SUMITOMO
TRUCK TIRES
Giving You A Competitive Edge.
Medium Truck Tires

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Medium Truck Tires

Sumitomo medium truck tires are known for outstanding performance in the toughest applications. Innovative design and fantastic quality control make the difference.

Built for long tread life, casing durability and multiple retreads, these tires are available in one of the widest ranges of sizes and tread designs.

Sumitomo Premium Series medium truck tires include a collection of advanced features we call S-Tech Design. The technology in these tires is remarkable. They share a technical architecture that delivers high miles, inhibits irregular wear, improves driver satisfaction, and retains casing integrity through multiple retread cycles.

Sumitomo’s new Premium Series medium truck tire lines reinforce the company’s reputation for precision engineering, innovative technology, and craftsmanship.

The company’s Medium Truck Tire line reinforces Sumitomo’s reputation for precision engineering, innovative technology and craftsmanship.

The Sumitomo Brand

Sumitomo is the premium export brand of Sumitomo Rubber Industries, Ltd., one of the largest tire manufacturers in the world. Within the tire industry, Sumitomo enjoys a well-earned reputation for innovative design, precision engineering and superior quality. It’s the Sumitomo difference.

With a reputation for quality, service and leading edge technology, Sumitomo Tire is a premium tire brand offering a unique mix of 1st tier quality and 2nd tier value.

Sumitomo is backed by the reputation and resources of the Sumitomo Group, one of the most influential business groups in the world. Sumitomo Tire is a global brand that competes on the basis of product quality.
Sumitomo manufactures EPA SmartWay verified technologies

Tires are an integral link in the transmission of energy from the engine to the road. Tires that meet EPA SmartWay criteria for reduced rolling resistance help save fuel and reduce vehicle emissions. That’s good for everybody. Components manufactured with SmartWay verified technologies can lower the cost of operating trucks, and lower the impact on the environment.

Based upon data provided by tire manufacturers and EPA testing and research, EPA determined that certain tire models can provide a reduction on NOx emissions and an estimated fuel savings of 3% or greater, relative to the “best selling” new tires for line haul trucks, when used on all five axles on long haul class 8 trucks.

Sumitomo has enhanced the value of its three best long haul patterns by engineering them for lower rolling resistance. S-Tech casing design PLUS less rolling resistance equals long mileage to removal, excellent durability, multiple retread cycles, and reduced fuel cost.

Sumitomo offers a full range of high quality medium truck tires. Every one is designed for hard work, and is manufactured to exacting standards.

More miles to removal. Great handling for safety. Built to be retreaded. Sumitomo tires give you a competitive edge.

SmartWay Technology

Sumitomo has incorporated SmartWay verified technology into its Premium Series Long Haul patterns for all three axle positions. Coupled with the proven benefits of Sumitomo S-Tech casing architecture, these tires are the right choice for operators who care about long term value, and improving the environment.

Sumitomo tires with SmartWay verified technology are designated with the suffix SE.

This company manufactures:
- EPA SmartWay verified technologies
- Verified equipment for SmartWay Certified Tractors
- and/or
- Verified equipment for SmartWay Certified Trailers

As a result, we assist SmartWay partners with meeting their goals of energy efficiency and emissions reductions.

Learn more about...

SmartWay

www.epa.gov/smartway
The ST778SE is the next generation SMARTWAY Sumitomo long haul steer tire. Incorporating a collection of advanced features we call S-Tech Design, ST778SE delivers remarkable miles to removal, excellent handling for safe operation, and the dependable retreadability of the Sumitomo casing.

ST778SE Featuring SmartWay Verified Technology

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This company manufactures:
- EPA SmartWay verified technologies
- Verified equipment for SmartWay Certified Tractors
- and/or
- Verified equipment for SmartWay Certified Trailers

As a result, we assist SmartWay partners with meeting their goals of energy efficiency and emissions reductions.
• Built with EPA SmartWay Verified Technology.
• New tread pattern concept couples sophisticated traction and smooth even wear.
• Solid shoulders with rigid interior tread block configuration control heel/toe wear.
• Super-deep tread pattern applied across a wide, flat radius for remarkably long miles to removal.
• Diamond cut block edges fight irregular wear and resist cuts and snags.

