



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA ALERT

DATE: 23 September 2008

MEC CELE WARNS ALL MOTORISTS TO COMPLY WITH THE NATIONAL ROAD TRAFFIC ACT AND USE TYRES THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR THEIR VEHICLES.

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Bheki Cele encourages all motorists to fit right sized tyres for their vehicles. Since yesterday (22-09-08) an intensive law enforcement roll-out plan has been underway and the main focus has been on tyres.

It has been proven that incorrectly sized tyres affect the vehicle's gear ratio and place the engine under unnecessary strain. The National Road Traffic Act governs the condition, type and tread depth. Regular tyre pressure check-ups are essential due to the fact that 15% of accidents in our province are caused by defective/worn or incorrectly fitted tyres. It is important to make sure that tyres are correctly inflated as originally specified by the manufactures. The legal tread tyre pattern will assist in reducing unnecessary accidents in cases of adverse weather conditions when roads are slippery.

"Aggressive driving behavior is one of the major causes of high fuel consumption. Harsh acceleration, hard braking, and fast cornering will turn any car into a gas guzzler. So plan your journey in advance to avoid the need for high speed and unnecessary stop and start situations. Erratic driving techniques directly diminish a tyre tread life. Our officers are issued with tyre depth gauges from Bridgestone to ensure 100% compliance by motorists. Those who do not comply with the legislation will be dealt with accordingly," said Cele

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