

MD Alignment

Are Alignments on Trucks and Buses a GREEN procedure or a Money Drain (Part 22)

We have spent the last 21 segments exploring tire wear issues, now we move on to the area of handling. It should be granted that most actions that cause tire wear problems will also affect handling and many of the corrective actions taken to solve tire wear will therefore mitigate handling issues. I feel that it is beneficial to change perspective and look at handling issues and their probable causes and cures because although there are many overlaps in this area, some problems can be diagnosed from the handling characteristics at an earlier stage than with tire wear.

I break down handling issues in three major categories.

First is a tendency to pull in one direction or the other. In North America and areas where vehicles travel on the right side of the road, this tends to be a right pull.

Second is a vibration. This can be in the steering wheel or in the seat and feet.

Third is a tendency to road wander or have a loose feeling in the steering wheel.

I think that all of these items can be covered in the next two posts and I think that will wind up this series.

