

October 15, 1997

Inovex Automotive, Inc.
7799 Leesburg Pike
Suite 900 North Tower
Falls Church, VA 22043

Attn: Mark Farkhan

Re: Aftermarket Tire Additive Sealants/Balancing Materials

Dear: Mr. Farkhan

There continues to be various additives sold and introduced into the marketplace which are designed to be installed in the mounted tire's interior chamber which are intended to enhance air retention, improve the tire's balance or a combination of these attributes, along with other performance claims of their respective manufacturers.

We periodically receive requests or inquiries regarding our opinion of the products, their impact on the tire or retread, and how their use impacts the Bandag retreading process.

The following outlines Bandag's position regarding the use of additives:

The number of these products currently in the market prohibits the testing and evaluation of each and every one in conjunction with either the Bandag retreading process or Bandag retreads.

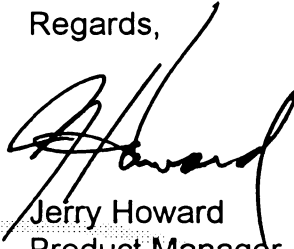
Additive manufactures, in most cases, have used independent laboratories to test their products and, as such, neither the Bandag retreading process nor Bandag retreads have been investigated. Therefore, it is not possible to endorse nor prohibit their use.

Our position, therefore, is as follows:

Bandag, Inc. does not recommend, endorse or prohibit additives to be installed in the interior chamber of its retreaded tires, providing such additives do not interfere with inspection, repairing and retreading of the tire. Neither should the additive be injurious to the tire's interior chamber or structure nor should it replace air pressure as the tire's primary means of inflation.

Bandag warranties will remain in effect with use of these additives, providing the additive is not the cause of a tire warranty claim. Damages attributed to the use of an additive will be denied warranty consideration. In no case would Bandag, Inc. reimburse for the cost of the additive or any other cost associated with the additive.

Regards,



Jerry Howard

Product Manager, Dealer Products

Enclosure
JH/jw