

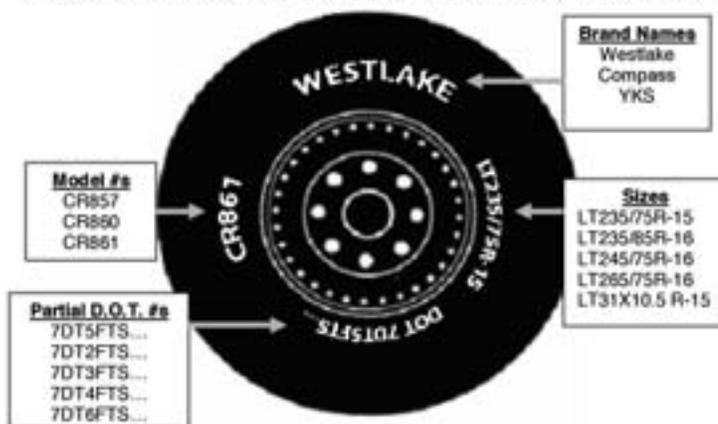
Consumer ALERT



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

TEXANS URGED TO CHECK FOR POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS TIRES DISTRIBUTED BY FOREIGN TIRE SALES, INC.

FOREIGN TIRE SALES INC. ANNOUNCES A TIRE RECALL FOR SOME MODELS OF WESTLAKE, COMPASS AND YKS TIRES FOR LIGHT TRUCKS AND SUVs MANUFACTURED BY HANGZHOU ZHONGCE RUBBER COMPANY



The affected tires were manufactured from 2004 through early 2006 and carry the Westlake, Compass or YKS brands. The models involved are: CR857, CR860 and CR861. Model CR861 will also carry the model designation "Telluride". Please note that not all tires exhibiting Telluride were imported into the United States and are not subject to this recall.

The sizes and other identifying information on the affected tires are as follows:

Size	Models	D.O.T. No. starts with
LT235/75R-15	CR861, CR857	7DT5FTS.....
LT235/85R-16	CR860, CR861, CR857	7DT2FTS.....
LT245/75R-16	CR860, CR861, CR857	7DT3FTS.....
LT265/75R-16	CR860, CR861, CR857	7DT4FTS.....
LT31X10.5 R-15	CR857, CR861	7DT6FTS.....

It is very important that you notice that the DOT number above includes the dates from 0404 - 0206 (fourth week of 2004 through second week of 2006).

Please note that tire size LT225/75R-16 IS NOT being recalled.

Foreign Tire Sales (FTS) is a small, family-owned tire importer based in Union, NJ. Founded in 1973, FTS has imported quality tires for automobiles and industrial applications from numerous manufacturers around the world for 35 years. Over that period of time, FTS has grown from two to 16 employees. FTS sells tires directly to distributors in nearly every state and Puerto Rico. FTS has no retail operations. To ensure and maintain that FTS imports tires that exceed all federal safety standards, FTS employs a full-time expert tire engineer with over 35 years of industry experience.

If you feel you are in possession of one or more of these tires, please call the recall hotline at 1-888-899-9293 or visit our website at www.foreigntire.com for more information.

Foreign Tire Sales, Inc. (FTS), in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, today issued a recall of tires that could be in danger of tread separation. The Office of the Attorney General is urging Texas drivers to check their vehicles for these potentially dangerous tires and contact FTS to learn more about replacing the recalled products.

The recalled tires were made by Hangzhou Zhongce Rubber Co. Ltd. ("HZ") in China and distributed in the United States under several names, including Westlake, YKS and Compass. The tires were sold from 2004 to 2006 for light trucks, sports utility vehicles, and vans.

According to FTS, the U.S. distributor, at least 270,000 tires may have insufficient or missing "gum strips," an important safety feature on certain tires that helps prevent tread separation.

WRITE TO: Greg Abbott, Office of the Attorney General, PO Box 12548, Austin, TX 78711-2548 • (800) 252-8011 • www.oag.state.tx.us

More than 50,000 of the potentially unsafe tires are believed to have been sold in Texas.

Consumers should immediately check the sidewalls of their tires for the brand name, size, model, and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) number. Tires subject to today's recall bear the DOT number "FTS" as part of the number.

Consumers who own any of these tires should immediately contact FTS toll-free at (888) 899-9293 or online at www.foreigntire.com. FTS may require consumers to complete a questionnaire and present it to a local dealer to obtain replacement tires. Consumers who own these tires should avoid driving for long distances on hot roads. Contact FTS to locate the closest tire shop or mechanic participating in the recall.

In most cases, consumers should not be charged to replace the defective tires. Check the FTS Web site or hotline for additional information.

Specific tire sizes and models affected:

- LT235/75R-15 CR861, CR857 (Partial D.O.T. Number: 7DT5FTS)
- LT235/85R-16 CR860, CR861, CR857 (Partial D.O.T. Number: 7DT2FTS)
- LT245/75R-16 CR860, CR861, CR857 (Partial D.O.T. Number: CR857)
- LT265/75R-16 CR860, CR861, CR857 (Partial D.O.T. Number: 7DT4FTS)
- LT31X10.5R-15 CR861, CR857 (Partial D.O.T. Number: 7DT6FTS)

As part of general tire safety, consumers should keep the following tips in mind:

- Inspect tires at least once a month and before every long trip for patterns of uneven wear. Check tire inflation pressure in accordance with manufacturer recommendations.
- Do not overload your vehicle. Excess weight can place extra stress on your tires. Check your tire placard or vehicle owner's manual for the maximum amount of weight your vehicle can safely carry.
- Develop safe driving habits. Observe speed limits and avoid fast stops, starts, and turns. Avoid contact with potholes, debris, and curbs when driving or parking your vehicle.
- Keep your vehicle properly maintained. Rotate tires regularly, get wheels balanced, and get a front-end alignment if necessary.

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- Use the proper tires for your vehicle. Check the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations before replacing a tire with a different size and/or construction.
- Be aware of how the outside temperature affects your tires. Hot weather can be especially hard on tires.
- Have any tire problems checked out by professionals. If you find that one of your tires is losing pressure, take it to a tire expert for a complete internal inspection.
- Avoid buying used tires. You might be getting previously recalled or otherwise dangerous tires.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Abbott
Attorney General of Texas

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