

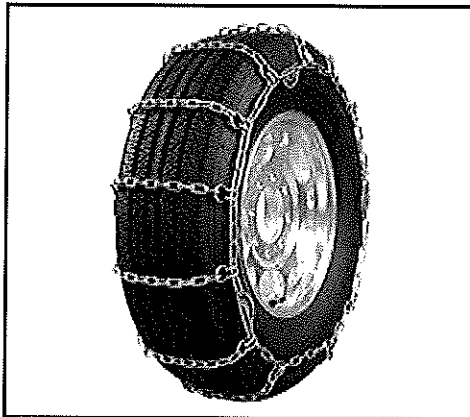
# INFORMATION BULLETIN



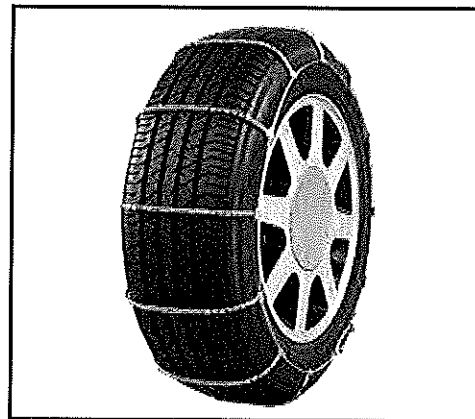
## TIRE TRACTION DEVICE

As defined in Section 605 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC), "Tire traction devices' are devices or mechanisms having a composition and design capable of improving vehicle traction, braking, and cornering ability upon snow or ice-covered surfaces. Tire traction devices shall be constructed and assembled to provide sufficient structural integrity and to prevent accidental detachment from vehicles. Tire traction devices shall, at the time of manufacture or final assembly, bear a permanent impression indicating the name, initials, or trademark of the assembling company or primary manufacturer, and the country in which the devices were manufactured or assembled in final form." A tire traction device may include conventional link-type tire chains (Figure 1), cable chains (Figure 2), plastic or vinyl fingers (Figure 3), as well as other synthetic material devices (Figure 4). The term "chains" is typically used in departmental publications. However, chains is synonymous with the term "tire traction device" unless it specifically states link-type chain.

**Figure 1:**



**Figure 2:**



**Figure 3:**



**Figure 4:**



Departmental personnel are reminded to use sound, professional judgment, utilizing the standards set forth in Section 605 CVC, when conducting an enforcement action on any tire traction device. Although a tire traction device may consist of several different types of material, the main focus should be whether it improves vehicle traction, braking, cornering ability upon snow or ice-covered surfaces, and if it provides sufficient structural integrity while preventing accidental detachment from a vehicle. If any tire traction device does not meet the provisions of Section 605 CVC, appropriate enforcement action should be taken pursuant to Section 27459 CVC.

Questions regarding this Information Bulletin should be directed to Commercial Vehicle Section at (916) 843-3400.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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