### New tires go metric

By PATRICK KELLY

Many new-car buyers are finding some unusual symbols on their tires this year—things like "P21s/SR14," "kg" and "kPa."

Don't get excited. It's all part of the country's gradual conversion to the metric system over the next few years.

next few years.

The automobile manufacturers are playing a leading role in making the use of metrics visible. While the pharmaceutical industry has been metric for some time, and 35mm-film is common, metrics are the exception rather than the rule in American life. Engines in liters are now being followed by tires in KPas.

Whenever auto manufacturers design a completely new vehicle or change the size of most components, they usually express the new measurements in metric dimensions—millimens; cubic centimeters, kilograms, kilopascals (metric unit of air pressure, etc.)

cubic centimeters, kilograms, kilopascais (metric unit of air pressure), etc. Tre manufacturers are now making tires with metric size designations and metric load/inflation labeling as original equipment for some new vehicless and for the replacement tire market. In a few years, nearly all U.S.-made cars may come with metric tires, say tire industry officials.

with metric tres, say tree industry outcomes.

INCHES AND pounds don't convert into milimeters and kilograms in round numbers, so the metric tires are not always exactly inter-changeable with alphanumeric tree sizes.

As a result, motorists must be very careful when bey replace metric tires with alphanumeric tires as snow tires or vice versa.

The changeover can susually be made if caution is exercised. The time buyer and dealer should corsult tire load and infainto tables and tire manufacturers' conversion charfs to make sure the replacement tire will do the job adequately. Sometimes, air pressue must be increased in the replacement tire will obte the job adequately. Sometimes, air pressue must be increased in the replacement tire according to the published recommendations.

replacement tire according to the published recommendations.

Most Americans have a vague idea that in the metric system, length is measured in millimeters and weight by klograms.

However, the unit for air pressure-kilopascal tabbreviated klap-is not widely known. There are roughly seven kPas to one PSI.

TO SIMPLIFY things for the buyer, the U.S. Department of Transportation requires that tire load and inflation pressure continue to be labeled in both the conventional pounds of load and pounds per square inch (PSI) of inflation pressure as well as kilograms and kilopascals. In the example cited above, "P" means passenger tire. "215" is the cross section width in millimeters. "75" is the ratio of height to width of the tre cross section. "R" means radial, and "14" is the diameter of the rim in inches. "R" may be replaced by "D" to signify diagonal or bias ply construction. The letter "B" indicates belted bias construction.

construction. There also is a new family of high inflation, tem-

878 Plymouth

ROAD RUNNER - 1973, 340 auto-matic, air, stereo, sunroof, body mint, \$2400. 569-1267

SAFETY CHECKED

2 door, automatic, power ste power brakes, factory air, top, 17,000 miles, asking \$3795

HINES PARK

LINCOLN-MERCURY 425-3036

SATELLITE 1973. Power steering. power brakes, am-fm stereo. Air. \$1500. After 6 P.M. 476-8594

SCAMP 1972, 318 V-8, power steering and brakes. AM-FM, new tires and brakes. \$500. AFter 6 Prm. 544-0125

SPORTS FURY 1976, kinded, excel-

lent condition.

SUBURBAN 1972, station wagon, good dependable family car, no rust, full power, runs great, \$1100, 427-3015

VOLARE 1977. 2 door, 6 cylinder, automatic, air. power steering, brakes, rear window defrost, bucket seats, like new, 17,000 mile, \$2555 or best 545-0505

VOLARE 1977 Wagon Premier, am-fm, air, 9000 miles, still under warranty, \$4900. 427-7681

STU EVANS

BONNEVILLE BROUGHAN Executive car, 4 door low tr

50 options including amm CB, cli-mate control, power glass surroof, trailering package, with load lev-eler shocks, must be seen. 334-4997

880 Pontiac

BONNEVILLE BROUGHAM, 1978, low mileage, in warranty, all power, loaded, \$6800, \$55-2919

BONNEVILLE BROUGHAM 1978, full power, loaded, 2 months old, must sell. \$22,588

BONNEVILLE Brougham - 1978. leaded with extras, low mileage, \$5500. LU 2-7915

BONNEVILLE 1978, GM exec car, loaded with extras. 5500 miles. 55,150. After 3:30 PM. 549-5113

porary spare tires, used to save space and weight in many new cars. On those tires, the letter "T" for "temporary" replaces the "P" for

industry's gradual conversion to system.

