

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment

PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report⁽¹⁾

On July 16, 2004, Reading Truck Body, Inc. decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No.) exists in items of motor vehicle equipment listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CAR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: September 2, 2004

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable)

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer/brand name/trademark owner of the recalled item of equipment. If the recalled item of equipment is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §§30164.

Reading Truck Body Inc.

PO Box 650

Shillington, PA 19607

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall. Chuck Schaeffer/Quality Manager

Telephone Number: 610-775-3301 Fax No.: 610-775-6513

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report. Chuck Schaeffer/Quality Manager

Signed:



1. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

2. Identify the Items of Equipment Involved in this Recall, for each make and model or applicable item of equipment product line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the item of equipment), provide:

Generic name of the item: Galvanized tailgate cable

Make: Model: Supplier Name: Cable Manufacturing and Assembly Co.

Part Number: Size: Reading #14600301, Manuf. #12279. Size: 15.67"

Function: Support tailgate in horizontal position

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: Model: Supplier Name: Cable Manufacturing and Assembly Co.

Part Number: Size: Reading #14600341, Manuf. #12278. Size: 12.5"

Function: Support tailgate in horizontal position

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: Model:

Part Number: Size:

Function:

Model Years Involved:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Make: Model:

Part Number: Size:

Function:

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996, through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

100%

II. Identifying the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of items of equipment recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance. 19,100

Number of Items 1

Model Year Potentially Involved

November 5, 1996 through August 31, 2004

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall 38,200

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated

to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:

85%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined—in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled items of equipment:

We were notified by NHTSA about GM tailgate cable problem.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

Steel tailgate cable corrodes over time.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Water gets trapped in covering around steel cable.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

If both cables break, the tailgate will drop down.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

b. One cable could break causing tailgate to hang crooked.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

C.M.A.
10896 Industrial Parkway
Bollivar, Ohio 44612

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

Warren Nadler

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.

Dates unknown until we were notified by NHTSA.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

Unknown, However we were purchasing tailgate cables presently designed and used by GM and Ford.

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.

Purchased stainless steel cables which was recommended by Cable Manufacturing Co.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

None

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

Destroyed current inventory of tailgate cables

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

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VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (262-366-7882) for review

prior to mailing.

Note: These documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.9 requirements.

1. **Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.**

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5226 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response maybe used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.