

## Technical Services Bulletin Motorcycle & Scooter Tires

### Groove Cracking of Motorcycle & Scooter Tires

Groove cracking symptoms as shown in the photo are usually superficial and may be caused by a variety of factors other than the tire itself.

These groove cracks (also called stress cracks) are mostly caused by improper inflation pressure, excessive heat, over loading the tire or high ozone level in the environment.

The graphic below provides an illustration of the nature of the propagation of the crack. Typically groove cracks are not more than 0.5 mm (0.02") deep and do not reach the reinforcing materials of the tire.



Usually, from the point of view of the legislator, the technical inspection organizations for motor vehicle safety and also the associations of the tire industry, such crack formation is classified as harmless for operational safety.

The typical performance characteristics of the tire (e.g. wet grip, handling, mileage, rolling resistance) are not affected by the condition and we can confirm that tires exhibiting such groove cracks can continue to be used in normal service.

The symptom is therefore cosmetic and does not affect vehicle safety.

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