



Technical Bulletin No. 7

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Use of Balancing Powders/Internal Substances in Continental tyres

Many substances are available from different manufacturers on the market for filling tubeless commercial vehicle tyres. These substances are predominantly pellets, powders, pastes or liquids. Their purpose is mainly to balance the complete wheel and eliminate the need for conventional balance weights.

Continental does not endorse nor prohibit the application of these substances in our commercial vehicle tyres. Furthermore, we cannot comment about the specific quality or application of these products, which may vary from supplier to supplier. The user of these products should consult the relevant product information provided by these independent suppliers before using it in any tyres.

Ultimately, it is the consumer who determines the method of wheel balancing as well as whether to use any specific product based on his/her specific tyre application.

The use of internal substances in Continental commercial vehicle tyres will not automatically void our warranty on the tyre. However, detrimental tyre conditions that are caused by or attributed to the use of these internal substances are not covered by our warranty.

Customers must request and carefully review the producer's statements regarding their product's compatibility with tyres and any potential impact on tyre performance or durability.

Continental recommends the complete removal of internal substances from the tyres prior to inspection for retreading purposes. The product should also be removed from the tyres when a tyre specialist makes a repair that conforms to proper repair procedures. In addition in order to ensure a complete and professional examination when a tyre is returned for warranty, Continental may first completely remove these internal substances and dispose of them in accordance with local regulations. We will not replace or reimburse the consumer for products that we had to remove when inspecting the tyres for any warranty returns.

In the event a customer learns that an internal substance has caused damage to a tyre (typically cracks in the innerliner, Fig1.), the customer must remove the tyre from service. In addition, we recommend that all tyres in the fleet that may contain the same internal substance are properly examined to ensure they are not damaged in a similar way. If additional tyres are found to be damaged the customer must also remove them from service. The substance should also not be used again in undamaged tyres until the root cause has been clarified and resolved with the substance supplier or manufacturer.

There is an additional risk that the substance (i. e. balancing powder) may get into the valve or could contaminate the seat between the rim and tyre bead causing pressure loss. It is therefore recommended that tyres are thoroughly checked for any air leaks when using these internal substances.

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Fig1: Innerliner cracks caused by the balancing powder