



International Carwash Association

Serving the Professional Car Care Industry

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Ford - Low Profile Wheel And Tires

Ford Motor Company Special Vehicle Engineering has recently completed pre-production car wash testing with an upcoming vehicle. Although the vehicle testing was damage free, signs of wheel damage was evident.

The upcoming vehicle wheel and tire is low profile and is similar in dimension to most other low profile wheel and tires currently on other competitive sport vehicles.

The correlator at the "Y" section of the approach at some car washes used in their testing was either missing or had sharp edges. If the vehicle is guided on the conveyor toward the outboard side, and if the correlator is missing or not smooth, wheel damage can occur since the wheel lip is approximately 2.7 inches from the ground. The wheel is designed inboard of the tire surface.

To prevent this type of wheel damage, it is recommended that you review your conveyor approach to assure that a smooth transition exist between the "Y" section, correlator and conveyor guide rail. Some wheel damage is not obvious unless the wheel is examined but then it is too late.

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