

TIRE PM = MONEY SAVER



Operators, the replacement cost of just one rubber tire on a construction or material-handling vehicle will make you think twice about your driving habits at the work site.

For example, swapping out one tire on the 621B scraper costs about 2 grand when you consider the price of the tire and its removal and installation. That's 8 grand just to replace the tires on one scraper!

SO HERE ARE SOME **COST-SAVING TIPS** THAT WILL PUT **LESS WEAR-AND-TEAR** ON THESE TIRES.



Driving

Slow down when you leave or enter the load or dump area from the haul road. Slower speed reduces impact damage and tire cuts.

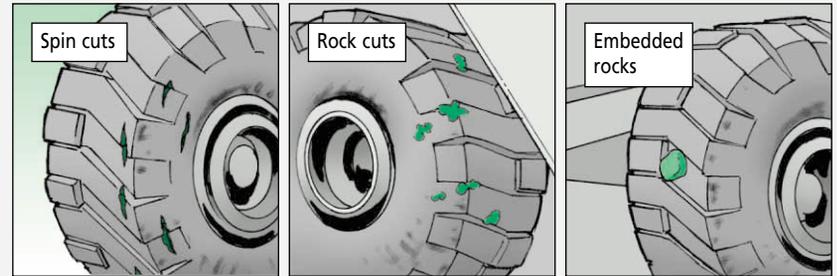
Never skid down steep slopes. Next to spinning the wheels, the quickest way to strip a tire is to lock the wheels of a fully loaded vehicle while going downhill.

Braking a fast-moving scraper or dump truck with a full load down a 20 percent grade burns off rubber like a hot rod taking off from a dead stop.

Also, remember to approach piles and banks straight on. Angling into the pile exposes tire sidewalls to a beating from fallen rocks.

Check 'em Often

Eyeball your vehicle's tires often, especially in quarries, for signs of tire spin cuts. Check your tires when you stop for a break. Get rid of all embedded rocks. If you don't, every time the tire rotates, rocks are pushed deeper into the tread. Eventually, a rock passes through the tread and into the soft body rubber. Then it's just a matter of time before a blowout or puncture.



Watch Air Pressure

Keep the right amount of air in tires. Never over-inflate tires to make 'em match in size or circumference. Have your mechanic paint the recommended cold-inflation pressure on the wheel rim near the valve stem.

Never mix radial and bias-ply tires on the same vehicle. You can lose steering control, have poor handling, risk mechanical damage and uneven tire wear.

Always use the type of tire that's designed for the job you're doing. Use matched tread design tires on all drive wheels.

On earth-moving equipment, replace tires that have less than 13/32-in tread depth.