



Technical Service Bulletin

To: **All Sumitomo Tire Dealers**
Date: **June 26, 2006**
No: **06-02**
Re: **Balance Marks on Sidewall**

In order to enhance the ride characteristics and uniformity of Sumitomo HTR tires Sumitomo Rubber Industries, has two Balance Marks on the sidewall of tires. These 3/4" circles of different colored paint will be on the non-DOT serial sidewall.

By knowing the function of these colored circles, the tire installer can reduce the amount of weight needed to bring the rim/tire assembly into uniformity and insure a smooth ride at the respective speed for which the tire is rated.

The Balance Marks will be indicated as follows:

Yellow - Within 3 inches to either side of the YELLOW circle is the *LIGHT* spot of the tire. Each tire is confirmed at the factory for radial balance, and marked at this point. For most mounting practices, Sumitomo suggests mounting this YELLOW circle near the valve stem, and use of industry recommended procedures for safe tire mounting.

Red – A RED circle denotes a measurement of high-speed run out (measurement called HARMONIC). If the wheel/rim is an OE spec rim, it is marked at the factory with a DIMPLE (in the rim/wheel heel). If this tire/rim assembly gives a vibration at high speed with the YELLOW circle at the valve stem and the bead is checked for proper seating, then the RED circle should be matched with the DIMPLE.

Vibration diagnosis note: If, after mounting the tire with the YELLOW circle near the valve stem, there is a need for excess weight, please breakdown the beads from the rim, rotate the tire 180 degrees, then re-inflate it to normal pressure (please follow proper procedure). This short practice will reduce the amount of weights needed to bring the rim/tire assembly into uniformity when the rim/wheel has no DIMPLE or is not an OE spec wheel.

Any other colored circles are only inspection marks and do not need to be involved with tire mounting.