



Tire Safety and Inspections

What this Safety Talk Covers:

The “Dos” and “Don’ts” for tire safety and inspections in the oilfield.

Discussion Notes:

Discuss the outcomes of the “Dos” and “Don’ts.”

- Do**
- ✓ Inspect tires at the beginning of every shift. Look for cuts, bulges, embedded objects, and signs of uneven wear. Tires can take a beating on worksites from sharp rocks, scrap metal, and debris.
 - ✓ Check the tire pressure with a reliable gauge. Low or high pressure can lead to blowouts, especially when hauling heavy loads or traveling over rough lease roads and pipeline right-of-ways.
 - ✓ Confirm your tires are rated for the terrain and load. Tires used in refineries or well sites should match the specific demands of soft ground, sharp metals, and varying temperatures. Using the wrong tires can result in failure at the worst possible time.
 - ✓ Report and tag-out any vehicle or trailer with tire issues. If a tire is unsafe, it’s a hazard not just to the driver but to the crew and equipment nearby. Don’t assume someone else will take care of it.
 - ✓ Maintain situational awareness and wear high visibility gear during tire inspections to avoid struck-by incidents in high-traffic areas like pipe yards.
- Don’t**
- ✗ Assume someone else checked the tires. Each operator is responsible for his or her own vehicle’s safety.
 - ✗ Ignore sidewall damage. Even minor-looking cracks or cuts can lead to tire failure under the weight of oilfield loads or in high-heat conditions.
 - ✗ Inflate tires beyond manufacturer specs to “handle the load.” Overinflation reduces traction and increases the risk of a blowout, especially on uneven lease roads or during higher-speed travel between sites.
 - ✗ Perform tire work near flammable materials. Sparks from tools, static electricity, or even heat buildup during inflation can pose explosion risks in areas with volatile gases or chemicals.
 - ✗ Skip inspections during night shifts or in poor weather.
 - ✗ Continue using a tire with exposed cords or belt separation, as these are signs of imminent failure.



TEXAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION SAFETY TALKS

an initiative of the **TXOGA** Workers' Compensation Safety Group

Employee Quiz Tire Safety and Inspections

Employee Name: _____

Circle the correct answer below.

1. When should oilfield workers inspect their vehicle's tires?
 - a. At the beginning of every shift
 - b. At the end of every shift
 - c. When the weather is good and it is light outside
 - d. After driving at least ten minutes
2. Which of the following is not a safe practice when inspecting tires?
 - a. Wearing high-visibility PPE
 - b. Performing inspections near moving equipment
 - c. Staying alert to your surroundings
 - d. All of the above
3. A key danger of inflating a tire beyond manufacturer specifications is:
 - a. Reduced wear resistance
 - b. Blowout risk, especially on uneven oilfield roads
 - c. Better fuel economy
 - d. Increased traction
4. What should you do if you discover exposed cords or belt separation on a tire?
 - a. Patch it temporarily
 - b. Rotate the tire and recheck at the end of your shift
 - c. Keep your speed below 50 mph
 - d. Notify a supervisor and tag the vehicle out of service
5. Tire inspections can't be reliable done in the rain or snow, so it's better to wait and inspect when the weather is good.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____
Trainer: _____ Title: _____