Load and inflation figures are given in both metic and convention terms on the new "P-series" tires. The other sidewall markings remain the same. These include the Department of Transportation tire identification number and the type of cord in various plies.

For more information regarding "P-metric" tire markings, write the Tire Industry Safety Council, 766 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 2005.



passenger.

So, in essence, a new family of passenger car
tires with metric markings is being produced by
tire manufacturers as part of the automotive
industry's gradual conversion to the metric
system

## Salesman honored

John Rogin of Crestwood Dodge recently received one of the highest awards that Chrysler Corp, offers its salesmen. Rogin was chosen as one of the top volume salesmen from among 25,000 Dodge salesmen throughout the United States. He sold 400 cars during 1977. Rogin has been a new car salesman at Crestwood Dodge in Garden City for five years. Because so far this year he has sold more cars and trucks than last, Rogin should receive a higher award for 1978, said John Cini, sales manager at Crestwood Dodge.

880 Pontiac

GRANVILLE 1972, power steering, power brakes, power windows, \$700 firm.

LeMANS 1968. Good driving condition, \$400. After 3 PM: 474-8676 LE MANS, 1970, 57,000 miles, power steering & brakes, \$625. 476-4501 LE MANS 1970 Sport. Clean & sharp. 63,000 miles. \$1,000. After SDM. 533,4781

Lemans 1972, \$975. Call after 6 and weekends. 729-0643

weekenus.

LEMANS 1973, power brakes, power steering, Rally wheels, FM converser, excellent condition, no rust, \$1250 or best offer. \$76-2297 nus. \$1250 or best offer. \$36-2897

LE MANS, 1973, Sport Coupe,
Maroon body, apoties white
interior, white vinyl roof,
immaculate chrome, air, power
steering and brakes, automatic,
Ecteo, womens car. \$955, PAGE
TOYOTA, 352-4530.

Lemans 1975, 2 door, VE viny) roof, air, AM-FM, good tires, \$2.250, \$31-0754

LE MANS, 1916, 4 door, sedan, V-8 automatic, power steering, power brakes, air, AM-FM, tinted glass, vinyl interior, clean, good condi-tion. Must sell, Make an offer. Weekdays: 341-6400. After 6 and weekends.

weekends.

LeMANS, 1976, 4 door, power steering, power brakes, AM-FM radio, alr, 35,000 miles, 82750.

452-7504

LUXURY LE MANS 1994. Power steering, brakes. AM-FM-Stereo, air, vinyl top. 406 engine, Ziebart. Excellent condition, 12,100. 422 a153 PASTIAC GRAND SAFAIL STA-TION WAGON, 1977. Wood slides, toof tack, 3 seats, power, AM-FM plus much, much, more Sharp car, 8955. Arl Moran Poninc-GMC Telegraph, North of 12 Mile, 353 9000 PONTIAC 1978 Bonneville Broug-ham, loaded, low miles. 887-3418

PONTIAC 1974, Safari Wagon rus-prouled, air, new tires, must sell, fivorce sale. \$53,398

SAFETY CHECKED

itereo tape, power windows, I miles, silver with red

HINES PARK

LINCOLN-MERCURY 425-3036

SUNBIRD, 1976, automatic, power steering, sunroof, amfm, must sell, replacement car on order, \$2,450 or best offer. \$31,4773 SUNBIRD, 1977. Radio, heater, 10,000 miles. Blue, \$3,650.

