

# Weather Extremes & Construction Tire Maintenance

In addition to tread and reliability, contractors should consider the weather conditions and extremes of the seasons when selecting tires.

## How to select the best construction tires:



**Applications & Extremes:** moving snow in a cold climate and landscaping during summer? Are you in a metal recycling yard?



**Do you need traction? Or do you need impact protection?**



**Surface condition:** snow & ice? Soft soil? Compacted surfaces? Solid surfaces?

## Weather Hazards that affect construction tires:



**Cold Temperatures =** decrease in air pressure.



**Hidden objects =** striking snow-cover rocks, steel grates, etc.



**Spinning tires =** creates heat

**Driving over water =** wet tires cut more easily & wear faster



**Driving at top speed on pavement =** heat buildup



## Ways to extend tire life from weather hazards

### Air Pressure

Maintain the correct air pressure for the task at hand and change the air pressure if the load changes.

### Driving Through Water

There could be sharp debris hidden and could damage your construction tires.

### Slow Down

Excessive speed creates additional heat buildup, which can ultimately damage your construction tires.

### Spinning The Tires

Spinning on ice or spinning the tires to fill the bucket at the pile. Spinning leads to heat buildup.

### Clean Work Area

Especially after loading a truck with rock/dirt, don't leave anything in the path of the machine to run over.

### Daily Pre-Shift

Conduct a pre-shift tire check, if you see anything, say something. If it can be repaired, do it before the job begins.

## Air Pressure & Best Practices



### Load + Speed

Tire pressure is determined by the load and the speed at which the load will be carried, then set the air pressure according to these factors.



### Maintain Daily Pressure

Maintain tire pressure daily and use a calibrated and correct pressure gauge.



### Follow Pressure Recommendations

Refer to your manufacturer's inflation chart and directions.

## Terrain vs. Tire Pressure

**Terrain will impact speed, Speed affects tire pressure**



### Standard 20.5R25 Loader Tire

**psi of 65 @ 5 mph**

**can carry 19,300 lbs.**

**psi of 65 @ 30 mph**

**can only carry 14,300 lbs.**

## 3 Main Pre-Shift Tire Checks



### Cuts & Tears

Check for cuts and tears on the surface of the tire: Is anything missing? Has a lug torn off?



### Cuts & Tears

Run your hand all around where the tire meets the wheel and make sure it's consistent all the way around.



### Valve Stem & Core

Is cap on valve stem tight? Is valve stem properly seated on the wheel?