



COMMERCIAL FLEET TIRE DIGEST

*The authoritative guide to reducing commercial tire expenditures from
Pressure Systems International,
the manufacturer of the Meritor Tire Inflation System by PSI™*

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 5

MAY 2014

Tire Mileage – Factors Affecting

Have a Happy
and Safe
Memorial Day.
Please
remember all
men and women
who have died
in military
service to the
United States.

In the passenger car tire world, a 50,000 mile warranty tire can be purchased as well as a 70,000 mileage tire or even a 90,000 mile tire. With commercial tires, there is never a mileage guarantee. For these tires, there are many variables that have a significant impact on how they are going to perform - vehicle make/model, speed, route, load, service vocation, and the driver all have an impact on tire removal miles.

There have been a number of industry studies documenting how a driver can influence treadwear by as much as 35%. A young and aggressive driver that just received his CDL is typically hardest on tires while a driver that has been on the road for 35 years and highly experienced will usually have the highest removal miles and the best vehicle fuel economy. Driver training can seriously affect your overall tire costs.

Some vehicles are just harder on tires than others. Some tire brands may perform outstandingly on a specific vehicle combination but have deficiencies on other models. That is why a fleet manager cannot simply assume that just because a trailer tire that has been averaging 200,000 miles on one model configuration will be guaranteed to get the same miles on trailer model B or C.

Road surface will play a role in tire mileage up to 50%

Surface	Treadwear Rating
Asphalt	100
Concrete	95
Gravel	65
Dirt	50

On straight and level roads tires will get the highest mileage but will decrease significantly when driving over hilly, curvy, and mountainous terrains because of the

increased torque and increased tire tread scrubbing.

Terrain	Mileage
Sraight & level	100
Straight and slightly hilly	95
Hilly & curvy	75
Mountains	50

Driving speed always has a big impact on treadwear because of the increased heat being generated by the tires traveling at the higher speeds. Heat is a tire's worst enemy, especially truck tires with all of their mass.

Speed	Mileage
50 MPH	100
60 MPH	85
70 MPH	75
80 MPH	60

Specific service vocation always has the largest impact on tire mileage. Tires that are in linehaul operation driving in a straight line from New York to California typically have the highest removal miles. The same tires running in city service with a high amount of turning will tend to scrub the treads off very quickly. Running tires off road on dirt and gravel will also cause tires to wear out very rapidly.

No two fleets are the same when it comes to their vehicles and specific routes and loads. Tire loads will vary also affecting tire performance. Running tires underinflated will have a significant impact on tire removal miles because of a combination of additional heat and irregular wear that will develop because the footprint is no longer the optimal design shape. Educating your drivers about tires will go a long way in helping fleets increase tire mileage.

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