



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

BROADCAST NEWS SERVICE 73-207

Broadcast: Tuesday, October 16, 1973

The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Tuesday, October 17 has a consumer advisory on snow tires, and a story on new noise standards for small airplanes.

First, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has issued a consumer advisory on proper selection of snow tires for use on passenger cars equipped with radial ply tires. Safety Administrator Dr. James Gregory commented:

"American motorists should not mix radial ply tires with non-radial snow tires. The performance of different tires under similar load, side slip, and braking conditions may differ considerably -- and intermixing tires of different construction may seriously affect the vehicle's handling characteristics, often making it unstable. When purchasing deep-tread, winter type tires, motorists should follow the recommendation of the car manufacturer or reputable tire dealer. If the car is equipped with radial ply tires, radial ply snow treads must be purchased. Radials should never be mixed with bias or belted-bias constructed tires.

"Another reminder -- although many motorists consider radials to be equal in traction to snow tires in snow or icy conditions, most States do not recognize radial ply tires as snow tires. When the motorist has doubts, he should check with his State, county or city jurisdiction."

Next, a story on small plane noise.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration has proposed new noise standards for propeller-driven small airplanes -- those under 12,500 pounds.

"Maximum noise levels would be established for these aircraft in two stages of the certification process: after October 10 of this year and January 1 of 1975.

"It's estimated that up to 20% of the current small airplanes could not meet the new noise standards and that the manufacturers would have to incorporate noise abatement features in order to continue production after 1979.

"The only exception to the proposal involves airplanes used in agricultural and fire-fighting operations."

This has been the Transportation News Report.