

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION**

**In re: BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.,) Master File No. IP 00-9373-C-B/S
TIRES PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION) MDL NO. 1373**
_____))
THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL)
ACTIONS)

ENTRY FOR OCTOBER 25, 2001

The parties appeared, by counsel, this date for a telephonic conference, during which the following was discussed and determined:

1. The defendants' reply brief in support of their motion to dismiss the Columbian and Venezuelan cases on forum non conveniens grounds shall be filed no later than **November 30, 2001**. Any supplemental brief necessitated by recently-produced documents shall be filed by the plaintiffs no later than **December 15, 2001**.
2. Over the plaintiffs' strenuous objection, the magistrate judge grants the defendants' request for additional pages for the reply brief, up to 25 pages for each defendant's (Ford and Firestone) statement of facts and 50 pages for all defendants' legal arguments, plus an appendix. This ruling should in no way be construed as a comment on the merits of the plaintiffs' argument regarding the appropriate content of the defendants' statements of fact.
3. The briefing of all other forum non conveniens motions to dismiss is hereby held in abeyance pending the court's ruling on the original motion.
4. The schedule for expert witness disclosures and other discovery in the personal injury cases again was discussed at length. The parties were in substantial agreement as to many, but not all, deadlines. The magistrate judge will enter a separate order setting forth the schedule.
5. The issue of the appropriate deadlines for Bridgestone Corporation's expert witness disclosures was raised and taken under advisement, pending the court's ruling on Bridgestone's pending motion to dismiss for lack of personal jurisdiction.
6. The magistrate judge will hold another telephonic pretrial conference on **Thursday, November 1, 2001, at 1:00 p.m.** to discuss additional discovery and case management issues. Local counsel for Bridgestone Corporation shall make arrangements for the call and notify the court regarding those arrangements.

ENTERED this _____ day of October 2001.

V. Sue Shields
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of Indiana

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