

# SERVICE BULLETIN

# WARNING...

Service Bulletin #83  
October 7, 1996

## SAFETY WARNING

TO: ALL TIRE SERVICE PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: 16" and 16.5" RIM & TIRE MATCHING

**THERE IS A DANGER IN INSTALLING A TIRE OF ONE RIM DIAMETER ON A RIM OF A DIFFERENT RIM DIAMETER.**

Always replace a tire on a rim with another tire of exactly the same tire diameter. For example a 16" tire goes on a 16" rim. **NEVER** mount a 16" size diameter tire on a 16.5" rim. While it is possible to pass a 16" diameter tire bead over the lip or flange of a 16.5" size diameter rim the bead will not seat. If an attempt is made to seat the tire bead by continuing to add air pressure, the tire bead will break with explosive force which could cause serious personal injury or death.

- . ALWAYS IDENTIFY THE RIM DIAMETER STAMPED ON THE RIM. (See Attachment I)
- . ALWAYS IDENTIFY THE TIRE BEAD DIAMETER MOLDED ONTO EACH SIDEWALL OF THE TIRE.
- . ALWAYS BE POSITIVE THAT RIM DIAMETER AND TIRE BEAD DIAMETER MATCH!
- . NEVER MOUNT 16" DIAMETER TIRES ON 16.5" DIAMETER RIMS.
- . IF THE TIRE IS MOUNTED ON A MACHINE THAT DOES NOT HAVE A POSITIVE LOCK-DOWN DEVICE TO HOLD THE WHEEL, INFLATION SHOULD ALWAYS BE DONE IN A SAFETY CAGE.
- . FOLLOW RUBBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION PROCEDURES FOR MOUNTING TIRES.
- . NEVER EXCEED 40 POUNDS INFLATION PRESSURE TO SEAT BEADS!

**CONSUMER RELATIONS**

**COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY**

Tire retailers and tire service personnel have repeatedly been advised about the dangers of mismatching 16" and 16.5" diameter tires and rims. This is not the result of any design or construction deficiencies. All such tires, produced by Cooper, are designed and constructed with more than adequate strength to handle mounting and demounting stresses when mounted on the correct matching diameter rims.

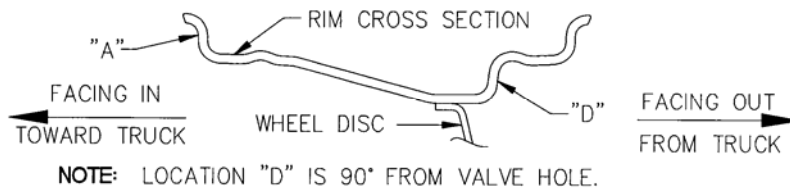
Enclosed for display in your service areas is a SAFETY WARNING poster designed to call the attention of tire service employees to the danger of installing a tire of one bead diameter on a rim of a different diameter. Additional posters can be ordered at no charge from our Consumer Relations Department in Findlay, Ohio.

If you wholesale tires to other dealers (sub-dealers), each should receive a copy of this Service Bulletin. Please advise Cooper, or your supplier, of the number of Service Bulletins that are needed for your sub-dealers and we will provide them to you at no charge. You may order this Service Bulletin through the Consumer Relations Department, Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, Findlay, Ohio 45840.

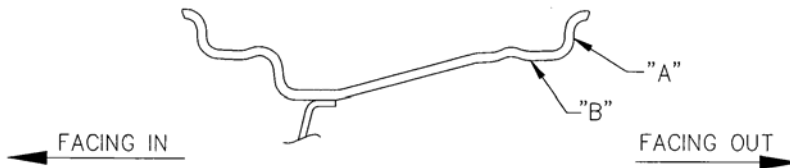
Attachment: Safety Warning Poster 860-00A-4958 2-85

## WHEEL IDENTIFICATION STAMP LOCATION

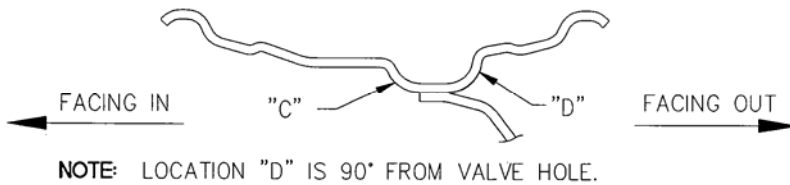
- 1.) 16" DIAMETER – SINGLES ON REAR  
CHECK FRONT OR REAR WHEELS AT LOCATION "A" OR "D"



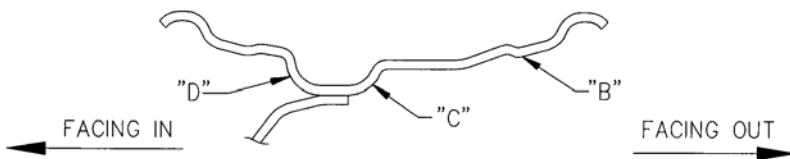
- 2.) 16" DIAMETER – DUALS ON REAR  
CHECK OUTER REAR WHEEL AT LOCATION "A" OR "B"



- 3.) 16.5" DIAMETER – SINGLES ON REAR  
CHECK FRONT OR REAR WHEELS AT LOCATION "C" OR "D"



- 4.) 16.5" DIAMETER – DUALS ON REAR  
CHECK OUTER REAR WHEEL AT LOCATION "B" OR "C"



**NOTE:** IF NO MARKING IS FOUND AT "B" OR "C", REMOVE RIM FROM VEHICLE AND CHECK SIDE FACING IN AT LOCATION "D" (90° FROM VALVE HOLE).