



07V-047

July 13, 2007

## SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Re: Hitching Post Pro (934, 934xt, 935, 935xt, 936, 936xt, 937, 937xt, 951, 951xt)  
Expressway (995, 995xt, 996, 996xt)  
Trailblazer (998, 998xt)

Dear Thule Hitch Rack Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Thule has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in our Hitching Post Pro (934, 934xt, 935, 935xt, 936, 936xt, 937, 937xt, 951, 951xt), Expressway (995, 995xt, 996, 996xt), and Trailblazer (998, 998xt) hitch mounted bike racks sold during the 2003-2007 period. We are recalling these racks because a pinch point exists between the bike arm bracket and the upright assembly which has the potential of causing severe personal injury, including laceration or amputations to the user's fingertips or hand when the bike arm bracket is moved to its down position. Because this could happen without warning, it is important that you **stop using the rack immediately**. At all times, keep your hands and fingers away from the area between the bike arm bracket and the upright assembly.

Please review the following instructions on how to obtain a free repair kit. We are planning to have sufficient repair kits and replacement units available to satisfy the requirements of this recall without delay or inconvenience. We will provide a repair kit that will allow you to insert a bumper and a warning label to the pinch point location. To obtain your kit, please call us at 1-800-THULE 91 (800-848-5391), provide us your name and address, and follow the instructions to install the additional parts. You can also visit <http://www.thuleracks.com> for more information. If you have incurred any cost for remedies in advance of this notification please contact the toll free number listed above for reimbursement. Reasonable supporting documentation will be requested.

This improvement is necessary to correct the identified problem and provide the superior quality reflected in the Thule brand products we are privileged to provide. If we fail to or are unable to remedy the defect at no charge, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE, Washington, DC 20590 or call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. We highly value you as a committed Thule customer and want to maintain your confidence and support of our entire line of car rack systems.

Sincerely,

Noel Roberts  
Director of Quality  
Thule, Inc.

**THULE**



July 13, 2007

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

**Re: NOTICE OF SAFETY RECALL  
Voluntary Recall of Discontinued Hitch Racks**

2003 - June 27, 2007 **Trailblazer** (998, 998XT)

2003 - June 27, 2007 **Expressway** (995, 995XT, 996, 996XT)

2003 - June 27, 2007 **Hitching Post Pro** (934, 934XT, 935, 935XT, 936, 936XT, 937, 937XT, 951, 951XT)

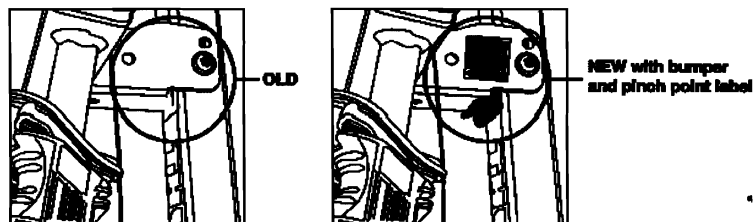
Dear Thule Dealer,

In voluntary cooperation with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Thule, Inc. is instituting a recall on the Hitch racks listed above.

We have determined that a pinch point exists between the bike arm bracket and the upright assembly of these hitch-style bicycle racks. The only known risk from the pinch point is the potential to cause severe personal injury, including lacerations and/or amputations, when moving the bike arm bracket to its down position.

In order to remedy this situation, Thule, Inc. is providing immediately to all dealers at no charge, a retrofit kit that includes a bumper (which eliminates the pinch point), a warning sticker, and written instructions regarding the installation of both.

These kits are being provided to you to convert any remaining stock you may have. In order to obtain the kit, please call Thule at **(800) 238-2388** with the quantity you require. Once you receive the kits, open the affected hitch rack box and insert the retro fit kit into the box. If you would prefer to return the product to Thule, please call your Dealer Services Representative to receive an RA# and we will issue you a refund or credit - whichever you prefer.



For consumers needing a retro fit kit, we have set up a dedicated recall hotline at **1-800-THULE91 (800-848-5391)**. To aid us in reaching as many consumers as possible, Thule, Inc. requests that you provide us with contact information (name and address) of any customers to whom you have sold the product(s) covered by this recall.

Please note that no Thule products, other than the models identified above, are affected by this recall. In addition, the new 2007 line of hitch mounted bicycle racks (Revolver, Ridgeline and Roadway) feature the Hitch Switch™ folding arms – which eliminates this pinch point.

**THULE**

THULE INC.  
42 Silvermine Road  
Seymour, CT 06483 US  
Phone +1 (800) 238-2388  
www.thule.com

A PREMIUM BRAND WITHIN THE THULE GROUP



Finally, in order to keep you fully informed as to how we are proceeding with this voluntary recall, we have also included a copy of the retail Point of Sale poster concerning the recall that we are asking retailers to display in your stores [We request that you make as many copies of the Point of Sale poster as may be needed, and that you arrange immediately for display of these posters at all of your retail locations.]. Copies of the press release, instruction sheet from the retro fit kit and consumer notification letter can be found at [www.thuleracks.com](http://www.thuleracks.com).

