

# MD Alignment

Are Alignments on Trucks and Buses a GREEN procedure or a Money Drain (Part 26)

In the preceding 25 posts I have outlined my views on the current state of tire wear and handling issues for the medium duty vehicle market. Usually, tire costs represent the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest factor in vehicle operations after fuel and yet effective control of this is difficult. As stated in the first post, many fleets have given up on alignments due to less than satisfactory results and as I have pointed out in this series the reasons for this have to do with a wide range of factors.

Over 50% of the irregularly worn tires that I inspect are in that condition from factors that have little or nothing to do with alignment. And still today vehicle operators are taking their equipment to alignment shops with the expectation that the problems will be solved. Until both the operators and the alignment and repair providers invest in learning the root causes of the tire wear and handling issues, patch repairs will continue to be the rule.

This series of posts will be available to download from our website under the "Tech Bulletins" tab by the first of the year. If anyone wishes to obtain more detailed information on any of the subjects covered, please contact us.

Thank you for your time.

Michael L Beckett  
President.

