

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On January 28, 2004, Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company was informed that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: 02/03/2004

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): 04E-002 assigned to Webb Wheel Products, Inc.

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company
17295 East Railroad Street
City of Industry, CA 91748

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

Mary Lou Zukle, Supervisor - Field Service Department

Telephone Number: 626-854-7217

Fax Number: 626-965-5660

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Paul P. Trujillo, Warranty Admin. Assistant - Field Service Department

Signed: _____

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) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall; for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Utility Model Years Involved: 2003 Model(s): VS2R

Production Dates: Beginning: 2/11/03 Ending: 3/04/03

VIN Range: Beginning: 1UY VS2504 3M1582 01 Ending: 1UY VS2508 3M1582 17

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recall vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

The recall vehicles were built with Webb Platinum Series Brake Drums as part of a special order specification.

Make(s): Utility Model Years Involved: 2003 Model(s): VS2DC

Production Dates: Beginning: 4/23/02 Ending: 5/8/02

VIN Range: Beginning: 1UY VS2532 3G9402 01 Ending: 1UY VS2533 3G9402 10

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recall vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

The recall vehicles were built with Webb Platinum Series Brake Drums as part of a special order specification.

Make(s): Utility Model Years Involved: 2003 through 2004 Model(s): VS2RA

Production Dates: Beginning: 3/13/03 Ending: 5/8/03

VIN Range: Beginning: 1UY VS2536 3U9195 01 Ending: 1UY VS2485 4M2125 20

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recall vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

The recall vehicles were built with Webb Platinum Series Brake Drums as part of a special order specification.

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.

Less than one-half of 1%

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
<u>VS2R</u>	2003	17
<u>VS2DC</u>	2003	10
<u>VS2RA</u>	2003-2004	79

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 106

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect of noncompliance: 100%

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 vehicles:

Webb Wheel Products provided Utility with purchase order records of the recalled component identified by part number, and Utility conducted a search of its records by that part number to identify the vehicles on which the component was installed.

III. Describe the Defect of Noncompliance

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

Webb Wheel has noted the following potential problems: premature cracking of the braking surface resulting in reduced or complete loss of braking on the wheel end, or loss of brake drum pieces; excessive run-out of the braking surface causing cam rollover resulting in the loss of braking on the wheel end.

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

The braking surface area on the platinum series brake drums is susceptible to overheating resulting in cracking and eventual failure of the brake drum.

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

Reduced or complete loss of braking on the wheel end, or loss of brake drum pieces; excessive run-out of the braking surface causing cam rollover resulting in the loss of braking on the wheel end.

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

Unknown

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

Webb Wheel Products, Inc.
2310 Industrial Drive, S.W.
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

John C. Hall, Vice President - Engineering
Webb Wheel Products, Inc.

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 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.

Utility received notification on January 28, 2004 from Webb Wheel Products, Inc. via U.S. Mail (copy enclosed). Utility has no known reports of accidents, injuries, fatalities or warranty claims for this component.

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.

N/A

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect of noncompliance. Clearly describe the difference between the recall condition and the remedy.
Webb Wheel Products will supply inspection instructions. Webb Wheel Products will pay .15 hours for inspection. If the drum falls into the dates of the recall Webb Wheel Products will pay for removal and inspection of the braking surface. If the braking surface has only light heat checks the drum can be reinstalled and used. If the drum has medium to heavy heat checks or cracks Webb Wheel Products will pay the parts and labor for a replacement non-plateau brake drum.

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

Webb Wheel Products remedy is to provide \$103.00 per brake drum for a replacement brake drum.

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.

Utility Line production and in-house inventory was not affected. Webb Wheel Products has advised that subject brake drums are no longer available.

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.

Webb Wheel Products will handle customer/owner notification upon receipt of Utility customer list of VIN numbers of vehicles affected by this recall. This listing is expected to be delivered to Webb Wheel Products by 02/04/2004.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect of 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 document should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.*

Enclosed: Webb Wheel Products notification to Utility (9 pages)

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.