

involving placement of fill off Runway end 25 and installation of an Engineered Material Arresting System (EMAS) bed on the newly constructed landmass.

- Improvements to the Runway Safety Area for Runway 18/36: Alternative 7, involving a landmass extension to the south beyond Runway end 36, shifting the runway to the south, and placing an EMAS bed to the north beyond Runway end 18.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, 40 CFR Part 1500–1508

Issued in Anchorage, Alaska, on July 23, 2013.

**Byron K. Huffman,**

*Manager, Airports Division, Alaskan Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Research, Engineering and Development Advisory Committee

Pursuant to section 10(A) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92–463; 5 U.S.C. App. 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the FAA Research, Engineering and Development (R&E&D) Advisory Committee.

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**Name:** Research, Engineering & Development Advisory Committee.

**Time and Date:** September 18—8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW.—Round Room (10th Floor), Washington, DC 20591.

**Purpose:** The meeting agenda will include receiving from the Committee guidance for FAA's research and development investments in the areas of air traffic services, airports, aircraft safety, human factors and environment and energy. Attendance is open to the interested public but seating is limited. Persons wishing to attend the meeting or obtain information should contact Gloria Dunderman at (202) 267–8937 or [gloria.dunderman@faa.gov](mailto:gloria.dunderman@faa.gov). Members of the public may present a written statement to the Committee at any time.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 25, 2013.

**Gloria Dunderman,**

*Management & Program Analyst.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**[Docket No. NHTSA–2012–0108; Notice 2]**

#### Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC, Grant of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Grant of petition.

**SUMMARY:** Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC (Bridgestone),<sup>1</sup> has determined that certain Bridgestone brand replacement tires manufactured between June 19, 2011 and March 17, 2012, do not fully comply with paragraph § 5.5(f) of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 139, *New Pneumatic Radial Tires for Light Vehicles*. Bridgestone has filed an appropriate report dated July 19, 2012, pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports*.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h) and the rule implementing those provisions at 49 CFR Part 556, Bridgestone has petitioned for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 on the basis that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. Notice of receipt of the petition was published, with a 30-day public comment period, on December 3, 2012 in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 71679). No comments were received. To view the petition and all supporting documents log onto the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Web site at: <http://www.regulations.gov/>. Then follow the online search instructions to locate docket number “NHTSA–2012–0108.”

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** For further information on this decision contact Mr. Abraham Diaz, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), telephone (202) 366–5310, facsimile (202) 366–7002.

**Equipment Involved:** Affected are approximately 1,102 Firestone Firehawk Wide Oval AS size 245/40R19 and 245/35R20 brand tires manufactured between June 19, 2011, and March 17, 2012. Only 97 of the affected tires are no longer under the control of the petitioner. Therefore, only those 97 tires are the subject of this petition.

<sup>1</sup> Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC is a manufacturer of replacement equipment and is registered under the laws of the state of Delaware.

**Rule Text:** Section S5.5 of FMVSS No. 139 specifically states:

S5.5 Tire markings. Except as specified in paragraphs (a) through (i) 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 (i) 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 that 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 inches . . .

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

**Summary of Bridgestone's Analyses:** Bridgestone explains that the noncompliance is that due to a mold labeling error the sidewall marking on the reference side of the tires incorrectly describes the actual number of plies in the tread area of the tires and therefore does not comply with paragraph § 5.5(f) of FMVSS No. 139. Specifically, the tires in question were inadvertently manufactured with “TREAD 1 POLYESTER 2 STEEL 1 NYLON.” The labeling should have been “TREAD 1 POLYESTER 2 STEEL 2 NYLON.”

Bridgestone stated its belief that the subject noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety because the subject tires meet or exceed all performance requirements as required in part by FMVSS No. 139 and that the noncompliant labeling has no impact on the operational performance or safety of vehicles on which these tires are mounted.

Bridgestone points out that NHTSA has previously granted similar petitions for non-compliances in sidewall markings.

Bridgestone has also informed NHTSA that it has corrected future production and will re-label the 1,005 contained tires to reflect correct construction.

In summation, Bridgestone believes that the described noncompliance of the subject tires is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety, and that its petition, to exempt from providing recall notification of noncompliance as required by 49 U.S.C. 30118 and remedying the recall noncompliance as required by 49 U.S.C. 30120 should be granted.