



Ministry
of Defence



DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

DESSEC-PolSecLE-JSC-WPNS@mod.uk



Defence Equipment & Support
Maple 0a # 2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Via:

18 February 2021 Our Ref: FOI2021/01357

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 4 February 2021 requesting the following information:

I am aware that there have been safety related concerns raised within the MOD in recent years with regards to the Goodyear G90 tyres fitted to Land Rover Defender TUL(HS) and TUM(HS) vehicles. Could you please supply any information you hold on this matter including copies of any safety notices or bulletins issued.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

Following a search of records and archives, an email and three safety notices have been located. These can be found at annexes A – D.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the issue that arose in 2013 was small surface cracks to some Goodyear G90 tyres. Following analysis it was found that there were no underlying manufacturing or structural issues and the tyres were safe to use unless damaged in some other way.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of

the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

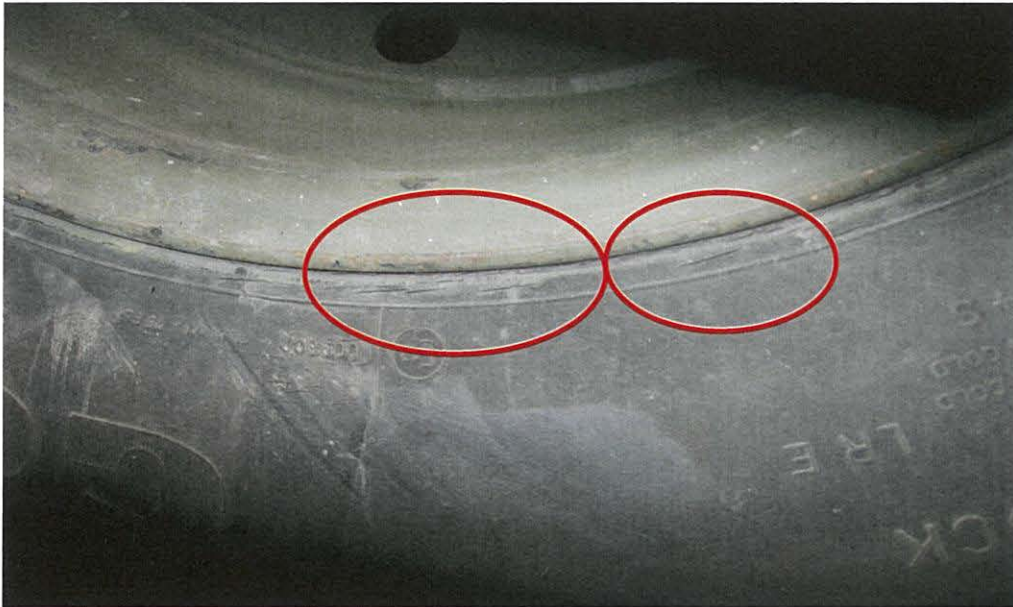
Yours sincerely,

DES SEC Pol Sec Land Equipment

Subject: Cracking of Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa.

Equipment: All Wolf Land rovers.

Issue: Here at land Training Fleet we hold 86 Land rovers of various types. So far since the second safety notice we have changed about 210 tyres. Now although we have been examining our tyres, as per AESP 2610-A-409-531, we have noticed that the South African tyres Goodyear G90 can have small radial cracks, As shown in the picture below



These cracks can grow over a period of time, in some cases a matter of weeks.



The two pictures above are to indicate that this is a brand new tyre and was fitted as a spare so nil road use. These cracks vary in width and length.

Of all the Michelins inspected no tyres were found to have this fault. So as you might expect good engineering practice suggest that we change the tyre.

We have just had a new delivery of tyres and these are also Goodyear G90 but a different batch number. Uncertain if we should use these tyres our store man, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] phoned a [REDACTED] for advice and was told that they are ok to use, he just seemed surprised on the amount we are consuming. So I thought that I would just get in contact with you for guidance.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 June 2013 12:59
To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Release-authorized: 20130621-Safety Issue on Wolf Land Rovers
Importance: High

From

[REDACTED]
Manager 4 - Conventional Vehicle Solutions
[REDACTED]

Email address has changed to [REDACTED]

(External: [REDACTED])

To

[REDACTED]

CC

[REDACTED]

File Ref: OSVP/64/40/04/09

Not for out of hours action

Subject: **Safety** Issue on Wolf Land Rovers

Equipment Affected: All Wolf Land Rovers, TUL (HS), TUM (HS) and BFA.

Issue: Cracking of Goodyear G90 Tyres manufactured in South Africa

Immediate Action: All affected vehicles to be inspected to see if they are fitted with Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa. The information is written on the sidewall of the tyre. This includes all the road wheels, including spare wheels. Any vehicle fitted with Goodyear G90 tyre manufactured in South Africa is to be considered Non Taskworthy.

The faulty tyres are to be replaced. The faulty tyres should be retained and quarantined until further instruction from [REDACTED]).

A demand can be submitted for replacement G90 tyres NSN 2610-99-131-1549 or XZL tyres NSN 2610-99-405-6007. G90 and XZL tyres cannot be mixed on the same Vehicle.

Any tyres stored locally should also be inspected with a view to quarantining any Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa.

Routine Action: Units should ensure Daily Before Use Checks are carried out in accordance with AESP 2320-D-128-601 Table 6.

POC: [REDACTED]

For JAMES Managed Equipment: An inspection task will be included on JAMES for all affected vehicles. This task needs to be [cleared] by 27 June 2013 otherwise the vehicle will become Non Taskworthy. If any Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa are found, the standard repair action 'Replace Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa' should be used. The vehicle is then Non Taskworthy until this repair action is completed.

