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Recall A-0704: Incorrect GVWR labeling

29 November 2007

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Report Pursuant to 49 CFR 573.6
Autocar, LLC, Recall No. A-0704
NHTSA Recall No. 07V-513

The following information is 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 ("Autocar").

573.6(c)(2)

Certain trucks fail to comply with requirements of part 568, 'vehicles manufactured in two or more stages, all incomplete, intermediate and final-stage manufacturers of vehicles manufactured in two or more stages.' The gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) label, as applied, may not be accurate. The GVWR label may indicate that the vehicle's load capacity is higher than the designed weight rating.

Affected models:

- Autocar / WX / 2007-2008
- Autocar / WXLL / 2007-2008
- Autocar / WXR / 2007-2008

This recall applies to vehicles built between 13 July 2007 and 28 September 2007, with serial numbers in the range 205677 through 206322.

573.6(c)(3)

49 vehicles are affected.

573.6(c)(4)

100 percent of the 49 vehicles are affected.

573.6(c)(5)

Due to the error in GVWR labeling, it is possible that a vehicle could be overloaded without the vehicle operator's knowledge. A vehicle in an overloaded condition may be susceptible to component failure that may result in loss of vehicle control, increasing the risk of a crash.

573.6 (c)(6)

09/28/07 Received notification from the final stage manufacturer of a discrepancy between vehicle configuration (GVWR) and the GVWR indicated by Autocar for the incomplete vehicle.
10/25/07 Autocar decided to initiate a recall.

573.6(c)(7)

The gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) labels are generated by proprietary software that extracts axle weight ratings from Autocar's sales configuration database. Throughout the month of October 2007, Autocar's Information Technology department manually calculated the GVWR of several trucks and compared it against the GVWR which was generated by the Autocar proprietary software. A discrepancy was found to exist between the weight rating on the GVWR label and the manually calculated weight rating, indicating the existence of a noncompliance.

573.6(c)(8)(i)

Autocar will voluntarily initiate an owner notification and recall on the 49 affected vehicles. Autocar will distribute – to owners of affected vehicles – an Owner Notification Letter which describes the discrepancy in GVWR labeling, and will include instructions for application of revised GVWR labels and the Incomplete Vehicle Document label. Autocar will furnish, at no cost to the owner, a complete set of revised GVWR labels, to include a revised Incomplete Vehicle Document label.

573.6(c)(8)(ii)

11/01/07 573.6 letter to NHTSA.
11/15/07 Owner Notification Letter to NHTSA for approval.
12/12/07 Owner Notification Letter, corrected GVWR decals, and installation instructions distributed to vehicle owners.

573.6(c)(9)

Not Applicable.

Customers may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's vehicle safety hotline at 888-327-4236 (tty 800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

The number which Autocar has assigned to this recall for tracking purposes is A-0704.

Respectfully,

Mike Koenig
Compliance
Autocar, LLC
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