



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

OCT 4 2005

JERRY MILLER
NATIONAL SERVICE MANAGER
HAULMARK INDUSTRIES INC.
PO BOX 281
BRISTOL IN 46507

NVS-215
05V-447

Subject: REAR SPRING HANGER BRACKETS

Dear MR. MILLER:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
HAULMARK/MOTOR COACH/2003-2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-447

Mfg's Report Date: September 26, 2005

Components: SUSPENSION

Potential Number of Units Affected: 147

Summary:

ON CERTAIN MOTOR COACHES, THE REAR SPRING HANGER BRACKETS MAY NOT HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH HAULMARK'S SPECIFICATIONS DURING THE MODIFICATION PROCESS. THIS CONDITION COULD CAUSE THE SPRING HANGER FASTENERS TO LOSE TORQUE AND FAIL.

Consequence:

SHOULD THE SPRING HANGER FASTENERS FAIL, THE AXLE MAY DISCONNECT FROM THE FRAME, RESULTING IN A LOSS OF VEHICLE CONTROL AND, POTENTIALLY, A CRASH.

Remedy:

AN AUTHORIZED FREIGHTLINER DEALER WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE SPRING HANGER FASTENERS. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING OCTOBER 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT HAULMARK AT 866-760-8195 TO LOCATE THE CLOSEST FREIGHTLINER DEALER TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE THEIR VEHICLE INSPECTED.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

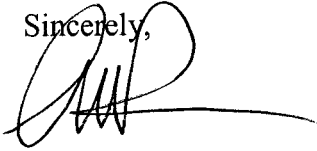
Regulations require manufacturers conducting safety recalls to include the NHTSA Vehicle Safety Hotline phone number in their notification letters to owners [49 CFR 577.5(g)(1)(vii)]. That phone number has changed, and in a technical amendment to the regulation published in the June 21, 2005 Federal Register [70 FR 35556] manufacturers' owner letters must contain the new phone number and the NHTSA's web address. Accordingly, beginning July 21, 2005, please revise your owner letters to include the following statement. "A statement informing the owner that he or she may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or *call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>, if the owner believes that ...*"

Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during October 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by January 30, 2006.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

cc: T. Malcolm Sandilands
Bingham McCutchen LLP