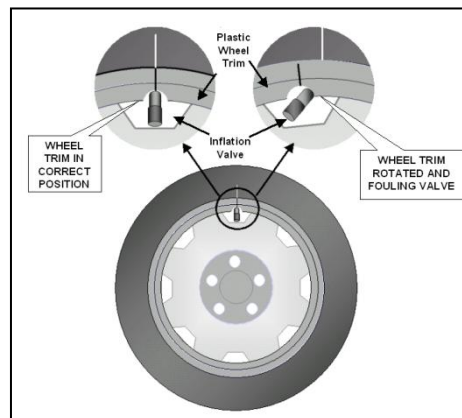


## Subject: Full diameter decorative wheel trims

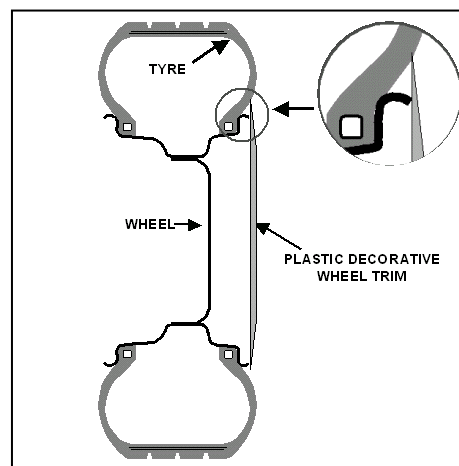
Issued: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Reviewed:

Full diameter plastic wheel embellishment trims have existed for some years and their method of fixing has significantly improved since their inception. However incidents have been reported where the trim rotates within the wheel rim and fouls on the tyre inflation valve. In some cases damage to the valve has occurred resulting in air loss and tyre deflation.



Instances have also been reported where plastic trims have a diameter greater than that of the wheel rim, with the result that they project above the rim flange, fouling the tyre when it is deflected under load. Consequently, the wheel trim has either been dislodged or the tyre has been chafed, sometimes irreparably and with the potential for tyre failure. These phenomena are more prevalent when tyres have integral rim protection ribs, which extend over and around the rim flange



Both of the damage types described above are a result of the plastic wheel trim design and its dimensions.

Consumers are advised to check the fitting of such trims particularly when new tyres are fitted, and also during periodic inspection, to ensure adequate clearance between the trim and tyre and that the trims are securely locked onto the wheel.

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