

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

TIRES

FAILURE & DEFECT INVESTIGATION

COMMON REASONS FOR TIRE FAILURE

- Under Inflation
- Overloading
- Speed, Abuse
- Road Hazards – Pot Holes & Debris
- Improper Installation/Balancing
- Manufacturing Defect

INVESTIGATION ISSUES

- Tire repair and replacement history.
- Date and mileage of last tire service or inspection.
- Person who is responsible for monitoring the condition of the tires.
- How often is the tire pressure checked? By whom?
- Rotation schedule of the tires.
- Anything unusual about the condition of the tires?
- Weather conditions. Temperature.
- Condition of the road.
- Condition of the vehicle.
- Excessive noise or vibration prior to failure.
- Vehicle speed during loss of control.
- Describe attempt to maintain control.

SUMMARY CURRICULA VITAE OF SEVERAL OF OUR TIRE SPECIALISTS

WILLIAM J. WOEHRLE

EXPERIENCE

- **Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Company** -1966 to 1991. Director, Product Evaluation.
 - Responsible for department providing corporate-wide testing services for R&D and manufacturing operations.
 - Evaluated product line against specifications and competitive products.
 - Personally examined thousands of tires to determine performance against objectives or cause of failure.

EDUCATION

- **Michigan State University**, B.S. Physics, 1966

ACTIVITIES

- Michigan State University - Instructor, "Tire Dynamics" Seminar, Accident Investigation Training Programs
- Society of Automotive Engineers - Chairman, Highway Tire Committee
- Tire and Rim Association - Past President
- Rubber Manufacturers Association - Past Chairman, Tire Engineering Policy Committee

MARTIN F. JOHNS

EXPERIENCE

- **Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company**, 1977 – 2003
 - Team Leader Vehicle Dynamics and Handling Performance, Tire Vehicle Engineering Technology Dept., 1990 – 2003.
 - Senior Development Engineer – Tire Mechanics and Computer Modeling, Goodyear Technical Center, Akron, OH. 1983 – 1990.

EDUCATION

- **University of Birmingham**, England, B.S. Mechanical Engineering, 1970.
- **General Motors Institute**, Flint, MI, 12-Month Training Fellowship, Oldsmobile Division and Milford Proving Grounds, 1972 – 1973.

RICHARD H. BERRY

EXPERIENCE

- **Michelin Aircraft Tire Corporation**, Charlotte & Norwood, NC. 1989 – 2002
 - 2001 – 2002 Dynamic Testing Engineer
 - 1999 – 2001 Industrialization/Quality Engineer
 - 1996 – 1999 Manufacturing Design Engineer
 - 1993 – 1996 R&D/Manufacturing Liaison
 - 1989 – 1993 Joint Venture Design Authority with Michelin Sime Aircraft Tyre Company Bhd., Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

EDUCATION

- **University of Illinois**, B.S. Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering

FRASER D. SMITHSON

EXPERIENCE

- **General Motors Proving Grounds**, 1969 – 1993. Responsibilities Included:
 - Director of Chassis Systems. Responsible for the following chassis related technology centers: Noise and Vibration, Tire Wheel Systems, and Vehicle Dynamics and Handling.
 - Executive Engineer. Assignments in the Tire Wheel Systems group involving all aspects of the development of General Motors TPC (Tire Performance Criteria) system.
 - Developed an advanced driver training course based on analysis of accidents related to driver's abilities to cope with emergencies.
 - Held a wide range of testing oriented assignments dealing with brakes, vehicle handling, durability, corrosion, emissions, tire-road traction, and driver performance.

EDUCATION

- **University of Florida**, BS in Mechanical Engineering, 1963.

JOSEPH J. STRBIK

EXPERIENCE

- **Goodyear/Motor Wheel Corporation**, Lansing, MI, 1965-1994.
 - Director of Manufacturing Engineering, 1992-1994.
 - Manager of Quality, Lansing Plant, 1983-1984.
 - Director of Product Engineering, 1980-1983. Developed many innovations in wheels and brakes.
 - Manager of Product and Manufacturing Engineering – Suspensions, axles and brakes, 1968-1979.
 - Senior Brake Engineer, 1965-1968. Developed automotive, truck and trailer brakes, drums, hubs, rotors, and spindles.
- **Bendix Corporation**, South Bend, IN, 1962-1965. Development Engineer. Developed automotive disc brakes. Held 2 patents.

EDUCATION

- **Michigan State University**, B.S. Mechanical Engineering, 1962.

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