

PRESS RELEASE

According to a reliable American survey

Roadside alligators are not caused by retreads

Only 2% of roadside alligators are actually caused by retreads. This was revealed by TRIB, the Tire Retread Information Bureau, and is part of a study conducted in the States on a considerable amount of roadside tire debris. AIRP, the Italian Tyre Retreaders Association, thinks that the situation is essentially the same in Europe and Italy. The TRIB figures are anyway surprising and confute the common belief that roadside alligators are from retreads.

Tire failures are primarily caused by improper tire maintenance, namely overloading, underinflation, mismatched tires on duals, excessive speed, manufacturing defects and bad driving habits. These failures obviously occur to new and retreaded tires.

Nor is it correct to think that treads are likelier to come off on retreads, since new treads are permanently bonded to tire casings through a vulcanization process.

Even a layman can check this: roadside alligators end up in threads that are actually part of the tire package belt. In this case, then, the casing failed, not the tread, and the failure was caused by improper tire maintenance.

Needless to say, retreading has to be performed by knowledgeable professionals in compliance with UNECE 108 and 109 Regulations. Most Italian retreaders are already abiding by these regulations, yet AIRP requested the government to make them mandatory in Italy just like they are in many European countries.

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