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May 18, 2005

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Washington, DC 20590

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

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(2 pages)

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 – Defect and Noncompliance Reports, I am notifying you that Hackney a division of Specialized Vehicles Corporation has discovered a noncompliance with a motor vehicle safety standard in some vehicles they have completed. This noncompliance involves light projection from the license plate lamp. Listed below is the report required by § 573.6 (c) :

§ 573.6 (c)

- (1) Manufacturer's name
Hackney a division of Specialized Vehicles Corporation
400 Hackney Avenue, PO Box 880
Washington, NC 27889
252.946.6521 PHONE
252.975.8342 FAX
- (2) Identification of vehicles potentially containing noncompliance
The vehicles involved are Hackney truck bodies and trailers. Date of manufacture is August 2004 through May 2005.
- (3) Total number of vehicles potentially containing noncompliance
329.
- (4) Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain noncompliance
100%.
- (5) Description of noncompliance
FMVSS 108 requires license plate lamps to meet SAE Standard J587. These vehicles do not meet the provision of the SAE Standard that no white light shall be projected from the license plate lamp directly to the rear of the vehicle.
- (6) Not applicable

400 Hackney Avenue • PO Box 880 • Washington, NC 27889-0880
Phone 252-946-6521 • Fax 252-975-8340 • www.HackneyandSons.com

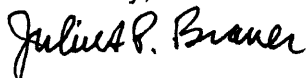
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- (7) Basis for existence of noncompliance
On May 13, 2005, an engineering review of a completed vehicle revealed the light projection to the rear. The cause was found to be the absence of paint coating the side of the license plate lamp exposed to the rear of the vehicle. This change was made by the lamp manufacturer and was not initially recognized by Hackney.
- (8) Description of program for remedying noncompliance
Compose a written notification that meets the requirements of 49 CFR 577, send it to the Office of Defects Investigation for approval, then after approval mail it to vehicle owners. Owners will be asked to see if the side of the license plate lamp facing the rear is unpainted and notify Hackney of their finding. If the side is unpainted, Hackney will furnish a replacement license plate lamp that will not project white light to the rear and will reimburse a fixed amount for installation labor. The estimated starting date for mailing to owners is June 27, 2005, and the estimated completion date is July 1, 2005.

Vehicles currently in production are having the correct license plate lamps installed.

If you require additional information, please phone me at 252.946.6521, fax me at 252-975-8342, or email me at jbrauer@hackneyusa.com.

Sincerely,



Julius P. Brauer, P.E.
Manager
Trailer Products

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