



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

March 23, 2007

JOHN C. CLUMPNER
PROJECT MANAGER
RELIANCE HEAVY DUTY TRAILERS
S. 3025 GEIGER BOULEVARD
SPOKANE, WA 99224

NVS-215paw
07V-174

Subject: DRAWBAR HINGE ASSEMBLIES

Dear MR. CLUMPNER:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

RELIANCE/TRANSFER TRAILER CHASSIS/2005-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 07V-174

Mfg's Report Date: February 14, 2007

Components: TRAILER HITCHES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 508

Summary:

ON CERTAIN TRANSFER TRAILER CHASSIS, THE DRAWBAR HINGE ASSEMBLIES AT THE FRONT OF THE TURNABLE MAY HAVE BEEN INCORRECTLY ASSEMBLED OR IMPROPERLY TIGHTENED DURING ASSEMBLY.

Consequence:

THIS SITUATION MAY ALLOW THE BOLT TO BACK OUT OF THE TAPERED HINGE, ALLOWING THE PIN TO WORK OUT OF THE HINGE ASSEMBLY, COMPROMISING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TRAILER DRAWBAR AND THE TRAILER, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

INSPECTION OF THE TRAILERS AND REPLACEMENT AND/OR TIGHTENING OF THE BOLT IN THE DRAWBAR HINGE ASSEMBLIES WILL BE PERFORMED. THE RECALL BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 14, 2007. OWNERS MAY CONTACT RELIANCE AT 1-800-493-8560.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY 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).

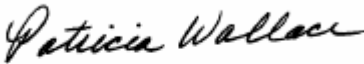
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

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 required 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 began on February 14, 2007. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before April 30, 2007.

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@dot.gov or delia.lopez@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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