The JAMES notice should be something like;

(Serious Safety) G90 Tyres Fitted to Wolf Land Rovers including BFA.

A unit has reported a safety issue with a number of Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa. All units are to inspect all Wolf Land Rovers including BFA at the earliest opportunity to determine if any of the tyres fitted, including the spare, is a Goodyear G90 manufactured in South Africa. No issue has been identified with G90 tyres manufactured at other locations. The PT are raising a batch fault and units should be aware that this will be turn red on JAMES on 27th June.

If a G90 manufactured in South Africa is found, the vehicle is to be placed Non Taskworthy. The standard repair action 'Replace Goodyear G90 tyre manufactured in South Africa' should be used.

The full Safety Notice can be found here.

Any queries are to be directed to [REDACTED] at the Operational Support Vehicle Programme [REDACTED].

E Signal Released by;

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Manager 4 - Conventional Vehicle Solutions

[REDACTED]

Email address has changed to [REDACTED]

(External: [REDACTED])

"This e-mail was sent from an e-mail address under the control of the MOD Privileged/in confidence information may be contained in this message. If you have received this e-mail in error, please destroy all copies in your possession or control and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. The addressee (or individual responsible for delivery of the message to such person) may not forward, disclose or copy this e-mail to any third party without prior consent of MOD. Furthermore, MOD does not accept any liability for any changes made to this e-mail after it was sent. Please advise immediately if you or your employer do not consent to Internet e-mail for messages of this kind."



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 25 June 2013 13:24

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Importance: High

From
[Redacted]

Manager 4 - Conventional Vehicle Solutions

[Redacted]

Email address has changed to [Redacted]

(External: [Redacted])

To
[Redacted]

CC
[Redacted]

File Ref: OSVP/64/40/04/09

Date: 25 JUN 13

Not for out of hours action

Subject: Safety Issue on Wolf Land Rovers

Equipment Affected: All Wolf Land Rovers, TUL (HS), TUM (HS) and BFA.

Issue: Cracking of Goodyear G90 Tyres manufactured in South Africa

Immediate Action: All tyres, including the spare, on affected vehicles to be visually inspected for damage in accordance with AESP 2610-A-409-531 Table 1. The inspection needs to include both the inner and outer sidewalls.

If a tyre is found to be damaged, it is to be replaced. If no damage is found to the tyres, the vehicle (unless subject to other faults) is taskworthy.

Any tyres stored locally should also be inspected.

Any faulty tyres should be retained and quarantined until further instruction from [REDACTED]

A demand can be submitted for replacement G90 tyres NSN 2610-99-131-1549 or XZL tyres NSN 2610-99-405-6007. G90 and XZL tyres cannot be mixed on the same Vehicle. Replacement tyres should be obtained from Stores System 3, not from the DRS.

Routine Action: Units should ensure Daily Before Use Checks are carried out in accordance with AESP 2320-D-128-601 Table 6.

Additional Information: After further investigation, it has been shown the cracking found in Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa were most likely due to environmental issues and use, and not due to any underlying issue with the tyres. Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa that pass inspection are safe for use.

POC [REDACTED]

E Signal Released by:
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 June 2013 10:26

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: 20130626 Safety Issue on Wolf Land Rovers - Update

From
[REDACTED]

Manager 4 - Conventional Vehicle Solutions

[REDACTED]

Email address has changed to [REDACTED]
(External: [REDACTED])

To
[REDACTED]

CC
[REDACTED]

File Ref: OSVP/64/40/04/09

Date: 26 JUN 13

Not for out of hours action

Subject: Safety Issue on Wolf Land Rovers

Equipment Affected: All Wolf Land Rovers, Pinzgauers and Trailer Lightweight (TUL (HS), TUM (HS), TUM(HD), BFA and LWT)

Issue: Cracking of Goodyear G90 Tyres manufactured in South Africa

Immediate Action: All tyres, including the spare, on affected vehicles to be visually inspected for damage in accordance with AESP 2610-A-409-531 Table 1. The inspection is to include all external surfaces of the tyre. The tyre is not to be removed from the wheel.

If a tyre is found to be damaged, it is to be replaced. If no damage is found to the tyres, the vehicle (unless subject to other faults) is taskworthy.

Any tyres stored locally should also be inspected.

Any faulty tyres should be retained and quarantined until further instruction from [REDACTED]

For Wolf Land Rovers, a demand can be submitted for replacement G90 tyres NSN 2610-99-131-1549 or XZL tyres NSN 2610-99-405-6007. G90 and XZL tyres cannot be mixed on the same Vehicle.

For Pinzgauers, refer to AESP 2320-D-400-821 General Instruction 6 and Pinzgauer Tyre Obsolescence Dated 15 February 2013 for details of replacement tyres.

For Lightweight Trailers, a demand can be submitted for replacement XZL tyres NSN 2610-99-405-6007.

Replacement tyres must be demanded from Stores System 3, not from the DRS. There is a ban placed on all demands. Demands will go Dues Out. Demands will be processed in accordance with priorities set by CSS Ops.

Routine Action: Units should ensure Daily Before Use Checks are carried out in accordance with AESP 2320-D-128-601 Table 6, 2320-D-400-601 Table 6 and 2330-E-202-601 Table 6.

Additional Information: After further investigation, it has been shown the cracking found in Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa were most likely due to environmental issues and use, and not due to any underlying issue with the tyres. Goodyear G90 tyres manufactured in South Africa that pass inspection are safe for use.

The Safety Notices, Safety Issue on Wolf Land Rovers dated 21 JUN 13 and 25 JUN 13 are rescinded.

POC: [REDACTED]

E Signal Released by:

[REDACTED]