

February 9, 2007

The Honorable Byron Dorgan  
United States Senate

Subject: Underinflated Tires in the United States

Dear Senator Dorgan:

More than a quarter of automobiles and about a third of light trucks (including sport utility vehicles, vans, and pickup trucks) on the roadways of the United States have one or more tires underinflated 8 pounds per square inch (psi) or more below the level recommended by the vehicle manufacturer, according to a report by the Department of Transportation's (DOT) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).<sup>1</sup> A decrease in tire pressure can be caused by poor maintenance, driving habits, punctures, road conditions, and the quality of material used in tire construction. According to tire experts, under normal driving conditions, air-filled tires can lose from 1 to 2 psi per month as air permeates through the tires. Vehicles with underinflated tires have had handling problems that caused crashes resulting in fatalities and injuries. In addition, the fuel economy of vehicles driving on underinflated tires is slightly lower. In response to your request for information on these issues, we addressed the following questions: (1) What is the impact of tire underinflation on safety and fuel economy, and what actions has the federal government taken to promote proper tire inflation? and (2) what technologies are currently available to reduce underinflation and what are their implications for safety and fuel economy?

To address these questions, we interviewed officials from federal agencies, tire industry associations and businesses, and public advocacy groups. We examined their studies on tire pressure and its impact on safety and fuel economy, and the technologies used to detect underinflation and maintain tire pressure. Unless otherwise specified, in this report we refer to the nongovernmental organizations that we contacted collectively as "industry." We also examined federal legislation and DOT requirements on tire pressure monitoring systems (TPMS), DOT's program for increasing public awareness on maintaining proper tire inflation, and fleet maintenance directives provided by the General Services Administration (GSA) to federal agencies that lease GSA vehicles. Finally, we assessed the methodology that NHTSA used to conduct a survey on tire underinflation and found it, and some of the conclusions derived by the agency from the survey, appropriate for our use in this report. (See encl. 1 for additional information on our methodology, including a list of

<sup>1</sup>NHTSA, Research Note: Tire Pressure Special Study (Washington, D.C., August 2003).

GAO-07-248B Underinflated Tires

# Underinflated Tires In The U S

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**Total Pages :** 17 pages



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**Summary :** Free underinflated tires in the u s pdf download - more than 1 4 of cars 1 3 of light trucks on u s roadways have one or more tires underinflated 8 pounds per square inch psi or more below the level recommended by the vehicle manufacturer a decrease in tire pressure can be caused by poor maint driving habits punctures road conditions the quality of material used in tire construction under normal driving conditions air-filled tires can lose from 1 to 2 psi per month as air permeates through the tires the following questions are addressed what is the impact of tire underinflation on safety fuel economy what actions has the fed gov t taken to promote proper tire inflation what technologies are currently available to reduce underinflation what are their implications for safety fuel economy illus

**Pusblisher :** DIANE Publishing on 2007-08-01 / **ISBN :**  
1422315193



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# PDF UNDERINFLATED TIRES IN THE U S

**u.s. government accountability office: unerinflated tires ...** - underinflated tires impact a driver's ability to control a vehicle against skidding, blowouts, and other tire failures. while not a leading cause of highway ...

**underinflated tyre - case study & research** - underinflated tyres: ... in radial-ply tires, ... usdot u.s. department of transportation utd useful tread depth . ...

**tire-related factors in the pre-crash phase** - this publication is distributed by the u.s. department of transportation, national highway ... tires are underinflated by 25 percent or more, ...

**evaluation of the effectiveness of tpms in proper tire ...** - this publication is distributed by the u.s. department of transportation, ... frequency of severely underinflated tires by using survey data acquired through the tire ...

**tire pressures and sustainability: the economic and ...** - tire pressures and sustainability: the economic and environmental effects of under-inflated and over-inflated tires at ... based on the u.s. department of energy ...

