

SPECIAL
POINT OF
INTEREST:

High Voltage electrical contact from power lines or lightning strike can lead to a tyre explosion. If electrical contact occurs or is suspected, maintain a 300m exclusion zone around the piece of plant for a minimum of 24 hours until the tyres have properly cooled and any potential energy has dissipated

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Tyre & Rim Explosion Hazards

Large split rim wheel assemblies as used on forklifts, wheel loaders, Pettibone cranes and other heavy items of plant have inherent dangers associated with them especially when incorrectly inflated or improperly maintained. Equipment damage, serious injury and or death may result from improper handling.

The following recommendations should be strictly observed for all tyres:

- Never over inflate any tyre beyond the manufacturers recommended pressure
- Always use an air hose with an in-line pressure gauge
- Never leave an inflating tyre unattended
- Never apply heat to a tyre or rim assembly unless the tyre has been deflated & removed
- Only remove nuts that secure the rim to the vehicle (other nuts may hold the rim together)
- Always follow appropriate manual handling techniques if changing a large tyre—beware some tyres may be water filled for added stability
- Always check condition of tyres in service, any tyre showing exposed canvas or steel braids should be assessed for serviceability.



Caution: It is strongly recommended that all heavy off road or earthmoving tyres only be inflated or repaired by properly trained personnel using appropriately designed equipment. Always contact your local heavy vehicle tyre repair contractor for support & assistance.

Small hand held trolleys and wheelbarrows can also employ split rim designs. Tyres on these items should only be inflated using a hand pump as similar risks apply.



Further safety alerts provided by State Government work safe authorities can be found at the following links:

http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/documents/Guidelines/MSH_G_TyreSafetyFiresAndExplosions.pdf

<http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/Publications/OHS/SafetyAlerts/pages/Dangerswithsplitrimtyreassemblies.aspx>

<http://www.safetyline.wa.gov.au/pagebin/mechhazd0040.pdf>