

**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 REGARDING PROPER FILING PROCEDURES AND
OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

In order to facilitate the upkeep of the Court's files in this action and to assist in the efficient processing of filings in this action, the magistrate judge hereby reminds all counsel of the following procedures:

1. For each document filed in this action, an original and one copy shall be tendered for filing.
2. The caption of each document filed in this action shall contain the following notations:

Master File No. IP 00-9373-C B/S

MDL Docket No. 1373

In addition, the caption shall indicate either that "This Document Relates to All Actions" or shall indicate the specific individual case or cases to which the document relates, including the individual cause number(s) of the case(s) and, if practical, an abbreviated caption for each relevant individual case. Individual cause numbers can be obtained from the Court's website by doing an individual case search using the plaintiff's name. The caption of this Entry serves as an example of an appropriate caption for a document that relates to all actions; an example of an appropriate caption for a document which relates to only certain individual cases is attached to this Entry as Exhibit A.

3. Both Special Master Debra McVicker Lynch and the Clerk's Office staff are available to answer counsel's procedural questions regarding these cases. However, in light of the very high volume of such calls received on a daily basis, we ask that, whenever possible, you first check the Court's website, www.insd.uscourts.gov, to see if the information you need appears there.
4. Filing with the Court is effective upon receipt by the Clerk of the filing – not upon service or mailing, regardless of the means used.
5. Consistent with the local rules of this Court, which are accessible on the Court's website,

counsel should not file written discovery requests or responses, including requests for admission, except as a necessary attachment or exhibit to a motion. Counsel also should not file expert designations or reports.

6. Counsel are reminded of the Court's Order of August 20, 2001 requiring notice to the Court of certain pending motions. In addition, some district courts (e.g., Mississippi district courts) apparently do not accept for filing briefs in support of motions, instead requiring that they be submitted directly to the judge. When these cases are transferred to the MDL, briefs that were submitted in this manner are not included with the file received by this Court. In such cases, counsel shall attach copies of all briefs to the notice of pending motion.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2002.

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

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EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

**In re: BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.,
TIRES PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION**

) **Master File No. IP 00-9373-C-B/S**
) **MDL NO. 1373**

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:

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**DOE V. BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.,
SMITH V. FORD MOTOR COMPANY, et al.**

) **Cause No. IP 01-5000-C-B/S**

) **Cause No. IP 01-5001-C-B/S**