MOTION DESIGN ASSOC LTD.

DESIGN AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 1074, STA. A
FREDERICTON, N.B.
E3B 5G2

830 HANWELL ROAD
TEL (506) 458-9017
FAX (506) 458-9741

22 November 2009

Province of New Brunswick
Department of Transportation
Vehicle Management Agency
1050 College Hill Road
PO Box 6000
Fredericton, NB
E3B 5H1

Att: [redacted]

RE: USAGE OF WINTER DESIGNATED TIRES ON PASSENGER VEHICLES AND LIGHT BUSSES

Confirming our conversations with respect to the usage of Winter Designated Tires on Dept of Education administered vehicles, we had previously reviewed the policy used by Education and concurred with the policy contents.

The recommendation was to ensure all front wheel drive, all wheel drive, and four wheel drive vehicles be equipped with Winter designated Tires, carrying the "Snow Flake and Mountain Peak" symbol, at all wheel positions. For light busses based on LT Chassis, and larger busses, the recommendation was to keep the policy in effect and install such tires on the drive position only. Steer positions should continue to be equipped with appropriate rib style tires that are less aggressive than on the drive positions.

We agree that for heavy snow conditions there will be an improvement in steering and braking abilities at lower or urban speeds with winter tires installed in all positions, however for weather controlled operational profiles that include significant highway speed usage, we concur and recommend that the winter traction tires be confined to the drive positions, as in virtually all commercial and highway usage vehicles that are rear drive.

There is a common concern with highway speed usage in low traction conditions for the risk of loss of lateral vehicle stability during an evasive or corrective manoeuvre, such as the sudden encounter with slush, black ice, snow rutting. Etc. The loss of control concern in