

L.K.I. Enterprises inc.

January 26, 2007

07E-009
(4 pages)

Mr. Kenneth Weinstein
Administration for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

VIA FAX & MAIL
(202/493-2833)

RECEIVED
2007 FEB - 1 A 9 50
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: Initial Safety Defect Report (49 CFR Part 573)
Manufacturer: Auto Pro USA, Inc.
Aftermarket replacement pitman arm: Part # 04-4640 for 2003-2007 Dodge 2500/3500
4x4 light trucks, included with Superlift Suspension™ kit series K756, K757, K760, K761
& K821-K835.
Initiating Party: LKI Enterprises, Inc.

Dear People:

On January 19, 2007, LKI Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Superlift Suspension™ (“LKI”) determined that a safety defect exists in certain replacement pitman arms received as component parts from Auto Pro USA, Inc. As described below these pitman arms were included in 4x4 performance suspension kits sold by LKI. LKI is furnishing this notification in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573:

This report was prepared on January 23, 2007. LKI has assigned 07-01pit. as its identification code for this voluntary recall.

(1) The affected pitman arms were manufactured by an independent vendor of LKI: Auto Pro USA, Inc., 2730 Monterey St., #106 Torrance CA 90503. Auto Pro has been notified of LKI’s decision to recall the affected pitman arms. The affected pitman arms were included in aftermarket suspension kits, manufactured or packaged by LKI Enterprises, Inc. 300 Huey Lenard Loop, West Monroe LA 71292.

The agency should contact the following person with respect to this recall: Darryl Boutwell, product manager, LKI Enterprises, Inc. 300 Huey Lenard Loop, West Monroe LA 71292. (Darryl@superlift.com); phone 318/397-3005, fax 318/397/3040.

(2) The vehicles involved in this recall are 2003-2007 Dodge 2500/3500 4x4 light trucks equipped after first sale between 10/25/2005 and 2/25/07 with any version¹ of Superlift suspension kits: K756, K757, K760, K761, K821, K822, K823, K824,

¹ The same pitman arm was included in this nearly identical “family” of suspension kits. LKI uses a supplemental letter to indicate the type of shock absorbers included with the kit. For example, suspension kit K756B indicates to customers a kit intended for a Hemi engine truck and includes Bilstein® shock absorbers. To aid identification a complete list of LKI kit number and pitman arm box numbers will be provided with customer notifications. See complete list attached as exhibit A.

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K832, K833, K834, K835. The October 21, 2005 date coincides with the first usage of the affected pitman arms supplied by Auto Pro USA, Inc. The February date reflects estimated installation after LKI's quarantine of affected parts. Affected parts can be identified by distinctive shape and packaging (box numbers).

(3) LKI reports 3350 as an approximate number of pitman arms containing the safety defect.

(4) As set forth below, root causes of defect include inadequate heat treating in pitman arms produced and received in batches. LKI estimates that less than 100% of the pitman arms contain the defect.

(5) On Dodge trucks equipped with identified Superlift Suspension™ the affected pitman arms may develop cracks in the upper splined attachment to the steering output shaft. Movement between the pitman arm and the output shaft may deform splines, result in premature wear and fatigue failure of affected pitman arms. Pitman arm wear or failure may lead to loss of vehicle control.

(6) Not applicable.

(7) LKI began an investigation in December 2006 based on warranty returns of affected parts. LKI is not aware of any accidents or injuries that have resulted from this safety defect although the potential exists. Two customers have reported returning to installers with fractured pitman arms after steering feeling vague.

(8) LKI will notify customers and ask them to inspect, or contact installer/mechanic to inspect for cracking or wear on upper splined attachment of pitman arm to steering output shaft. Replacement pitman arms (and labor if requested) will be made available to replace suspect pitman arms at no charge to customers.

(9) LKI suspension kits are distributed through independent regional warehouses and smaller repair shops (retailers). LKI intends to conduct a notification of these customers January 31, 2007. Many end use customers are known to retailers. LKI will solicit customer names from retailers and will provide notice directly to end customers upon identification. LKI will further post recall notification on its web sites and request summary of recall notice be published in off-road enthusiasts magazines where LKI advertises.

(10) Copies of subsequent correspondence will be submitted to NHTSA within five (5) working days of distribution. This will include:

- I) Letter of distributor notification
- II) Letter of end customer notification

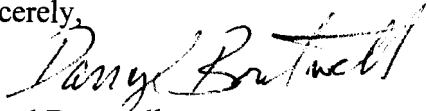
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III) Press release & copy of web site posting. LKI will monitor customer response to this campaign but does not foresee any problems in implementing this voluntary recall campaign.

Drafts of distributor and customer notifications will be forthcoming for your review.

LKI welcomes NHTSA's comments and suggestions for this voluntary recall campaign. Please contact me should further information be required.

Sincerely,



Darryl Boutwell
Production Manager
LKI Enterprises, Inc.
318/397-3005 (direct)

Exhibit A

SUPERLIFT PRODUCT NUMBERS THAT CONTAIN #04-4640 PITMAN ARM

<u>"K" KIT PART NUMBERS</u>	<u>BOX KIT NUMBERS</u>
K834	4640
K834B	4640B
K834R	4640R
K835	4645
K835B	4645B
K835R	4650
K832	4650B
K832B	4650R
K832R	4655
K833	4655B
K833B	4655R
K833R	4660
K756	4660B
K756B	4665
K756R	4665B
K757	4670
K757B	4670B
K757R	4670R
K760	4675
K760B	4675B
K760R	4675R
K761	
K761B	
K761R	
K821	<u>PITMAN ARM (AS SOLD INDIVIDUALLY)</u>
K821B	4007
K821R	04-4640
K822	
K822B	
K822R	
K823	
K823B	
K823R	
K824	
K824B	
K824R	