

Storage and Handling of PMC/BVV Resilient Wheel Rubber Blocks for Bochum Type 54, 84 & 2000 Wheels

Purpose

Penn Machine has become aware of rubber blocks that have been in inventory and not been put into service for several years. In some cases, Penn Machine/Bochum rubber blocks are natural rubber based and like all rubber products have a limited shelf life, particularly when unused.

The blocks are designed to have a tire's lifespan. However, if left unused, they have a limited shelf life and special care must be given to storage.

The rubber blocks provided by Penn Machine naturally age and become stiffer over time. To ensure proper operation of PMC/Bochum rubber cushioned wheels, there are some guidelines that must be followed.

continued

Storage

1. Rubber blocks are manufactured to perform satisfactorily throughout the life of one tire. RUBBER BLOCKS SHOULD NOT BE RE-USED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

NOTE: ANY WHEELS REMOVED FROM SERVICE DUE TO EXCESSIVE SKID FLATS MUST HAVE THE RUBBER BLOCKS DISCARDED REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT OF REMAINING TIRE LIFE.

2. A rubber block provided by Penn Machine has a maximum shelf life of four (4) years, and must be installed and put into use before the end of its four-year shelf life period. To obtain the full four-year shelf life, however, these storage requirements must be met:
 - a. Store in a cool, dark, dry environment.
 - b. Protect rubber blocks from direct sunlight.
 - c. Store away from any area where welding takes place, or away from other areas of high ozone levels.
 - d. Keep rubber blocks in the boxes in which they were shipped.
 - e. Prevent contact with any petroleum-based product.
3. Assembled wheels must not be stored for more than four (4) years without being put into service. If a wheel is stored in its assembled condition for a period of four (4) years, the rubber blocks must be replaced before putting the wheel into service. Storage requirements listed in articles 2.a, through 2.e must also be followed for assembled wheels.
4. When ordering and storing new assembled wheels and or tire kits, use your stock wheels and tire kits on a First-In, First-Out basis.
5. Rubber blocks shipped after June 2006 will have expiration dates marked on the box or packaging. The expiration dates are for blocks stored in accordance with articles 2.a through 2.e.

Handling & Assembly

1. When handling rubber blocks, they must not be placed on any greasy or dirty surface. Exposure to chemicals will cause breakdown of the rubber block over time, and care must be taken to prevent such occurrences.
2. When assembling tire kits, do not soak or coat the rubber blocks in a mounting lubricant. Instead, blocks should be installed in the tire dry and the lubricant generously applied only to the surface(s) that has/have contact with the wheel center and/or conical ring.

Only use PMC-approved mounting lubricants as shown in Service Bulletin 014.

WARNING

Before mounting, coating of the tire's inside diameter, or of the tire sides of the rubber blocks, may cause tire slip, which could result in damage to the external shunts, and loss of grounding and signaling.

After assembly, and before returning to service, the newly mounted tire should sit to allow the lubricant to dry for at least 24 hours.

Action

If you have had rubber blocks in storage for more than four years, contact Penn Machine. Sample blocks may be returned for evaluation before use. Do not use blocks stored more than four years, individually or in an assembled wheel.

If you have any questions regarding this Service Bulletin, please contact Penn Machine.



American
Gear Manufacturers
Association



PENN MACHINE COMPANY

310 Innovation Drive • Blairsville, PA 15717 • 724.459.0302
pmcsales@pennmach.com



A Marmon/Berkshire Hathaway Company