U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 16-002
Prompted by: 15E-065
Date Opened: 03/15/2016 **Date Closed:** 10/04/2016
Investigator: Kelly Schuler
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Improperly torqued hex nuts/drive axles

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Marmon-Herrington
Products: model numbers MT14, MT17, MT22, R17 and R22
Population: 525

Problem Description: The affected axles are equipped with hex nuts on the flange yoke that may not have been properly tightened.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This EQ investigation is closed.

Summary:

Background
In a Part 573 Safety recall report dated August 11, 2015, Marmon-Herrington notified NHTSA that it decided that a defect exists in certain drive axles, model numbers MT14, MT17, MT22, R17 and R22, manufactured July 28, 2014, to July 22, 2015. The affected axles are equipped with hex nuts on the flange yoke that may not have been properly tightened. If the hex nuts are not tightened to specification, the driveshaft may disconnect from the drive axle, resulting in a loss of propulsion and increasing the risk of a crash. This matter was assigned recall campaign number 15E-065.

In their 573 Defect Notification Report, Marmon-Herrington identified several vehicle manufactures that were sold and possibly installed the defective axles in their vehicles. On March 15, 2016, the Recall Management Division (RMD) opened this Equipment Query (EQ) Investigation in order to obtain Marmon-Herrington's customer list and to contact the companies that purchased the defect drive axles, notify them of the defect and ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate. On March 15, 2016, an information request letter was sent to Marmon-Herrington via email. A second information request letter was sent to Marmon-Herrington on April 5, 2016.

Marmon-Herrington’s Response

Marmon-Herrington responded to the information request letter on April 8, 2016. The purchaser list was uploaded through the recalls portal by Marmon-Herrington on April 6, 2016.

Recall Management Division Action

RMD sent letters on May 11, 2016, to each vehicle manufacturer and requested a safety recall decision be made and the requisite notice filed and recall campaign conducted where appropriate.

As a result, the following manufacturers have filed defect reports and are conducting safety recalls:

• Terex Advance (16V-371)

The following companies have provided written statements that they did not sell any products containing the defective valves to customers:

• Ferrara Fire Apparatus
• General Dynamics

After numerous attempts, the following companies refused to respond to the NHTSA inquiry and have been referred to Chief Counsel:

- Wausau Everest
- Kimble Mixer

Accordingly, this equipment query investigation is closed. Copies of documents associated with this investigation, including responses to IR letters, can be found in this Equipment Query's document repository by clicking the "Associated Documents" button.