Cross-country or around town, ST938SE is the next generation SMARTWAY traction companion to ST778SE and ST709. Because it was designed from the inside out to resist irregular wear and give high miles per /32", ST938SE is incredibly long wearing. Its bold tread elements really bite, while its S-Tech Design casing yields outstanding long-term performance.

ST938SE Featuring SmartWay Verified Technology

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  - and/or
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Learn more about...

SmartWay

www.epa.gov/smartway

4
Extra deep 30/32nds tread depth promotes extended mileage wear.
Closed shoulder tread design provides long, even wear while providing excellent traction.
Heavy duty casing for stability and promotion of retreading.
Stone drilling buttons protect casing for long life.
Increased base rubber dissipates heat while running at high speeds in long haul operations.

The ST938 is the next generation Sumitomo Closed Shoulder DEEP TREAD Drive tire. Incorporating a collection of advanced features we call S-Tech Design, the ST938 offers a deep tread 30/32nds that delivers remarkable mileage, excellent handling and dependable retreadability you’ve come to expect with Sumitomo casings.

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• Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases trailer stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
• Shoulder grooves control migration of irregular wear.
• A wide footprint enhances vehicle stability and delivers long mileage.
• Pyramid shaped ribs actually put more rubber on the road as the tire wears.
• Stone ejectors protect the casing from damage in the base of the groove.

The SMARTWAY-Verified ST710SE merges the advantages of an advanced concept low-skid tread pattern with the long-term durability of a premium Sumitomo casing. Its high quality construction yields years of service. It wears long and smooth when new, and is designed for multiple retread cycles.

ST710SE Featuring SmartWay Verified Technology

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Learn more about...

SmartWay
www.epa.gov/smartway
**Premium Series | Regional Steer**

- Beefy 20/32” tread depth applied to a wide, flat casing for much longer life in high scuff applications.
- Chevron block center ribs with lateral sipes effectively cut water film on wet roads for enhanced traction and safety.
- Thick curbing ribs help shield the casing from sidewall damage.
- Stone ejectors protect the casing from damage in the base of the groove.
- An innovative design device helps control irregular wear during on-highway use.

**ST709 is a regional steer tire that’s durable enough when there’s serious work to be done, but versatile enough to display on-highway manners.**

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Metro Series | Rib

- Sumitomo all steel casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
- Application specific tread compound resists the effects of scuffing from sharp turns and gives long mileage.
- Curbing ribs help shield the casing from sidewall damage.

An excellent commercial rib tire for urban and metro fleet operations.

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Metro Series | Drive

- Radical shoulder ribs act like traction bars and stabilize the tread for long life in commercial service.
- Center island tread elements for traction during wet or dry maneuvers. Reinforcing ‘bridges’ of rubber tie together the tread package for vehicle stability and resistance to irregular wear.
- Multi-phase shift tread pattern minimizes tire noise.
- Curbing ribs help shield the casing from sidewall damage.
- Sumitomo all steel casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.

Engineered for the rough metro environment, ST918 gives the traction needed to get the job done in bad weather. Its computer designed tread pattern and application specific compounds deliver long mileage, great traction, and vehicle stability.

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Utility Series | All Position Rib

- Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
- Application specific tread compound resists the effects of scuffing from sharp turns and gives long mileage.
- 5 rib design for better vehicle stability in all weather conditions.

These lines offer many hard to find sizes and ply ratings. Every tire is engineered to be Sumitomo tough.

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**ST528**

**Heavy Series | Premium All Purpose**

- Deeper tread depth increases time in service and provides more traction at all wheel positions.
- Application specific tread compounds resist tread chipping in high-scuff on and off road applications.
- Rust inhibitor compounds coat all interior steel belts and body ply components.
- Thick curbing ribs help shield the casing from sidewall damage.
- Stone ejectors protect the casing from damage in the base of the groove.
- Extra thick layer of undertread rubber protects the belt package.
- Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.

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With its class-leading 26/32” tread depth on the standard sizes and the 10,200# load carrying capacity on size 315/80R22.5, the ST528 is a Premium On and Off Highway Mixed Service All-Position Tire.

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Heavy Series | All Position

- Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
- Application specific tread compound resists cutting and chipping.

