

RESILIENT TYRE DAMAGE AND PREVENTION

The aim of fleet managers must be maximum tyre life with minimum downtime, the only way to achieve this is through regular, specialist tyre management. Resilient tyres are highly durable products and damage and failure are most often caused by external factors rather than a manufacturing defect.

These external issues are often the reason why the same two tyres on similar trucks can perform differently with different drivers or in different work environments.

SIDEWALL DAMAGE AND SEPARATION:



CAUSE: Excessive heat build up caused by overload or extreme distance, possible driver abuse in terms of exceeding maximum permissible speeds over sustained distances

PREVENTION: Review of management of loads in combination with speeds and distances, driver training.

RADIAL CRACKING:



CAUSE: Tyre overload - At their capacity when fitted, any wear increases the load by volume, as the overloaded tyre wears it becomes smaller, therefore exacerbating the issue.

PREVENTION: Review of load capacity rating of the tyre against actual loading of the truck, loads must be evenly distributed and within safe working limits of the equipment; particularly with 3 wheel FLT's where the steer wheel is positioned beneath the counter balance.

CHIPPING & CHUNKING:



CAUSE: Initial damage is sustained by contact with debris: nails, glass, swarf etc, these minor cuts develop into more serious chipping and chunking, often following the flow lines of the rubber.

PREVENTION: Removal of debris from floors, aisles and runways, guidance to drivers to avoid problem areas and poor driving techniques.

Other external factors effecting tyre performance;

Driving: Fast acceleration and harsh braking, together with driving distances in excess of industry guidelines; lead to heat build up, accelerated wear and irregular wear patterns.

Faulty fitment: All rim components must be fitted, including the advance band, failure to do so will result in tyre spin and heat build up in the bead area and invalidates tyre manufacturers warranty.

Loads: Uneven distribution of loads combined with high lifts and short wheel base.