TRUE COST OF FORKLIFT TIRES

After thousands of laps around the warehouse, forklift tires begin to wear out, but running them thin will cost more than replacement.



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Santo Domingo Sales and Service Santo Domingo, DO 809.472.4080 Tire wear has a significant effect on overall fuel costs. With just 30% wear, fuel consumption increases by as much as 10%. For example, if one \$30.00 tank is used per day, then the monthly fuel bill is \$900.00. With 30% tire wear, an extra 3 tanks of LP or an additional \$90.00 is eaten up. At 80% wear, waste is 9 tanks or \$270.00 more per month.

Consider the additional implications worn forklift tires have on safety and maintenance costs. Traction decreases significantly with wear and the shock transfer to load (reflex modulus) can increase the effects of shock and vibration by a whopping 4952%.

On their own, fuel consumption rates, traction loss or shock impact may or may not drive the decision to keep tires in tip-top shape. Together they paint a pretty compelling picture for keeping forklift tires in good condition.

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Percent of Wear	New	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%
Rubber Thickness	2.6″	2.4″	2.1″	1.8″	1.6″	1.3″	1.1″	0.08″	0.05″
Worn Tire OD	18"	17.5″	17″	16.4″	15.9″	15.4″	14.9″	14.3″	13.8″
Reflex Modulus	N/A	4%	11%	30%	83%	229%	634%	1767%	4952%
Fuel Consumption Increase	N/A	3%	6%	10%	13%	17%	21%	26%	30%
Traction Loss	100%	97.50%	94.10%	91.40%	88.30%	85.50%	82.40%	89.60%	76.50%

This chart plots the effects of tire wear on traction loss, reflex modulus and fuel consumption.

NOTE: **Reflex modulus** is a calculation of the impact transmitted through the rubber of a typical cushion rubber press-on tire on a forklift. Another term for reflex modulus is **shock transfer to load**. Since forklifts do not have shock absorbers, they count on the cushioning of the rubber tires to absorb shock and reduce that transfer of shock to the load.

HAVE YOU INSPECTED YOUR TIRES RECENTLY? WE HAVE THE TOOLS AND KNOW-HOW TO HELP YOU MAKE THE BEST DECISION FOR YOUR BUSINESS.