Durable all position tires for mixed service use.

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Heavy Series | All Position

- Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
- Application specific tread compound resists cutting and chipping.

Durable all position tires for mixed service use.

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• Deeper tread depth for more traction and in-service time.
• Stone ejectors protect the casing from damage in the groove base.
• Application specific tread compound resists cutting and chipping.
• Four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
• Premium series featuring S-Tech Design.

The ST520 is the Premium Wide Base Mixed Service All-Position Line that has 40% more usable tread depth than many of our competitors.
Heavy Series | Value Wide Base

- Wide shoulder ribs stabilize the vehicle in turns and at highway speeds.
- Application specific tread compound resists cutting and chipping.
- Four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.

Wide base tire with a reputation for high mileage and vehicle stability.

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Heavy Series | Free Rolling Wide Base

- Notches in solid shoulder ribs reduce effects of scuffing in turns.
- Application specific tread compound resists cutting and chipping.
- Four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.

A wide-base tire specially designed for spread-axle trailer service.

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### Heavy Series | Extra Deep Lug

- 31/32" tread depth for more traction and longer wear.
- Application specific tread compound resists cutting and chipping.
- Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.
- Special liner compound helps keep moisture from entering the casing.

*A includes tube and flap*

A rugged drive tire designed for off-highway operations. From the rust inhibitors on its internal steel components to its deep 31/32" tread depth, ST900 is built from the inside-out to be durable and long wearing.

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### Heavy Series | Extra Deep Traction

- 32/32" tread depth gives priority to off-road traction.
- Spacing of lugs allows for placement of chains when even more traction is needed.
- Application specific tread compounds resist tread chipping in high-scuff on and off road applications.
- Rust inhibitor compounds coat all interior steel belts and body ply components.
- Thick curbing ribs help shield the casing from sidewall damage.
- Stone ejectors protect the casing from damage in the base of the groove.
- Extra thick layer of undertread rubber protects the belt package.
- Sumitomo four steel belt casing construction resists punctures, increases vehicle stability, and contributes to more retread cycles.

A tough traction tread for the most rugged logging and off-highway applications.

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Sumitomo’s sophisticated new technology minimizes irregular wear by controlling the contact pressure in the tire footprint. Flat Contact Technology delivers uniform contact pressure from shoulder to shoulder. The contact length of the shoulder rib in the tire footprint is almost equal to that of the center rib, meaning that the contact patch is kept square while in contact with the ground. This leads to a uniform contact pressure distribution and significant resistance to irregular wear.

The ST778SE shows a more uniform and stable shape in the light green area.
Tube-Type Mounting And Demounting

Any inflated tire mounted on a rim contains explosive energy. The use of damaged, mismatched or improperly assembled tire/rim parts can cause the assembly to burst apart with explosive force. If you are struck by an exploding tire, rim part or air blast, you can be seriously injured or killed.

Demounting Tube-Type Tires
1. If a tire has been running under inflated or if any damage to the tire or wheel is suspected, the valve core should be removed prior to removing the tire/wheel assembly from the vehicle axle. This is to prevent a possible accident.
2. Before unlocking any side ring or lock ring, remove the valve core and allow the tire to deflate completely.
3. Remove all rim or wheel parts.
4. Inspect the tire for damages.

Mounting Tube-Type Tires
1. Insert the proper size tube into the tire and partially inflate (3 psi) to round out the tube (with larger sizes it may be necessary to use bead spreaders – see the next two sections for mounting instructions).
2. Insert the valve through the flap valve hole. (Make sure the reinforced patch which is directly over the flap valve hole is facing outwards.) Then insert the remainder of the flap into the tire.
3. Check the flap wings to insure against folding. This is easily accomplished by placing your hand into one tire side, then the other, then running your hand along the entire flap wing.
4. Inflate the tube until the flap is secure against the tire wall and the beads start to spread apart, making sure not to exceed 3 psi.
5. Apply a proper tire lubricant to both beads and the exposed flap. Make sure that excess lubricant does not run down into the tire.
6. Place tire, tube and flap on the wheel or rim, taking care to center the valve in the slot.
7. Fit side ring and lock ring, insuring that they are properly positioned, locked, and are correct for the “fitment.”

