



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*December 14, 2007*

MELANIE S. STONE  
COTTRELL, INC.  
2125 CANDLER ROAD  
GAINESVILLE GA 30507

NVS-215dgl  
07V-548

Subject: ROOF LIFT TUBE FAILURE

Dear MS. STONE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Cottrell, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below, for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

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:**  
COTTRELL/C-8ENC/2002-2007

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 07V-548      **Mfg's Report Date:** November 21, 2007

**Components:** STRUCTURE: BODY: ROOF AND PILLARS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 68

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN CAR HAUL TRAILERS THAT ARE EQUIPPED WITH ROOFS THAT RAISE AND LOWER, THE ROOFS ARE ATTACHED TO A RAISING/LOWERING MECHANISM BY ROUND TUBES THAT ARE WELDED TO THE ROOF. THERE ARE 4 TUBES WELDED TO EACH ROOF AND 2 ROOFS PER EACH COMPLETE PIECE OF EQUIPMENT. THE BASE MATERIAL AROUND THE WELDED CONNECTION MAY EXPERIENCE A FATIGUE FAILURE DURING HIGH MILEAGE OPERATION.

**Consequence:**

SHOULD FAILURE OCCUR ON ALL FOUR LIFT POINTS, THE ROOF MIGHT SEPARATE FROM THE TRAILER INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL ADD AN ADDITIONAL WELD PASS AROUND THE ROOF LIFT TUBE, INSTALL AN INNER AND OUTER GUSSET TYING THE ROOF INTO THE ROOF LIFT TUBE FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL BEGAN ON NOVEMBER 21, 2007. ALL OWNERS HAVE BEEN CONTACTED.

**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).

It is our understanding that notification to owners began on November 21, 2007, prior to our review of the owner notification letter. Should it become necessary for Cottrell to do a renotification, the follow-up notification must be submitted to this office for review and it must comply with the requirements of Part 577.5, "Notification pursuant to a manufacturer's decision" and Part 577.10, "Follow-up notification."

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

Please provide us with the model years that are affected by this recall.

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. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

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](mailto:Patricia.wallace@dot.gov), [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or though the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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