CLAIMS

1. An elastomeric composition comprising, per 100 parts by weight of rubber (phr):

30 to 50 phr of polybutadiene having a cis-1,4 linkage content of at least 95%;

40 to 60 phr of a styrene/butadiene copolymer;

5 to 20 phr of natural rubber or polyisoprene;

0 to 30 phr of a processing oil;

10 to 30 phr of a hydrocarbon resin;

50 to 75 phr of a filler;

a curative agent;

a silane coupling agent;

an antioxidant; and

5 to 40 phr of a propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer containing from 2 to 30 wt% of ethylene and/or C_4-C_{20} α-olefins derived units.

2. The elastomeric composition of claim 1, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer is functionalized with bis-[3-(triethoxysilyl)-propyl]-tetrasulfide.

3. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer is present in the amount of 5 phr to 25 phr.

4. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer contains from 0.5 wt% to 5 wt% ethylidene norbornene based on the terpolymer.

5. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer contains from 5 wt% to 25 wt% ethylene based on the terpolymer.

6. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer contains 65 wt% to 95 wt% propylene based on the terpolymer.

7. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the glass transition temperature (Tg) of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer is from 0°C to -60°C.

8. The elastomeric composition of any preceding claim, wherein the melt flow rate (MFR) at 2.16 kg weight at 230ºC of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer is from 0.2 to 10 g/10 min.

9. A method of making the elastomeric composition of any one of claims 1-8, comprising the steps of:

(a) blending the polybutadiene, the styrene/butadiene copolymer, the natural rubber or polyisoprene, the filler, the processing oil, and the propylene-ethylene diene terpolymer to form a first component at a temperature in the range from 110ºC to 200ºC;

(b) blending the curative agent with the first component at a temperature in the range of less than 110ºC; and

(c) recovering the elastomeric composition.

10. A method of balancing the wet traction performance and rolling resistance in a tire tread comprising the elastomeric composition of any one of claims 1-8, comprising the steps of:

combining at least the filler, the polybutadiene, the styrene/butadiene copolymer, the natural rubber or polyisoprene, and the curative agent with one or more of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymers to form the tire tread;

effecting a cure of the components to form a tire tread; and

wherein the level of the propylene-ethylene-diene terpolymer(s) relative to the other components, and its comonomer content, can be varied to improve the balance of wet traction and rolling resistance of a tire tread.