Unseen sidewall cracks in ageing tyres



A recent V8 Bulletin Board posting by an RV8 owner reported how he had bought a set of Michelin Pilot tyres manufactured in 1993 from a trader who assured him "they were perfectly safe to use." Following advice on the V8BB and from the technical department at Michelin advising him they were neither suitable or safe, he took them back to the trader who made a refund but continued to maintain the tyres are fit for purpose and have them for sale again!

See the V8BB thread. www.v8registerdata.net/viewreply.asp ?id=3549&mtid=(1,2,3,4,7,8,9,10)

See our earlier NEWS item. www.v8register.net/subpages/news11 1122rv8.htm

Responding to our request for photos of sidewall cracks in ageing tyres, a contributor says "I thought you would like to see these photos of two tyres on a customer's car. In each case the cracks were on the inside sidewall, so out of sight when on the car. There's no record of how they had been treated over the years but we have seen this before with these tyres."

The tyres were made in 2002 and 1999 - so they are 9 and 12 years old. You can see there are several longitudinal cracks around the sidewalls - in that condition there is a serious risk of a blowout.