Mounting Tube-Type Tires Using Manual Spreaders:
1. Follow steps 1 through 3 of the “mounting of Tube-Type Tires”. However, before inserting the flap into the tire, position two bead spreaders in the following manner:
   a. Place the first at a 90° angle to the valve. (Flap is positioned between the spreader and the tube.)
   b. Place the second directly opposite the first.
   c. Spread the beads and insert the flap.
   d. Close the beads, remove spreaders.
2. Follow steps 4 through 7 of the “Mounting of Tube-Type Tires”.

Mounting Tube-Type Tires Using Automatic Spreaders:
1. Spread the beads.
2. Inflate the tube to approximately 3 psi.
3. Insert the tube into the tire.
4. Insert the valve through the flap hole. (As mentioned, the flap reinforced valve area must face outwards.) Insert the remainder of the flap into the tire.
5. Close the beads.
6. Follow steps 4 through 7 of the “Mounting of Tube-Type Tires”.

Inflation of Tube-Type Tires
1. An air line with an extension (30” minimum), in-line gauge, and clip-on valve chuck should be used for inflation. Remove valve core and lay the assembly flat on the ground. Using an OSHA approved restraining device, inflate to 5 psi to seat beads.

While the tire is still in the restraining device, make sure all rim components are centered and locked properly. If not, the tire must be deflated, broken down, relubricated and reinflated.
2. Deflate the tire by removing the air line. This is to allow the tube to relax thus eliminating any wrinkles or uneven stretching that may have occurred during primary inflation.
3. Install the valve core and, using a safety cage or other OSHA approved restraining device, reinflate the tire to the pressure shown on the sidewall in order to insure proper bead seating. Then adjust the tire to the proper operating pressure.
4. Reinspect the assembly for proper positioning of all components.
5. Check for leaks and install a metal or hard plastic valve cap.
6. Do not reinflate any tires that have been run under inflated or flat without careful inspection for damage.

Tubeless Tire Mounting and Demounting

Reinflation of any type of tire/rim assembly that has been operated in a run-flat or under inflated condition (80% or less of recommended pressure), can result in serious injury or death. The tire may be damaged on the inside and can explode while you are adding air. The rim parts may be worn, damaged or dislodged and can explosively separate.

Demounting Tubeless Tires
1. Before loosening any nuts, deflate the tire by removing the valve core.
2. With the tire assembly lying flat, unseat the bead seat of both beads with a bead breaker tool. Do not use hammers of any type.
3. Apply a proper tire lubricant to the tire beads, rim ledges and flanges.
4. Beginning at the valve, remove the tire using tire irons designed for this purpose. Starting here will minimize chances of damaging the bead. Make certain that the flange with the tapered ledge that has the shortest span to the drop center is facing up. Always attempt to keep the bead not being worked by the irons in the full depth of the drop center cavity.

Mounting Tubeless Tires
1. Replace valve stem grommet and inspect valve stem for damage and wear. Replace valve stem if necessary.
2. Apply lubricant.
3. With the wheel/rim short ledge up, lay the tire over the rim at the valve side and work it on with proper tubeless tire tools, making full use of the drop center well.
4. Do not use any kind of hammer. Bead damage may occur leading to tire destruction and serious or fatal injury to you or your customer.

Inflating Tubeless Tires
Reinflation of any type of tire/rim assembly that has been operated in a run-flat or under inflated condition (80% or less of recommended pressure), can result in serious injury or death. The tire may be damaged on the inside and can explode while you are adding air. The rim parts may be worn, damaged or dislodged and can explosively separate.

1. Lay tire/wheel assembly horizontally and inflate to no more than 5 psi to position the beads on the flanges.
2. To complete the seating of the beads, place the assembly in an OSHA approved safety cage and inflate to 25 to 30 psi. Check the assembly carefully for proper bead seating and for any signs of distortion or irregularities from the run-flat.
3. If beads are properly seated, and if no damage is detected, continue to inflate to the maximum air pressure marked on the sidewall. If beads do not seat, deflate tire, relubricate the bead seats and reinflate.
4. After beads are properly seated, adjust tire pressure to recommended operating pressure. Check valve core for leakage, then install a metal or hard plastic valve cap.
Drive Axle Alignment

Drive axle alignment is very important. Tandem drive axles that are not parallel to each other have a definite effect on steer-tire wear.

