Newsletter for GT Radial TBR Customers - October 2011 Edition



## GT Radial GT876 for On/Off Highway and Heavy Haul

If you are not familiar with the GT Radial GT876, you should be -- This wide-base radial is getting rave reviews for exceptional service in on/off highway and heavy haul applications.

While end users highly praise the durability of the casing even under severe operating conditions, they also like how the wide footprint provides great flotation and superior traction delivered by its aggressive tread design.

GT Radial GT876

Other key features and benefits include:

- Open shoulder allows greater traction while the tie bars improve its resistance to heel and toe wear.
- Stone ejectors in intermediate grooves prevent stone retention and stone drilling for better protection of the belt package.
- Cap and Base Tread design -- Cap layer provides wear resistance while the base insulates the casing against heat for cooler running.

With so many options in the market, the GT876 excels by providing dependability, long wear life, smooth wear and, most importantly, <u>one of the most competitive</u> <u>cost per mile in this market segment.</u>

The GT876 is available in three sizes: 385/65R22.5, 425/65R22.5, and 445/65R22.5.

Click here to see product specs.

## Four Keys to Truck Tire Maintenance

The four key elements that contribute to the extended life of any tire are: air pressure, rotation, mechanical maintenance of the vehicle and speed.



Don't let your tires end up like this!

Air pressure: For every 10% of

under-inflation in the tires on a vehicle, a 1% reduction in fuel economy will occur, which although small in appearance, is actually big when you multiply by tire positions, trucks in your fleet and miles run per year. By running a tire constantly underinflated by 20%, its tread life will be reduced by 30%, while 40% under-inflation will reduce the tire life by 50%; not to mention factors like: irregular wear, higher thermal and mechanical fatigue of the casing, lower retreadability and even premature failure.

**Rotation:** The periodical rotation of the tire will not only prevent or reduce the inevitable irregular wear (camber, river wear, toe-in the front axle; heel and toe, stepdown in the drive axle), but will extend the life of the tires and will contribute to a smoother, more fuel efficient performance.

**Vehicle alignment:** This is one of the top contributors to fast wear, irregular wear and fuel economy in all the tires in the vehicle and is associated with other physical effects like the entire aerodynamics of the trailer with subsequent additional impact in fuel economy (2% or more).

**Speed:** Rolling resistance increases with speed. For every mph (mile per hour) increase in speed above 55, there will be a 2% reduction in mpg (miles per gallon). Therefore a change from 55 mph to 65 mph will result in a 22% increase in fuel consumption while reducing travel time only 18%. High speed also will end in higher thermal and mechanical fatigue of the casing, lower retreadability and potential premature failure.

## **Don't Forget the Trailer Tires!**

Maintaining the proper overall maintenance of steer and drive tires is relatively simple and achievable; however, trailer tires are the most challenging to keep maintained. Trailers do not come into the shop as often as the tractors and can spend long time between PMI's. The maintenance of trailers tires is the lowest in the fleet.



A TBR tire building machine

## Writing Our Own History

The GITI Tire plant in Hualin is located in northeastern China and manufactures tires for cars, trucks and buses (radial and bias). Hualin is famous for the Hualin Temple, which has more than 1,000 years of history and represents the oldest wooden architecture in China.

GITI Tire team members at the Hualin plant are working hard to write their own history for manufacturing GT Radial tires that drivers across the world can depend on.



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