



## INFORMATION SERVICE BULLETIN

Volume 37, Number 3  
Page 1 of 1

### RMA DEFINITION FOR PASSENGER AND LIGHT TRUCK<sup>1</sup> TIRES FOR USE IN SEVERE SNOW CONDITIONS

Tires designed for use in severe snow conditions generally have tread patterns, structure, and materials to give superior performance in snow over tires meeting the RMA Snow Tire Definition<sup>2</sup>.

Tires designed for use in severe snow conditions are recognized by manufacturers to attain a traction index equal to or greater than 110 compared to the ASTM E-1136 Standard Reference Test Tire when using ASTM F-1805, 2006 snow traction test with medium packed snow surface and equivalent percentage loads<sup>3</sup>. Other test methods and reference tires developed by standardizing bodies may be used provided proper correlations are demonstrated.

Tires designed for use in severe snow conditions are marked on at least one sidewall with the letters "M" and "S" (e.g., MS, M/S, M&S, M+S, etc.) **plus** a pictograph of a mountain with a snowflake. The mountain profile shall have a minimum base of 15 mm and a minimum height of 15 mm and shall contain three-peaks with the middle peak being the tallest. Inside the mountain there shall be a six-sided snowflake having a minimum height of one-half the tallest peak. An example of the mountain/snowflake is shown below.



Sidewall Symbol for Severe Snow Use Tires  
To be placed adjacent to the M+S type designation  
Minimum 15 mm/0.6" base and 15 mm/0.6" height

<sup>1</sup>Tires with LT in the size designation

<sup>2</sup>For the RMA Snow Tire Definition, refer to the Tire Information Service Bulletin Volume 10, "RMA Snow Tire Definition for Passenger and Light Truck (LT) Tires"

<sup>3</sup>Using a test load equal to 74% of the test inflation rated load

This Bulletin Replaces Volume 37, Number 2

This is a publication of the Rubber Manufacturers Association.  
All rights reserved. The contents of this publication may not be reprinted or otherwise reproduced in any form without the express written permission of RMA.

To order RMA publications, call (202) 682-4800 or go online [www.rma.org](http://www.rma.org) and click on Publications.

Rubber Manufacturers Association • 1400 K Street, NW • Suite 900 • Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: 202.682.4800 • Fax: 202.682.4854 • Web: [www.rma.org](http://www.rma.org) • E-mail: [info@rma.org](mailto:info@rma.org)