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2005 MAR 29 A 10:35

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

March 23, 2005

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S. W.
Washington, DC 20590

05V-117
(2 pages)

The following information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6 as it applies to a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.

573.6(c)(1)
Autocar, LLC
P.O. Box 190
Hagerstown, IN 47346-0190

573.6(c)(2)
Autocar WX, WXR and WLL model, heavy-duty class 8 vehicles manufactured between February 2005 and March 2005. Identified vehicles fitted with Accuride Aluminum Wheels P/N 29644ANP Size 22.5 x 8.25 manufactured with a date codes of E011505, E011605 & E011705.

The wheels in question were manufactured by: Accuride Corporation
2315 Adams Lane
Henderson, KY 42420
PH: (270) 826-5000

573.6(c)(3)
There are Fifty-six (56) vehicles with serial numbers in the range 200583 through 202028.

573.6(c)(4)
Percentage of vehicles expected to contain the suspect defect is 29%.

573.6(c)(5)
Accuride sent a letter to Autocar advising that certain wheels manufactured in its Erie, Pennsylvania plant during the period January 15, 2005 (second shift) through January 17, 2005 (first shift) were not properly pre-stressed before being shipped. Wheels that have not been properly pre-stressed could over time develop cracks in the wheel that, if allowed to propagate, could result in a wheel failure and possibly result in a vehicle crash.

Description of Defect:

Wheels did not have the pre-stress operation on the convex disc face and the convex disc slope of the wheel. Wheels that have not been properly pre-stressed may experience premature cracking on the disc face that could result in failure in service.

573.6 (c)(6)

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|---------|--|
| 3/10/05 | Draft letter received from Accuride advising Autocar of a pending Safety Related Recall. |
| 3/21/05 | An e-mail was received from Accuride detailing quantities of suspect wheel shipped and shipment dates. |
| 3/21/05 | A search was conducted on the Accuride P/N's within the date ranges specified and corresponding Autocar VIN numbers were determined. |
| 3/23/05 | Autocar, LLC has determined that the condition described in this notification constitutes a product defect and that this defect is safety related. |

573.6(c)(7)
Not applicable

573.6(c)(8)
Accuride will initiate a voluntary owner notification and recall based on the vehicle population found with wheels manufactured within the date ranges specified.

The number which Autocar, LLC, has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is
A - 0504.

Very Truly Yours
AUTOCAR, LLC



Stan R. Gornick, P. Eng.
Manager, Compliance