



COMMERCIAL FLEET TIRE DIGEST

*The authoritative guide to reducing commercial tire expenditures from
Pressure Systems International,
the manufacturer of the Meritor Tire Inflation System by PSI™*

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2015

Handling Tire and Wheel Assemblies Safely

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Because of the bending and lifting, working with tire/wheel assemblies can be difficult work. As the chart below shows, typical tire and wheel combinations can weigh anywhere between 163 pounds and 309 pounds.

OSHA, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, has issued regulations (29 CFR Part 1910) that covers the step by step procedure in servicing tires and wheels. OSHA also publishes wall charts with photos detailing the proper demounting and mounting procedures for truck and bus tires. Fleets should always use a tire cage when inflating tire assemblies and they should never be bolted to the floor.

Employee training of technicians who work with tires and wheels is mandated by OSHA. It is the responsibility of the employer to assure that each employee demonstrates and maintains the ability to service tire and wheels safely. The employee must demonstrate the following tasks:

- Demounting of tires including deflation
- Inspection & identification of rim wheel components
- Mounting of tires including inflation with a restraining device (tire safety cage)
- Handling of wheels
- Inflation of a tire when a single piece wheel is mounted on a vehicle
- Understanding of the necessity of standing outside the trajectory both during inflation of the tire and during inspection of the wheel following inflation
- Installation and removal of wheels

OSHA is very clear that the employer must evaluate each employee's ability to perform these tasks. The employer shall provide additional training as necessary to assure that each employee maintains their proficiency with tires and wheels. OSHA will issue severe fines and penalties for accidents associated with tires and wheels. It is important for fleets to be very pro-active with their technicians that service tires.

Estimated Weights for Typical Tire and Wheel Assemblies	
Description	Est. Wt. in Lbs.
28/32" 295/75R22.5 Drive Tire	118
8.25" x 22.5" Aluminum Wheel	45
Total Assembly Weight	163
28/32" 11R24.5 Drive Tire	137
8.25" x 24.5" Aluminum Wheel	54
Total Assembly Weight	191
28/32" 295/75R22.5 Drive	118
8.25" x 22.5 Steel Wheel	76
Total Assembly Weight	194
28/32" 11R24.5 Drive Tire	137
8.25" x 24.5" Steel Wheel	85
Total Assembly Weight	222
27/32" Widebase 445/50R22.5 Drive Tire	182
22.5"x 14" Aluminum Wheel	54
Total Assembly Weight	236
27/32" Widebase 445/50R22.5 Drive Tire	182
22.5" x 14" Steel Wheel	127
Total Assembly Weight	309

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