Fig. 1 shows a model of a tandem-drive axle tractor with both drive axles in proper alignment. In this case, the driver simply steers the truck straight ahead and neither fast wear nor irregular wear would be expected as a result of the driving axles.

A more severe case is shown in Fig. 2. Here, the drive axles are neither parallel to each other nor perpendicular to the chassis center line. The drive axle tires are trying to force the vehicle to turn left and the driver must compensate by turning to the right. This will result in fast and irregular wear and, as recent tests have shown, in a much more severe way than the previous case. Tests also indicate that the steer tire on the same side of the truck, on which the drive tires are closest together, will wear into an out of round condition.

Vehicle Alignment

For best vehicle handling and tire life, proper vehicle alignment is required. For best readings on alignment settings, vehicle should be loaded. However, many vehicle manufacturers also have tolerances for alignment settings when vehicle is unloaded. Before starting, correct any air pressure differences in tires and make sure vehicle is on a level surface, with brakes off.

Drive Axle Recommendations

Irregular wear patterns on steer axle tires may come from misaligned drive axles and trailer axles, not to mention the obvious loss of tire mileage, vehicle handling, and fuel economy. Drive and trailer axle alignment is normally set before steer axle corrections are made.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRIVE AXLES SHOULD BE ALIGNED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Position the drive axles perpendicular to the chassis center line.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. For tandem drives, the drive axles should be positioned parallel to one another.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trailer axles should be aligned to the center line of trailer pin at the start of settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Position axles to be perpendicular to the trailer center line and parallel to each other.</td>
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</table>

Front Axle Recommendations

**TOE-IN**
Toe-in-set close to zero as vehicle manufacturer’s recommendations allow in loaded condition. Do not set beyond zero as a toe-out condition will develop.

**CASTER**
Caster-set to the maximum positive setting that vehicle manufacturer’s recommendations allow.

**CAMBER**
Camber-set as close to zero degrees as the vehicle manufacturer’s recommendations allow in loaded condition.

**WARNING:** There is a danger in installing a tire of one rim diameter on a rim of a different diameter. Always replace a tire on a rim with another tire of exactly the same rim diameter designation and suffix letters. For example a 16” tire goes with 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 over the lip or flange of a 16.5” size diameter rim, it cannot be inflated enough to position itself against the rim flange. If an attempt is made to seat the tire bead by inflating, the tire bead will break with explosive force and could cause serious injury or death. Rims of different diameters and tapers cannot be interchanged.
Recommendations For Long Tire Life

Inspect tire conditions regularly. Look for signs of sidewall bulges, cracking, cuts and stone retention in grooves. If you have a question or concern, consult your Sumitomo Tire dealer.

Tire Replacement

By Department of Transportation regulations, any trailer or drive axle tire is to be removed from service when there are only 2/32” of tread left (or 4/32” on steer axle tires) in any tread groove. Sumitomo advises that, as a rule of thumb, tires should be removed at 4/32” remaining tread to allow better casing recovery for retreading.

Proper Tire Inflation

It is advisable to check all tire inflation pressures before each trip, or at least weekly. The best time to obtain accurate readings is when tires are cool to the touch, before any distance is traveled. Consult the air pressure guidelines in this book, or refer to the tire sidewall or pressure charts from the Tire and Rim Association. When speeds are constantly above 70 m.p.h., it is recommended to use maximum air pressure for good wear and performance. For safety and ease of checking air pressure, metal flow-through valve caps should be used.

Tire Rotation

Because of vehicle specifications (wheelbase, horsepower, gears, suspension) and terrain, most tires used on drive axles wear faster on the rear drive axle than on the front drive axle. By cross rotating rear axle tires to front axle, and front axle tires moved to rear axle position, wear can be equally controlled on all drive positions, resulting in longer miles in service.

Practice Good Driving Habits

- Avoid fast starts and sudden stops.
- Avoid using only trailer brakes to slow vehicle.
- Avoid potholes and debris (safely).
- Avoid hitting curbs.
- Do not exceed speed limit.