**issued: june 20 0 s.2 tire & wheel study group information ...** - tires underinflated by 10 psi = 1 percent poorer fuel economy ... 10,000 lbs. gvwr) sold in the u.s. are required to have some type of tire pressure warning sys-

**hanover risk solutions tire safety for passenger vehicles ...** - tire safety for passenger vehicles ... fully 27 percent of passenger cars on u.s. ... substantially underinflated tires, ...

**tire pressure awareness campaign what's the issue?** - tire pressure awareness campaign 1 what's the issue? majority of cars on u.s. roads are operating ... driving on underinflated tires can contribute as much as

**gas pump relief through proper tire inflation** - gas pump relief through proper tire inflation ... the dangers of having underinflated tires the fact is according to the u.s. department of energy, tires that are ...

**maintenance guide for continental rv tires** - maintenance guide for continental rv tires. 2 ... the u.s. dot tire identification number contains information about ... underinflated tires can result in sudden ...

**in the united states court of appeals public citizen, inc ...** - new york public interest research group, and center for auto safety, ... new york public interest research group, and ... a. the hazards of underinflated tires ...

**fall 2010 engineering dynamics corporation technical ...** - fall 2010 engineering dynamics corporation ... weight distribution and tires, u ... u -u are ignored in hve's total understeer

**ntsd-12-011 november 26, 2012 - nitto tire** - ntsd-12-011 november 26, 2012 ... nitto tire u.s.a., inc. 5665 plaza dr., ... but are not applicable if tires are underinflated,

**are you - u.s. forest service** - are you by cleveland j. biller u.s.d.a. forest service ... overloaded and underinflated tires ... if skidders were equipped with the proper with . service u. s ...

**tire pressure management system and presentation stand** - underinflated tires cause a greater contact surface area with the road, ... table i reviews the tire pressure management system's technical requirements, ...

**united states court of appeals for the second circuit ...** - ... 49 u.s.c. § 30123 note, within 30 days of the court's order. ... tpms that can detect when any or all of a vehicle's tires are significantly underinflated.

**tires - techinfo.honda** - underinflated tires wear unevenly, adversely affect handling ... tires: (u.s.: dx, ex, hx, canada: dx, si) p185/65r14 85s (u.s.: si, canada: sir) p195/55 r15 84v

**benefits of properly inflated tires: simple tire ...** - simple tire maintenance tips: ... nearly 50 percent of vehicles in the u.s. have at least one underinflated tire. ii ... make your tires last longer,

...

**tire pressure sensors july2005 - ntlis** - their tires underinflated by 20 psi or more, while fleets with over 500 power units have only ... tire pressure sensors\_july2005.qxp ...

**save money at the pump, increase efficiency, and protect ...** - efficiency, and protect your safety ... save money at the pump, increase efficiency, and protect your safety ... wasting money because of underinflated tires.

**february 12, 2002 mr. kirk k. van tine 400 seventh street ...** - february 12, 2002 mr. kirk k. van tine ... u.s. department of transportation 400 ... with underinflated tires. omb supports nhtsa's establishment of a safety ...

**tire pressure monitoring - peoplenet** - tire pressure monitoring provides wireless, electronic, ... statistics also show that underinflated tires decrease a vehicle's average mpg by as much as 3.3%.

**national tire safety week "your tires are one of your key ...** - and most important, underinflated tires ... about toyo tires® established in 1966, toyo tire u.s.a. corp. represents the innovation, quality, performance, and

**inflation - goodyear truck** - inflation s ection f ive proper inflation of radial truck tires is the most important maintenance practice to ... • don't permit tires to operate underinflated

**how to read a tire dot serial number do check your tires ...** - the original tires on your vehicle ... it is difficult to tell just by looking at radial tires whether they are underinflated. ... kelly speed ratings and u.s ...

**subject: aircraft tire maintenance date: 4/18/05 ac no ...** - subject: aircraft tire maintenance and operational practices ... removal of aircraft tires. ... copies of the following acs may be obtained from the u.s. department of

**national survey: schrader discovers 42 percent of drivers ...** - ... schrader® discovers 42 percent of drivers still can't identify lifesaving dashboard warning symbol ... underinflated tires a ... u.s. vehicle population is ...

