



Firestone Polymers, LLC

September 15, 2008

**Re: Firestone Polymers, LLC Force Majeure Notice – Hurricane Ike**

Hurricane Ike made landfall at Galveston, TX at 2:00 AM CST Saturday Morning as a category 2 hurricane. This hurricane was large in size, and has had a major impact on a wide area of the Texas and Louisiana coastline.

Both Firestone Polymers rubber-producing facilities at Lake Charles, LA and Orange, TX have been affected by this hurricane. Early reports indicate that our Lake Charles facility has electrical power and appears to have only sustained very minor damage. Unfortunately, our Orange, TX plant did not fare as well, with significant surge water from the storm at the facility and surrounding areas. There is presently no electrical power.

As a result of the impact of Hurricane Ike at our facilities, Firestone Polymers is declaring force majeure for all customers of our synthetic rubber products. Shipments will be suspended until we can assess our inventory situation and have the infrastructure in place to resume shipments. Until power has been restored, we are unable to offer a complete evaluation of the situation. We are making a concerted effort to locate and account for all of our employees, and determining their location and safety is a top priority.

We will offer updates regarding the situation at our plants as new information becomes available over the next several days and weeks. We appreciate your patience. Please feel free to contact your sales representative with any questions.

Sincerely,

Firestone Polymers

John S. Vincent  
President