Determining Correct Tire Pressure

A tire requires proper air pressure to adequately carry the load placed on it. The tires also provide traction for braking and steering. Since the loaded vehicle weight determines tire inflation pressure, all tire manufacturers offer a load/inflation table to help determine the proper pressure.

These tables reflect values taken from the Tire and Rim Association. In general, use these steps to determine correct air pressure:

1. Always check air pressure when ambient temperature is cold.
2. Confirm if tire will be used in a single or dual wheel position.
3. In either case, determine the total weight that is allowed on the axle. In the case of a STEER axle (using two tires) divide the value by two.
4. Compare this value with the following load inflation table, and use the corresponding air pressure.

Also consider operating speeds. Many tire manufacturers recommend maximum speeds for various tire applications. Consult your Sumitomo representative if you have questions.

The SPEED SYMBOL indicates the speed at which the tire can carry a load corresponding to its load index under normal service conditions suggested by Sumitomo.

The LOAD INDEX is a code which reflects the maximum load a tire can carry at the speed indicated by its SPEED SYMBOL, based on the service application suggested by Sumitomo.
### Technical Data

#### Load Inflation Table

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<th>125</th>
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**Legend: D = Dual**  
**S = Single**

**8.25R15**  
S  
D  

**10.00R15**  
S  
D  

**9R17.5**  
S  
D  

**10R17.5**  
S  
D  

**8R19.5**  
S  
D  

**8.25R20**  
S  
D  

**9.00R20**  
S  
D  

**10.00R20**  
S  
D  

**11.00R20**  
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**12.00R20**  
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D  

**13/8R20**  
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D  

**14/8R20**  
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D  

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**385/65R22.5**  
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D  

**425/65R22.5**  
S  
D  

**285/7R24.5**  
S  
D  

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**Note:** Details of pressure values are provided in the table for various tire sizes and PSI levels.
Truck Tire Warnings!

Important: Be sure to read this safety information. Make sure that everyone who services tires or vehicles in your outlet has read and understands these warnings.

SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH CAN RESULT FROM FAILURE TO FOLLOW SAFETY WARNINGS.

No matter how well any tire is constructed, punctures, impact damage, improper inflation, improper maintenance or service factors may cause serious tire failure creating a risk of property damage and serious or fatal injury to you and/or your customer.

Encourage your customers to examine their tires frequently for snags, bulges, excessive treadwear, separations or cuts. If such conditions appear, advise them to demount the tire, use the spare, and see you immediately. If you spot any of the above conditions, bring them to the customer’s attention immediately. For safety, comply with the following warnings.

Tire and rim servicing can be dangerous and must be done only by trained personnel using proper tools and procedures. Failure to read and comply with all procedures may result in serious injury or death to you or others.

Reinflation of any type of tire/rim assembly that has been operated in a run-flat or underinflation condition (80% or less of recommended pressure), can result in serious injury or death. The tire may be damaged on the inside and can explode while you are adding air. The rim parts may be worn, damaged or dislodged and can explosively separate.

Use of starting fluid, ether, gasoline or any other flammable material to lubricate, seal or seat the beads of a tubeless tire can cause the tire to explode or can cause the explosive separation of the tire/rim assembly resulting in serious injury or death. The use of any flammable material during tire servicing is absolutely prohibited.

Any inflated tire mounted on a rim contains explosive energy. The use of damaged, mismatched or improperly assembled tire/rim parts can cause the assembly to burst apart with explosive force. If you are struck by an exploding tire, rim part or the air blast, you can be seriously injured or killed.

Re-assembly and the inflation of mismatched parts can result in serious injury or death. Just because parts come in together does not mean that they belong together. Check for proper matching on all rim parts before putting any parts together.

Mismatching tire and rim diameters is dangerous. A mismatched tire and rim assembly may explode and can result in serious injury or death. This warning applies to 14”, 14.5”, 16” and 16.5” tires and rims as well as other similarly mismatched size combinations. Never assemble a tire and rim unless you have positively identified and correctly matched the parts.

If the tire is 20% below the recommended operating pressure it must be considered flat. The tire must be removed, dismounted and inspected for punctures or other damage.

