

Servicing Multi-Piece and Single-Piece Rim Wheels

Servicing rim wheels can be very dangerous. Inflated tires may explode and can cause serious injury or death if a worker is struck by a piece of the rim wheel. Employers must ensure that workers are trained and perform the procedures required to service rim wheels, including OSHA standards for tube-free wheels.

The required tasks to be performed when servicing rim wheels include the following:

Inflate

- Inspect components for corrosion/rust/defects; clean or replace defective components as needed;
- While in restraining device, inflate tire, with valve core removed, to 20 psi;
- Continue to inflate to seat beads, never exceeding 40 psi;
- Identify and stand clear of trajectory path;
- Inflate tire (with valve core still removed) to recommended pressure;
- Inspect assembly carefully, release the pressure to install valve core and re-inflate to recommended pressure; and
- Visually inspect the rim wheel assembly for distortions, fluctuations or other defects.



Inflating single-piece rim in restraining device.

For more information:



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www.osha.gov (800) 321-OSHA (6742)

Deflate

- Completely deflate tire assemblies (installations) before demounting; and
- Remove valve core from stem and insert wire to ensure complete deflation.

Other Safe Practices

- Use the appropriate tools; and
- Always use matching components.



Rubber mallet setting side ring in multi-piece rim.

Requirements for servicing multi-piece and single-piece rim wheels can be found in [§CFR 1910.177](#). OSHA charts and/or service manuals are required to be posted in the service area. In 2011, OSHA published updated Tire Charts available at: <http://www.osha.gov/pls/publications/publication.athruz?pType=Industry&pID=319>

If you have questions, ask your immediate supervisor.

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