TIRE GROUP INTERNATIONAL, LLC.

COSMO TIRES®
KOOL KAT APPROVED

COMMERCIAL VAN MEMO

What are C-Type Tires?

C-Type tires are specialized tires designed to support heavy loads, making them particularly suitable for specific cargo vans including the European-style cargo vans that require them. The C-Type classification originated in Europe, but due to the increase in popularity of cargo vans they are now also on vehicles sold in North America. This type of tire may also be referred to as euro-metric commercial tires

What is a Cargo Van?

Cargo vans, also referred to as commercial vans, have seen a notable increase in use within commercial vehicle fleets in recent years. This includes their application as service vehicles and last-mile delivery vehicles for companies such as Amazon, UPS, and FedEx. This growth is attributed largely to the rise of e-commerce businesses and increased demand for delivery services nationwide. These vans are one-piece vehicles commonly with windowless panels on the sides, meant for hauling goods. These vans have changed over the years and are equipped with various roof heights, wheelbases, lengths, and load carrying capacities. Due to these variations in size and capacity, the tire specifications for these vans have also changed.

The most common cargo van seen in the American market include the Chevrolet Express, Ford E-Series, Ford Transit, GMC Savana, Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, Nissan NV, and Dodge Ram ProMaster. Each van has a different tire requirement – some vehicles require an LT tire, while others require a C-Type tire. Always refer to the original manufacturer's owner's manual and the placard inside the driver's door for proper specifications and air pressure.

What's the difference between C -Type and LT Tires?

Both C-Type tires and LT (Light Truck) tires are generally rated for a higher weight capacity than standard passenger tires. However, they are meant for two different vehicle applications. Light truck tires typically are denoted with load range C, D, and E. Though some LT tires have a C in their description denoting load range C, this is different than a C-Type tire and cannot be used interchangeably.

While both C-Type and LT tires are engineered for heavy-duty applications, C-Type tires are developed to support significantly heavier loads compared to LT tires of the same size. However, a downside of C-Type tires is their typically lower speed rating.

The following table illustrates the differences between LT C-Type, and passenger tires as indicated on a tire:

Size	TYPE	Ply Ra ng	Load Range	Load Index	Speed Ra ng	Max Pressure (psi)	Max Load Capacity Single/Dual (lb)
225/75R16C *Cosmo EL JEFE VAN III*	**C-TYPE**	10	E	**121/120**	**R**	**83**	**(S)3195 (D)3085**
LT225/75R16 *Cosmo EL JEFE HT2*	**LT**	10	E	**115/112**	**Q**	**80**	**(S)2680 (D)2470**

Note: This table shows only size characteris cs that vary between these res. Sec on Width (225), Aspect Ra o (75), Radial Construc on (R), and Wheel Diameter (16) are all common across these 3 res.

Technically, these tires might "fit" on the same vehicle. However, they are all designed for different loads. The 121R load index on the C-Type tire corresponds to 3195 pounds per tire load rating. Whereas the load index of 115Q on the LT tire has a load carrying capacity of 2680. This highlights a notable difference, with the C-Type tire offering an additional 695 pounds of load carrying capacity over the LT tire.

Cosmo Tire offers one solution for each application. For commercial vehicles that require a C-Type tire, Cosmo's EL JEFE VAN line should meet the load carrying capacity requirements that match your vehicle's placard. For the light truck vehicle that requires an LT tire, Cosmo's EL JEFE HT2 should meet the load carrying capacity requirements that match your vehicle's placard. Always refer to the original manufacturer's owner's manual and the placard inside the driver's door for proper specifications and air pressure.

Lastly the LT225/75R16 is different from 225/75R16C as explained within this memo and as detailed on the subsequent service bulletin originally published by USTMA TISB Vol. 49 No. 2 – 2017.

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TIRE GROUP INTERNATIONAL, LLC.

COSMO TIRES®
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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

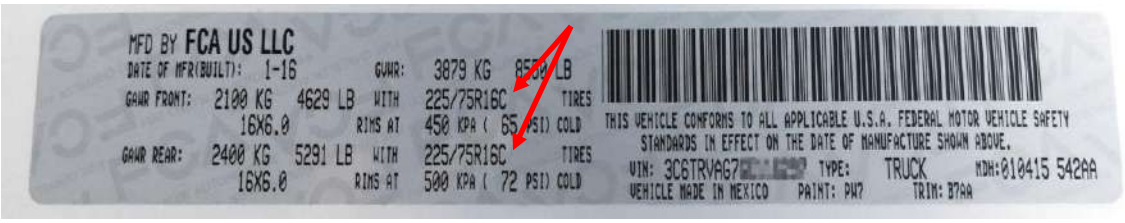
TIRES ON CERTAIN GLOBALIZED ("EURO") VANS

There has been an increase in the variety of vans sold in the North American market that are based on platforms used around the world by vehicle manufacturers. These vans are commonly used in commercial service and come in various sizes and configurations with efficiency and cargo flexibility in mind.