Mounting And Demounting

A tire cannot perform properly unless it is mounted properly on the correct size rim or wheel. The following are general instructions for demounting and mounting tube-type and tubeless tires. For detailed instructions on mounting and demounting truck tires on particular types of rims and wheels, refer to the instructions of the rim and wheel manufacturer or the Rubber Manufacturer Association (RMA) wall charts.

1. SELECTION OF PROPER COMPONENTS AND MATERIALS:
   a. All tires must be mounted with the proper tube and flap (if required) and rim or wheel as indicated in the application data books.
   b. Make certain that rim/wheel components are properly matched and of the correct dimensions for the tire.
   c. Always fit new tube in a new mounting. Since the tube will exhibit growth in size through normal use, an old tube used in a new mounting increases the possibility of tube creasing and chafing, possibly resulting in failure.
   d. Always install a new flap in a new mounting. A flap through extended use becomes hard and brittle. After limited time, it will develop a set to match the tire and rim in which it is fitted. Therefore, it will not exactly match a tire/rim combination.
   e. Always install new valve cores, and metal or hard plastic valve caps containing plastic or rubber seals. On tubeless truck tire valve stems, replace the rubber grommet. For tires requiring “O” Rings, be sure to install a new one at every tire change.
   f. Always use a safety device such as an inflation cage or other OSHA approved device when inflating. Never stand over tire or in front of a tire when inflating. Always use a clip on valve chuck with hose extension and stand to the side when inflating.

2. TIRE AND RIM LUBRICATION:

It is essential that an approved vegetable oil base soap solution tire lubricant be used for mounting of tubeless and tube-type tires. The lubricant serves the following purposes:

- Minimizes the possibility of damage to the tire beads from the mounting tools.
- Eases the insertion of the tire onto the rim by lubricating all contacting surfaces.
- Assists proper bead seating (tire/rim centering) and helps prevent eccentric mountings.

A. TUBELESS TIRES - Apply lubricant to all surfaces of the bead area of the tire. When applying lubricant to the rim, lubricate the entire rim surface from flange to flange.

B. TUBE-TYPE TIRES - Apply clean lubricant to all portions of the tire bead area and the exposed portion of the flap using sufficient but sparing quantities of lubricant. Also lubricate the entire rim surface. Avoid using excessive amounts of lubricant which can become trapped between the tire and tube can result in tube damage and rapid air loss.

CAUTION: It is important that tire lubricant be clean and free of dirt, sand, metal shavings or other hard particles. The particles may lodge between the tube and the flap edges resulting in splits in the tube. The following practice is recommended:

a. Use a fresh supply of tire lubricant each day, drawing from a clean supply and placing the lubricant in a clean portable container.

b. Provide a cover for the portable container and/or other means to prevent contamination of the lubricant when not in use.

We suggest the following method, which has proven to be successful in minimizing contamination and preventing excess lubricant from entering the tire casing: Provide a special cover for the portable container which has a funnel-like device attached. The small opening of the funnel should be sized so that when a swab is inserted through the opening into the reserve of lubricant and then withdrawn, the swab is compressed, removing excess lubricant. This allows the cover to be left in place providing added protection. A mesh false bottom in the container is a further safeguard against contaminants. The tire should be mounted and inflated promptly before lubricant dries.

3. PREPARATION OF WHEELS, RIMS AND TIRES:

Never weld or apply heat to a rim or wheel on which a tire is mounted.

a. Always wear safety goggles or face shields when buffing or grinding rims or wheels.

b. Inspect wheel/rim assemblies for cracks, distortion, deforming of flanges, side rings, lock rings, etc. Using a file and/or emery cloth, smooth all burrs, welds, dents, etc. that are present on the tire side of the rim. Inspect the condition of bolt holes on the wheels.

c. Remove rust with a wire brush and apply rust inhibiting paint.

d. Remove any accumulation of rubber or grease which might be stuck to the tire, being careful not to damage it. Wipe the beads down with a dry rag.

e. Make sure there is no water, dirt, or foreign material inside the tire before inserting the tube.
## Medium Truck Range of Sizes & Load Range

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* Speed Restricted to 55 mph.

**Legend:**
- F = 12 Ply
- G = 14 Ply
- H = 16 Ply
- J = 18 Ply
- L = 20 Ply
SUMITOMO TIRE

4300 TBC Way
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
866-822-4968

www.sumitomotire.com