last name( Attn. To:), Address1, Address2, City, State, Zip Code, Phone Number and e-mail address.

Michelin Consumer Care will contact known Tire Owners by letter to notify them of this safety recall and the replacement process.

Please send the Consumer Information to:

Email to: michelinrecall@crdhna.com (Preferred Method)

Or Fax to: 864-458-6650 Attention: Tire Safety Recall

Or Mail to:

Michelin North America Attention: Consumer Care Dept. One Parkway South Greenville, SC 29615

#### Returning Inventory (New/Never Mounted) Recalled Tires

As a result of this safety recall, you are required to take the following Dealer actions to return to Michelin any inventory of the recalled tires:

- 1. Check your inventory for the specific DOT identification numbers affected. Immediately stop the sale, and/or mounting of these tires. **Michelin will handle the disabling of the tires**.
- Immediately count your inventory of affected tires and record specific DOT identification numbers. Provide this information to your MAST Primary Servicing Distributor for Alliance Associate Dealers or the MAST Authorized Distributor from whom you purchased the tires for return authorization and instructions.
- 3. Return all recalled tires from your inventory to your MAST Primary Servicing Distributor as soon as possible. You will be compensated by your MAST Primary Servicing Distributor for all recalled (new) tires that you return from inventory.

#### Replacement of Mounted Recalled Tires

Tire Owners may contact you to inspect their tires and, if required, replace them without charge. When this occurs:

- 1. Before dismounting, validate the tires are part of this safety recall. Only tires matching all four elements (Tire Description, MSPN, DOT Sequence and DOT Production Periods) are part of this recall.
- 2. Ensure that you have the correct replacement tires in inventory. A list of MAST appropriate replacement tires is attached in Appendix C.
- 3. Replace the recalled tires with new tires, follow current MAST warranty procedure using the Warranty Claim form indicating Claim Type 1. Michelin will handle the disabling of the tires. See Warranty Checklist -Appendix B.
  - a. All safety recall replacement tires and services must be at <u>no charge</u> to the consumer (including mounting and balancing), regardless of remaining tread depth.
  - b. The MAST Alliance Distributor's account will be credited the acquisition price of the <u>replacement</u> tire and a flat service and mounting and balancing allowance (\$20.00 per tire). **Michelin will handle the disabling of the tires**.
  - c. Place "MAST Recall" on the Reason for Removal line of the Warranty Claim form.
  - d. Must enter 0% and \$0 consumer charge on the warranty claim form.
  - e. If an approved MAST replacement tire is not available, call Michelin Consumer Care (855-851-4951) This situation may require the warranty claim to be processed as Claim Type 7 with a Michelin Consumer Care Authorization Code in order to ensure proper credit will be issued.
  - f. Mark tires with "Recall" on the sidewall.
- 4. Contact your MAST Primary Servicing Distributor for return authorization and instructions. Your MAST Alliance Distributor's policy regarding warranty reimbursement will apply.
- 5. For purposes of this Recall, please treat National Account and Government customers as you would any other Tire Owner. You should replace any tires that are a part of this Recall with an approved replacement tire and submit the recalled tires as outlined above.

#### IMPORTANT – Disposition of Safety Recall Tires

MAST is required to advise you of the following information and tire dealer obligations:

1. It is a violation of Federal law to knowingly sell or lease a tire which is defective.

If a dealer knowingly sells or leases new or used defective tires; that such a 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 toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153); or go to www.safercar.gov within five working days of such a release in a report containing the following information:

- i) a statement that the report is being submitted pursuant to 49 CFR 573.10(a);
- ii) the name, address and phone number of the person who purchased or leased the tire;
- iii) the name of the manufacturer of the tire;
- iv) the tire's brand name, model name, and size;
- v) the tire DOT identification number;
- vi) the date of the sale or lease; and
- vii) The name, address, and telephone number of the seller or lessor.
- 2. Under Federal law, MAST is required to report (by dealer name and address) any known instances of its dealers selling or leasing new or used defective tires.
- 3. On a monthly basis, dealers must report to MAST the number of defective tires disposed of in violation of these instructions or in violation of any of applicable state and local laws or regulations. The report must include a description of any such failure to act in accordance with MAST's disposal plan.

