U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 14-010
Prompted by: 14E-024
Date Opened: 08/25/2014
Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Suspension Pivot Bolt Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: SAF-Holland
Products: CXB series trailer suspension air ride axle systems
Population: 11,259 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The pivot bolts may crack or fracture, causing separation of the axle/suspension assembly from the trailer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This EQ investigation is Opened.

Summary:

In a letter dated May 16, 2014, SAF-Holland, Inc. (SAF-Holland) notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain CXB series trailer suspension air ride axle systems. Defective pivot bolts, part number 93201070, were used to manufacture CXB series trailer suspension air ride axle systems between October 8, 2013 and November 30, 2013. The affected pivot bolts may experience an inter-granular quench crack where the bolt head meets the body of the bolt. If the bolt cracks, it could fracture, causing separation of the axle/suspension assembly from the trailer and increasing the risk of a vehicle crash. This matter was assigned recall number 14E-024.

SAF-Holland provided NHTSA with a purchaser list identifying the manufacturers that may hae incorporated these CXB series trailer suspension air ride axle systems into their vehicles. However, at this time, a Part 573 Report has not been filed by all of these potentially affected manufacturers.

The purpose of this EQ investigation is to write to the companies that purchased SAF-Holland's CXB series trailer suspension air ride axle systems, notify them of this defect, and ensure thorought safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.