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(11) **EP 1 331 107 A8**

(12) **CORRECTED EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

Note: Bibliography reflects the latest situation

(15) Correction information:  
**Corrected version no 1 (W1 A1)**  
**INID code(s) 30**

(51) Int Cl.7: **B60C 1/00**, B60C 11/00,  
B60C 11/24, B60C 11/18

(48) Corrigendum issued on:  
**05.11.2003 Bulletin 2003/45**

(43) Date of publication:  
**30.07.2003 Bulletin 2003/31**

(21) Application number: **02100069.0**

(22) Date of filing: **28.01.2002**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU**  
**MC NL PT SE TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL LT LV MK RO SI**

(30) Priority: **01.02.2001 US 775381**

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(54) **Tire having tread with colored groove configuration**

(57) The present invention relates to a tire (1) having a rubber tread (2) of a lug and groove configuration and of a co-extruded cap/base construction; wherein the tread cap (6) is of a rubber composition which contains carbon black and is thereby of a black color; wherein a visible surface (14) of at least one groove (15) is of a rubber composition exclusive of carbon black and is of a non-black color and wherein said visible non-black colored rubber composition is a rubber layer (7) which underlies said tread cap. Said visible non-black colored rubber is exclusive of any appreciable portion of, and

preferably exclusive of, the surface (16) of said tread lugs (12) intended to be ground-contacting. In one aspect of the invention, said non-black colored rubber composition contains an amorphous precipitated silica reinforcement, preferably a pre-hydrophobated precipitated silica. In another aspect of the invention, said non-black colored rubber composition, and alternately, carbon black containing black colored rubber compositions adjoining said non-black colored rubber composition, is comprised a blend of at least one diene based elastomer and a brominated copolymer of isobutylene and p-methylstyrene together with an organo phosphite.

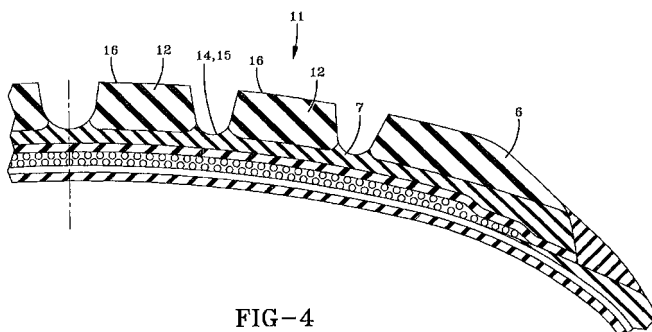


FIG-4

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