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

The recalled tires must be returned for the credit to be processed. If you have any additional questions, please contact your Customer Service Representative (800-847-8475).

Commitment to safety, quality and respect for the customer are our highest priorities. Please accept our sincerest apologies for any inconvenience that replacing these tires may cause. Thank you for your support in helping us to implement a successful safety recall.

Sincerely,

Marc Pasquet Vice President, Sales Michelin Americas Small Tires

# **Appendix A:**

#### **READING DOT MARKINGS**

DOT markings serve as the tire's fingerprint and signify compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation Minimum Performance Standards. The DOT markings can be found on the sidewall directly above the bead.

To find out if a tire is affected by the recall:

1. Determine if the tire is the following product:

Tire Description	MSPN	DOT Sequence	DOT Production Periods (Inclusive)
MICHELIN LTX M/S LT225/75R16 LRE	25516	B3JHAKEX	0210 to 2512

- 2. If it is not the product noted above, the tire is not part of this recall. If it is this product, check the DOT sequence to determine if the tire is affected by the recall. Only tires matching all four elements (Tire Description, MSPN, DOT Sequence and DOT Production Periods) are part of this recall.
- 3. The following illustration shows an example of how to identify the DOT sequence for all affected tires noted above. If you have any questions concerning the tire's DOT identification numbers, please contact MAST Consumer Care at 855-851-4951.

#### SAMPLE FOR READING DOT

MICHELIN LTX M/S LT225/75R16 LRE MSPN 25516 DOT Sequence in this example begins with B3

Week/Year 0210 to 2512



## **Appendix B:**

Follow the warranty checklist below in order to process consumer mounted safety recall returns.

## Warranty Checklist

- 1. Each tire must have a label that matches the claim form on which it is listed.
- Complete all the required blue sections on Warranty Claim Form (See Figure 1 on Page 7)
- 3. One warranty claim form per consumer.
- 4. Submit as Claim Type 1 No Authorization Code Required. See Figure 1 Field (15)
- 5. Indicate 0% charge and \$0 charge to the consumer. See Figure 1 Fields (20) & (21)
- 6. Place "MAST Recall" on the Reason for Removal line of the Warranty Claim Form. See Figure 1 Field (22)
- 7. Write "Recall" on the tire. Tires should be returned immediately. Contact your MAST Primary Servicing Distributor for return authorization and instructions.
- 8. Dealer and Consumer must sign each warranty claim form.
- If approved MAST replacement tires are not available, call Michelin Consumer Care (855-851-4951) to process warranty claim form. This situation may require the warranty claim to be processed as Claim Type 7 with Michelin Consumer Care Authorization Code to ensure proper credit will be issued.

Figure 1.

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### **Shipping Instructions for Dismounted Recalled Tires**

Follow the current MAST warranty tire return procedure:

- 1. Contact your MAST Primary Servicing Distributor for return instructions.
- 2. Claim forms must accompany any tires returned by the owner.
- 3. Please mark "RECALL" on the sidewall of each tire.
- 4. Credit cannot be properly processed if paperwork does not accompany the load.

# Appendix C:

#### Appropriate MAST Product Replacement List: Recommended Replacements

The following chart is a guide to assist you in selecting a proper replacement tire. Each of the options noted below is of equal size and has equal or higher service description.

		New	
N	<b>ASPN Description - Removed Tire</b>	MSPN	Description
		05681	MICHELIN LT225/75R16115/112R LTX M/S 2 LRE
25516	MICHELIN LTX M/S LT225/75R16 LRE	94398	MICHELIN LT225/75R16115/112R LTX AT2 LRE DT
		90332	UNIROYAL LT225/75R16 115S LARHD/H LRE TL