Please note that Thule, Inc. is required to advise you that it is a violation of federal law for you to sell or lease any item covered by this notification until the defect identified herein has been remedied.

We thank you for your cooperation and understanding. We highly value you as a trusted partner and want to maintain the confidence you and your customers have shown in our entire line of car rack systems.

Sincerely,

Noel Roberts  
Director of Quality  
Thule, Inc.

enclosure:

In-store Point of Sale Poster

**THULE**



# SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

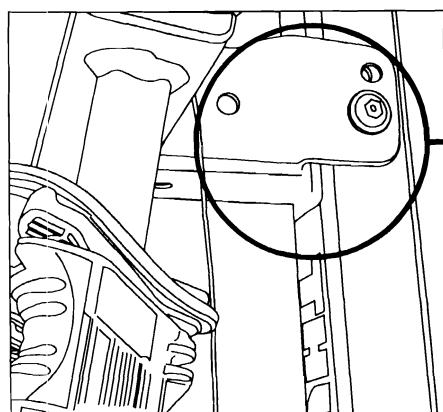
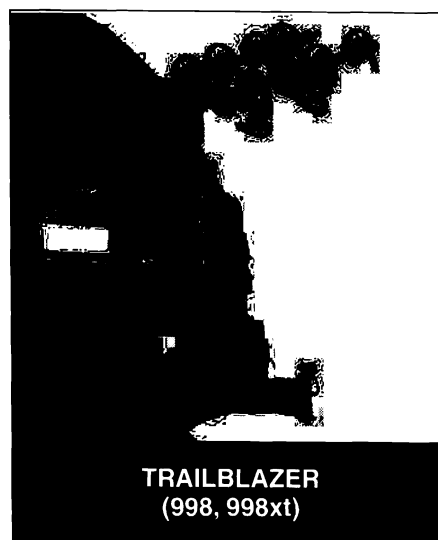
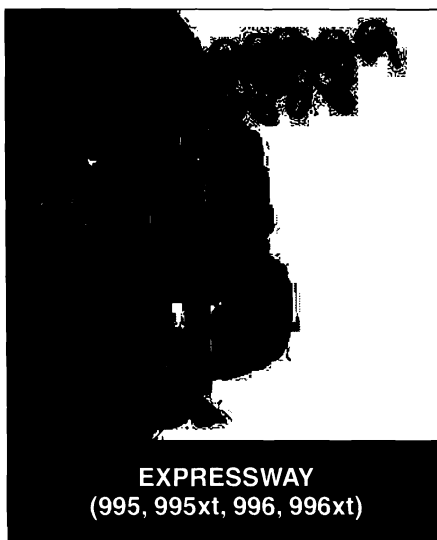
HITCH MOUNTED BICYCLE RACKS SOLD DURING 2003-2007

AFFECTED MODELS:

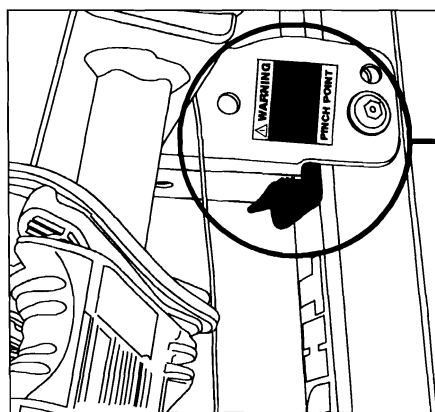
HITCHING POST PRO (934, 934xt, 935, 935xt, 936, 936xt, 937, 937xt, 951, 951xt)

EXPRESSWAY (995, 995xt, 996, 996xt)

TRAILBLAZER (998, 998xt)



OLD



NEW with bumper  
and pinch point label

In cooperation with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Thule, Inc. of Seymour, Connecticut is recalling all Hitching Post Pro (934, 934xt, 935, 935xt, 936, 936xt, 937, 937xt, 951, 951xt), Expressway (995, 995xt, 996, 996xt), and Trailblazer (998, 998xt) hitch mounted bike racks sold during the 2003-2007 period. Thule has determined that a pinch point exists between the bike arm bracket and the upright assembly which has the potential of causing a severe laceration or amputation to the user's fingertips or hand when the bike arm bracket is moved to its "down" position.

**CONSUMERS SHOULD STOP USING THESE RACKS IMMEDIATELY** and contact Thule at 800-THULE-91 (800-848-5391) between the hours of 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM Eastern Standard Time for information on how to obtain a free repair kit. Consumers can also obtain information on this recall online at [www.thuleracks.com](http://www.thuleracks.com).