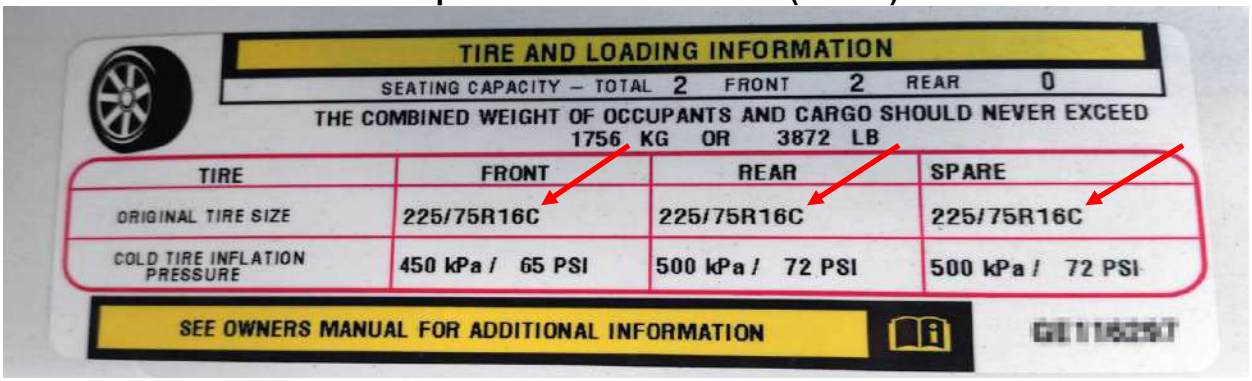
This bulletin is a reminder about proper tire replacement guidelines, particularly as it applies to globalized ("Euro") vans and t he differences in tire size designations that may be applied to them.

Like all other vehicles, when considering tire replacement for Euro vans, carefully determine the tire size designation for the original equipment tires and the recommended replacement tires as specified on the vehicle tire placard, certification label, or in the vehicle owner's manual. Depending on the van and its configuration, it may be equipped with P - Metric, LT-Metric, European Metric (Passenger), or European Commercial Metric tires.

Photo below are examples of placards from one of these increasingly popular model vans. These placards show that European C-Type tires are specified (note the "C" at the end of the tire size code).



Example Vehicle Certification Label (Above)
Example Vehicle Tire Placard (Below)

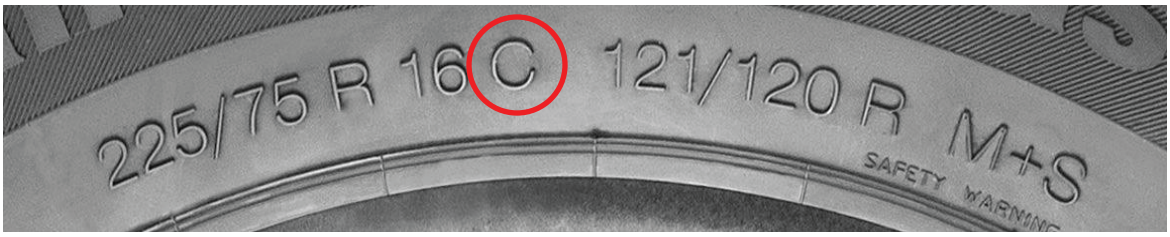


Tires with different size designations may not be interchangeable even if they have similar dimensions. For example, an LT-metric tire may not be a suitable replacement for a C-Type European Commercial Metric tire, even if the tires have similar section width, aspect ratio, and rim codes. Such tires typically have significantly different load carrying capacities. In other words: An LT225/75R16 is not the same as a 225/75R16C.

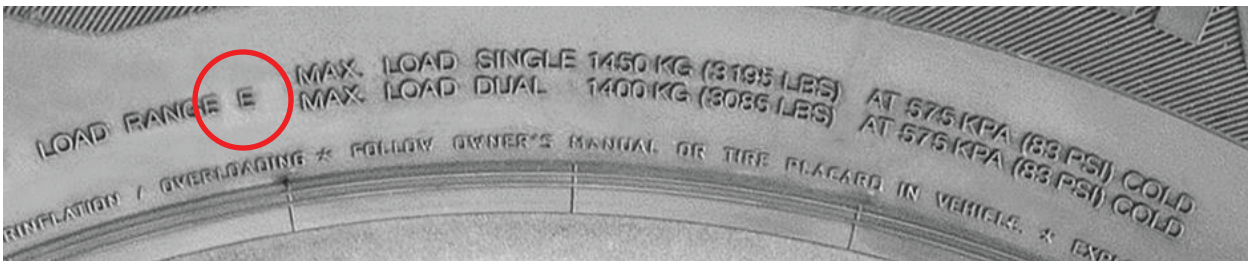
Tire Type	Size Code	Load Index and Speed Symbol	Load Identification	Maximum Load Capacity at Rated Pressure	
P-Metric (Passenger)	P225/75R16	104T	Standard Load	900 kg	240 kPa
European Metric (Passenger)	225/75R16	104T	Standard Load	900 kg	250 kPa
LT-Metric (Light Truck)	LT225/75R16	115/112R	Load Range E	1215/1120 kg	550 kPa
C-Type European Commercial Metric	225/75R16C	121/120R	Load Range E	1450/1400 kg	575 kPa

NOTE

The “C” at the end of the size designation as shown below identifies the tire as a C-Type European Commercial Metric tire. The “C” is not a load range. The load range is marked separately on the tire sidewall as shown in Figure 4.



Size and Service Description of an example C-Type European Commercial Metric Tire



Load Range, Max Load and Pressure Specifications for the Tire Photo Shown Above

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