#### PACKER **PONTIAC**

332-9300

TRANS AM 1975, 400 4 speed, goo-condition, after 6 pm 522-121 TRANS AM 1977, 6.6 engine, loaded,

332-9300

**PACKER** 

PONTIAC

500 S. OPDYKE RD. PONTIAC, MICHIGAN

332-9300 OLDSMOBILE



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1976 98 REGENCY	
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1977 OMEGA BROUGHAM	
Air conditioning, stareo taps	\$4495
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\$1795

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884 Volkswagen 884 Volkswagen VW BUS, 1972, newty rebuilt engine, good body, must sell Best offer takes 545-570

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rendsils, rear defensier, rendsils,
rear ABBUT 1972 autumatic, air, 4
door 6.000 miles, under warranty

SUPER HEETLE 1978, sun rod, auto trans, amilim, rust proded only 33,000 miles. Call after 5 32-35

VOLDSWAGEN, 1972, 4 speed, AM FM steres. Looks like new. No rast Maroon body, apottess choose-laterior like new. Only \$126, PAGE TOYOTA 352-8580



474-1289 (JUST EAST OF ORCHARD LK. RD.)

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**PACKER** PONTIAC 500 S. OPDYKE RD. PONTIAC. MICHIGAN

1975 COLT

FIREBIRD 1977, 350 Va, power brakes, power steering AM-FM stereo, tape deck, air, rally wheels, \$4500, 9am-5pm 399-2647

## GRAND PRIX 1976. Loaded, must sell. \$4,300 or best offer. 464-1841 576-1230 GRAND PRIX 1978 LJ 1978, Loaded with many extras. \$5,800, 23,000 miles \$38-5154 838-0385 GRAND PRIX, 1977, loaded, \$4,800 or best offer. After 5:30 PM 729-9429 GRAND PRIX 1977. Firethorn red with White landau vinyl roof, AM-FM radio, automatic, power win-dows, brakes & steering, V8, 21,000 miles, \$5000. 459-1581

880 Pontiac 880 Pontiac FIREBIRD 1978, loaded, warranty. GRAND AM 1978, black.loaded, low 887-3418

power brakes, steering, locks, win-dows, trunk, cruise, air, stereo, much more, garaged, \$6,000 6525153 GRAND PRIX LJ 1978, GM executives wifes car, full power. Loaded Excellent condition. 642-354 GRAND PRIX SJ. 1978, GM Exec. low miles, loaded, must sell, make offer. After 6pm 349-3911

BONNEVILLE 1977 Brougham, 4 door, air, AM-FM stereo, 8 track tape plus 20 options, \$5,660, After P.M. \$5,129 CATALINA 1959 Good condition, power steering, brakes, good tires, radio, 6 month batter. FIREBIRD ESPRIT, 1978, loaded, \$3800 or best offer. 647-4827 GRAND PRIX 1973 - automatic loaded, \$1900 or best offer. After 6PM 474-901

\$3800 or best offer. 6474Ezr
FIREBIRD Esprit, 1978, silver
esterior, carmine velour interior,
air, amfm, low mileage, under warranty, excellent condition, 365 V-8,
36,200. Must sell. After 7:30P34
weekdays. 478-3650

FIREBIRD FORMULA - 1977\*1, 400 4 speed, AM-FM, tilt, more, excel-lent condition, must sell. Alter SPI 334-0319 664-1307 SN-0119 664-1907 FIREBIRD FORMULA. 1974, VB. power steering, power brakes, power windows, 'AM-FM stereo, 4 new steel belted radials, air, \$2400 or best offer. Call Sandy. 425-4046

FIREBIRD FORMULA, 1976. Auto-matic, power steering, power brakes, power windows, power door locks, stereo tape, air.
Roger Penske Chev. 355-1000 477/61 | Prikes, power windows, power down | 1976 FURY | 2 dowr hardton, silver with burry gardy vinyl roel, and trun. factory air, full power. One owner, Low miles. 12,588. FIREBIRD 1968, excellent appearance, no rust, needs mechanical work, \$700. 477-8029

STU EVAINS UNCOLMERCURY Work, \$150. Work \$150.

GRAND PRIX 1978 SJ. black, loaded including sunroof, \$6,800, After 5 PM, 352,3672

# pickup

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880 Pontiac

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METRO

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TRANS AM
Factory sir, full power, am fir
stereo, 14,660 original miles Triple
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