

**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 FEBRUARY 13, 2002

The parties appeared, by counsel, this date for a telephonic conference to follow up on the February 4, 2002, hearing regarding Ford's production of information from its internal databases. The magistrate judge is pleased to report that the parties, in conjunction with their respective technical consultants and the court's technical advisor, have resolved many of the issues raised at the hearing, including:

1. On or before February 15, 2002, Ford will complete its identification of the database management system for each of the 29 databases it has searched.
2. The consultants have worked together to develop a list of specific syntactic and semantic information that the plaintiffs need, and Ford agrees to provide that information. However, as to the VOQS database, the plaintiffs agree to seek the necessary semantic information from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration ("NHTSA"); Ford will provide the information if the plaintiffs are not able to obtain it from NHTSA.
3. Ford agrees to provide the plaintiffs with all search codes that are available for searching the MORS and CQIS databases. The plaintiffs and Ford will then work together to determine whether additional searches (i.e. searches other than those already conducted by Ford) are appropriate. Ford will determine by February 19, 2002, whether it will agree to produce all of the available search codes for the other databases it searched.
4. Ford will convert the MORS II & III and CQIS data it has provided to the plaintiffs into .csv format by February 19, 2002. During this process, Ford's technical consultant will verify that all of the appropriate fields are present in the data provided to the plaintiffs. This will address the plaintiffs' concerns regarding the apparent differences between the hard copy

CQIS reports produced by Ford and the electronic CQIS materials it provided the plaintiffs.

5. Ford agrees to determine and inform the plaintiffs by February 15, 2002, whether a search of the OASIS database would produce information not already produced as a result of the CQIS and MORS searches.
6. The plaintiffs report that three of the tapes produced by Ford are blank; Ford's technical consultant will provide the plaintiffs with replacement tapes. The parties' consultants also will work together to enable the plaintiffs to access the information on the "data mining tape" produced by Ford.

The following issues remain unresolved at this time:

1. The parties' consultants will continue to discuss the issue of the plaintiffs' request for the schema information for Ford's databases.
2. The parties have not yet resolved the issue of the plaintiffs' request for a list of all of the fields available in each database, so that they can determine whether they believe all of the relevant fields were included in Ford's production. If the parties are unable to resolve this issue, it will need to be the subject of a motion to compel by the plaintiffs so that the magistrate judge can resolve it.

The magistrate judge will conduct a follow-up telephonic conference to discuss any remaining issues on **Monday, February 25, 2002, at 12:00 p.m.** Randy Riggs, counsel for Ford, will arrange the call.

ENTERED this _____ day of February 2002.

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

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