**55% of vehicles have one under-inflated tire** - 55% of vehicles have one under-inflated tire ... each year by u.s. motorists driving on under inflated tires. the national highway traffic safety administration ...

**make your dealership a one-stop-shop for complete tire service** - since u.s. federal regulations have made it a requirement that ... , underinflated tires can cut gas mileage by more than 3%. • for every one pound per square inch ...

**software for the inka tire-pressure monitoring system** - s. e. buznikov udc 622.457 ... more than 3.5 million liters of fuel are wasted in the u.s. each day because of underinflated tires, according to u.s. data ...

**safo - federal aviation administration** - u.s. department safo 11001 . of transportation date: 1/6/11 . federal aviation. ... additionally, servicing of underinflated tires without

**in the united states court of appeals public citizen, inc ...** - new york public interest research group, and center for auto safety, ... 1 u.s.c. § 1 ... underinflated when four tires are underinflated is sheer nonsense.

**everest loss control news** - april volume 4 , issue 21 , 2012 everest loss control news inside t ... underinflated tires often wear out faster

**#4 - pump it up! tire pressure** - if a car's tires are constantly underinflated, ... • keeping your car in shape— u.s. department of energy: <http://fueleconomy/feg/maintaintml>

**opportunities to improve tire energy efficiency - icct** - opportunities to improve tire energy efficiency by ed pike ... tires are an important factor in passenger vehicle ... underinflated tires have increased rolling ...

**retreaded tire use and safety: synthesis** - retreaded tire use and safety: synthesis . ... the same as with new tires. statistics compiled by the u.s. department of transportation ... are underinflated or ...

**inspection procedures to identify potential sidewall ...** - ... on truck/bus tires and light ... operating with one or more tires underinflated and/or overloaded, ... u.s. department of labor occupational safety and health ...

**meritor tire inflation system (mtis ) by p.s.i. – w ...** - running on underinflated tires can be a ... mtis by p.s.i. harnesses your trailer's existing air supply to keep your tires fully ... and u.s . environmental ...

**technical bulletin - nitto tire** - technical bulletin ntsd-12-006 ... and or underinflated tires are applied to any vehicle, ... please contact nitto tire u.s.a. inc.'s consumer relations department at

**office supplier of tpms for dongfeng-nissan and tesla** - office supplier of tpms for dongfeng-nissan and tesla ... running tires are underinflated.-u.s.a national highway ... supplier of tpms for dongfeng-nissan and ...

**vehicleintelligence tire analysis vehicleintelligence** - material in vehicle tires, ... u.s. dependence on imported oil has dramatically ... underinflated tires, for instance, require more

**steering safer wheels for america's motorists** - steering safer wheels for america's ... firestone tires in 2000 prompted the u.s. congress ... each tire's rotation. the premise is that underinflated tires ...

**ted scott, 703 838-1908 march 2014 tscott@trucking ata ...** - ata filed in october 2006 a petition with the u.s ... fmcsr language that is use to require enforcement officers to check for under-inflated tires. on ...

**rhodes v. firestone tire & rubber co.** - underinflated tires distribute the load they carry to the outside edges of the tire, causing heat to rise in that ... rhodes v. firestone tire & rubber co.

**automatic tire inflation systems - epa** - underinflated tires have more fre- ... smartway transport partnership a clance at clean freight strategies:: automatic tire inflation systems author: u.s. epa

**tire safety tips - oil change, tires & towing service @ adv** - tire safety . learn to recognize ... addition, underinflated tires lower a vehicle's fuel economy, ... set the tires to the automaker's recommended tire pressure.

**tire repair for passenger car and light truck tires** - tire repair for passenger car and light truck ...

- air loss resulting in underinflated service conditions which ... manufacturer's warranty. ssr tires: ...

**timing belt, tires - american honda motor company** - timing belt, tires timing belt the ... replace this belt at 60,000 miles (u.s.) or 100,000 km (canada) ... underinflated tires wear unevenly, adversely affect handling