

SERVICE BULLETIN

No. 111

TIRES AND TUBES AFFECTED BY FLOOD WATERS

The Cooper Tire & Rubber Company recommends the following with respect to tires and inner tubes that have been exposed to flood waters as a result of Hurricane Katrina. Flood water contains contaminants such as oil, grease, salt and other contaminants which can be damaging to tires and tubes. This recommendation applies to all types of tires including passenger, light truck, truck, off-the-road and agricultural tires:

- 1) Tires that are currently mounted on vehicles that have been exposed to flood water should be cleaned and inspected for physical damage such as cuts, tears holes, or scrapes which might allow contaminants into the tire. Tires should be cleaned using a mild vegetable based soap and non-pressurized clean water. A pressure washer should never be used to clean tires. If tire damage is present, the tires should be discarded. If no physical damage is found, the tires may be returned to service.
- 2) Due to the likelihood of damage to the inner structure of a tire by contaminants, unmounted tires that have been immersed in flood water should be discarded. All other unmounted tires should be inspected for debris damage by a qualified tire professional before being placed in service.
- 3) Inner tubes that have been exposed to flood waters should also be discarded.