

**ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**

**No.TRI/800(I)/2000-MED**

**Office of the VC & MD,  
MSRD:HYDERABAD-20.  
Dated : 14.06.2000.**

**CIRCULAR NO.21/2000-MED, Dated 14.06.2000**

**SUB: TESTING - Testing of Rubber items at IRMRA - Clarification of doubts raised by Zonal Stores - Reg.**

**REF: 1. CIR. No.18/98-SPD, Dt. 18.12.1998.  
2. CIR. No.06/2000-MED, Dt.27.03.2000.**

**1.0 Guidelines were issued through Circulars cited above to send samples of Retreading items Viz. Bonding Gum, Black Vulcanizing Cement, Patches, Tubes, Flaps etc., to IRMRA besides CIRT. IRMRA laboratory was identified for testing of these items in view of (a) abnormal delays caused by CIRT for testing of samples and giving reports (b) competitive rates charged by IRMRA for testing of samples compared to CIRT (c) the need to have a competent alternate source for testing of retreading materials.**

**2.0 Zonal Stores have been sending samples of retreading items to IRMRA since Jan '99. On scrutiny of test reports, it was noted that test report formats of IRMRA are different from that of CIRT. Some of the differences between formats are detailed below.**

**2.1 CIRT as well as IRMRA record specified and actual values of physical dimensions of samples in test reports. CIRT mentions in the test reports that physical dimensions are taken for "record purpose only" against remarks column of physical dimensions Viz. width, thickness etc; though the actual values of sample fall out of the specified range, whereas IRMRA indicates the variances between specified and actual values as (+ve) or (-ve) against each of the parameter and samples are treated as failed in the test.**

**2.2 Against each of the parameter, CIRT records in remarks column of the report whether the sample meets the specification or not; whereas, IRMRA records the specified and actual values duly indicating (+ve) or (-ve) in remarks column.**

**2.3 CIRT gives final remarks about suitability of the sample based on the actual values obtained in testing i.e. whether the sample has passed or failed; whereas, IRMRA does not give final PASS/FAIL remarks.**

**3.0 Whenever samples fail in IRMRA testing in respect of physical dimensions, penalties are being imposed on firms by Zonal Stores duly taking the opinion of AME (Tyres) about (+ve) and (-ve) remarks recorded against each of the parameter of test report.**

**4.0 This matter was discussed in the meetings of all WMs, COSs and AME (tyres) held at Corporate office in Mar.2000. COSs have explained the confusion prevailing in Zonal Stores about imposition of penalty on firms based on IRMRA reports and requested to advise IRMRA to follow the formats of CIRT to avoid referring of each IRMRA report to AME (Tyres) for opinion about imposition of penalty.**

**5.0 In response to our correspondence, it was informed by IRMRA that the institute was registered under ISO-9001. Formats were standardized duly comparing IRMRA formats with the formats of other laboratories. IRMRA expressed inability to follow the formats of CIRT. However, it was agreed to give final PASS/FAIL remarks on the test**

reports besides giving positive/negative remarks for each specification.

**5.1** IRMRA has been testing samples of retreading materials for physical dimensions, stress-strain properties, curing properties, ageing properties etc., as done by CIRT. If the sample does not meet the specification, IRMRA records "-ve in remarks column" as against "Does not meet the specification" recorded in CIRT test report. These two remarks can be treated EQUAL and penalty clause can be decided/applied accordingly.

**5.2** CIRT as well as IRMRA record both specified and actual values of physical dimensions of sample in test reports. In remarks column, CIRT indicates that actual values of physical dimensions are "for record purpose only". Zonal Stores have not been imposing penalty on the firms based on CIRT report even though physical dimensions of the sample "fall out of range of specifications".

**5.3** Whereas, IRMRA indicates -ve in remarks column if actual dimensions of the sample fall out of the specified range in respect of physical dimensions. Based on the -ve remarks of IRMRA in respect of physical dimensions, stores have been imposing penalties on firms.

**6.0** Few firms have represented this matter and requested to waive off penalty imposed by stores based on -ve remarks of IRMRA with regard to physical dimensions. The matter was examined in detail duly involving COSs, WMs and AMEs (Tyres). The following clarifications and guidelines are issued with regard to imposition of penalties based on test reports of IRMRA.

- a) If the actual values of samples are not falling within the specified range of physical dimensions as per IRMRA report, penalty "need not be imposed" on firms. These values are to be taken for record purpose only as per ASRTU specifications.
- b) To treat -ve remarks given in IRMRA report as equivalent to does not meet the specification remarks given in CIRT report and to impose penalty on the firms without referring each report of IRMRA for the opinion of WM/AME (Tyres).
- c) To treat +ve remarks given in IRMRA report as equivalent to meets the specification remarks given in CIRT report.

Controller of Stores, Works Managers, AMEs (Tyres) is advised to go through the above guidelines thoroughly and follow without deviations. These instructions come into force with immediate effect.

Sd/-  
(P.ARJUNA)  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Engg)