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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 19, 2016

VIA Email – Delivery and Read Receipt Requested

Mr. James Huyge
Director of Reliability & Risk Management
SAF-Holland
1950 Industrial Blvd
Muskegon, MI 49443

NEF-107KS
15E-080

Dear Mr. Huyge:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), Recall Management Division (RMD) is conducting an equipment query (EQ) investigation into the sale and distribution of certain 5 inch tapered axles used in trailer applications with part numbers 24790175090, 24790745090, and 24790165090, manufactured December 13, 2011, to December 25, 2011.

This investigation has been assigned the identification number EQ16-003.

According to the defect information report your company filed, the affected axles were not produced according to specification, and as a result of the improper wall thickness of the spindles, the wheel end may separate from the axle.

The purpose of this request is to obtain a list of purchasers that were sold these axles so they are made aware of your safety defect decision and to ensure the follow-on defect decisions are made as to their products that incorporated the defective equipment. The list that your company previously provided is not adequate for effectively performing this notification. Please provide a list of all customers that received the same or similarly affected axles and provide their company name, line of business (i.e. vehicle manufacturer, equipment manufacturer, distributor, etc.), address, phone number, contact person including an email address, 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. SAF-Holland'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 SAF-Holland 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, SAF-Holland 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.

SAF-Holland'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 EQ16-003.

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.

Sincerely,



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

Attachment