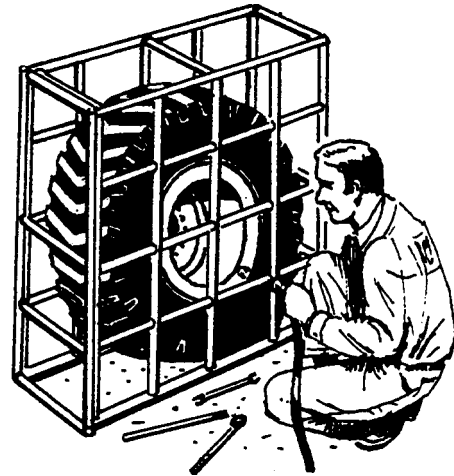


# CUSTOMER FOCUS ON LOSS CONTROL

NUMBER 15

## Safe Tire Maintenance

Every year, many people are injured or killed by flying tire assemblies. The majority of these accidents occur when the tire is being inflated. This type of accident can be prevented. Everyone should be aware of the hazards of inflating tires. Only those with proper training and experience should be permitted to service tires. A tire cage or some other means of restraint should always be used to prevent tire assemblies from flying off the tire when the tires are being inflated. There is a safe way and a dangerous way to assemble heavy tires. Never "fight" with the tire during assembly. Unusual force is an indication that the parts are damaged, defective or unmatched. Excessive hammering only damages the ring and the rim.



### *Tips for Tire Maintenance*

These tips could save your life or the life of someone else:

- Before disassembly, remove the valve core from the stem, even if the tire is flat.
- At assembly, inspect all components for damage, making sure that they are free of rust and of proper size and fit.
- Make sure the tire rim and ring are matched and that the ring is not sprung.
- Before inflating the tire, check the rim and ring to make sure the ring is properly seated.
- Put the tire assembly in a tire cage or use some other method to prevent the ring or any part from flying off during assembly.
- Inflate the tire to 15 pounds, then stop and deflate. This allows the tube to straighten, eliminating any kinks or overlaps.
- While inflating the tire to the correct pressure, stop frequently to check that the ring is seated and the tire is properly positioned on the rim.
- Before removing the tire from the cage, give the entire assembly a final visual inspection to make sure the tire is properly seated, and that the ring is locked.

*Never position yourself in front of the ring of an inflated tire.*

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