U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

MAR 15 2016

VIA Email – Delivery and Read Receipt Requested

Mr. Ricky Blair
Marmon-Herrington
13001 Magisterial Drive
Louisville, KY 40223

NEF-150kjs
15E-065

Dear Mr. Blair:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), Recall Management Division (RMD) is conducting an equipment query (EQ) investigation into the sale and distribution of certain drive axles, model numbers MT14, MT17, MT22, R17 and R22, manufactured from July 28, 2014, through July 22, 2015.

This investigation has been assigned the identification number EQ16-002.

According to the defect information report your company filed, 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.

The purpose of this request is to obtain a list of purchasers that were sold these axles so they are made aware of this safety issue and are able to determine the need for any similar safety recall. Accordingly, please provide a list of all customers that received the same or similarly affected drive axles and provide their company name, line of business (i.e. vehicle manufacturer, equipment manufacturer, distributor, etc.), address, phone number, contact person, quantity sold to each, and sale date.

For your convenience, I am attaching a pre-formatted Excel spreadsheet for you to use.

This letter is being sent to your company pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30166, which authorizes NHTSA to conduct any investigation that may be necessary to enforce Chapter 301 of Title 49. Marmon-Herrington's failure to respond promptly and fully to this letter could subject your company to civil penalties pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30165 or lead to an action for injunctive relief pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30163.

If Marmon-Herrington claims that any of the information or documents provided in response to this information request constitute confidential commercial material within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), or are protected from disclosure pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1905, Marmon-Herrington must

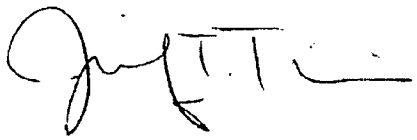
submit supporting information together with the materials that are the subject of the confidentiality request, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 512, as amended (69 Fed. Reg. 21409 et seq; April 21, 2004), to the Office of Chief Counsel (NCC-111), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room W41-227, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590. Your company is required to submit two copies of the documents containing allegedly confidential information (except only one copy of blueprints) and one copy of the documents from which information claimed to be confidential has been deleted. Please remember that the word "CONFIDENTIAL" must appear at the top of each page containing information claimed to be confidential, and the information must be clearly identified in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 512.6.

Marmon-Herrington's written response must be submitted to this office within 10 days of receiving this letter. In your response, please be certain to include a reference to this matter's identification number which is EQ16-002.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Kelly Schuler of my staff at (202) 366-5227 or by e-mail at Kelly.schuler@dot.gov.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Hard copies and email documents are no longer accepted. You must submit your spreadsheet through the recalls portal.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Attachment