



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 14, 2008

MS. LOIS SLINGS
OPERATIONS MANAGER
PRODUCT SAFETY & LEGAL DEPARTMENT
VERMEER MANUFACTURING COMPANY
1210 VERMEER ROAD EAST
PELLA, IA 50219

NVS-215paw
08V-215

SUBJECT: ADJ. LENGTH TONGUE TUBE ASSEMBLY (TRAILER HITCH)

DEAR MS. SLINGS:

This letter serves to acknowledge Vermeer Manufacturing Company'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:

VERMEER/BC1200XL/2006
VERMEER/BC1200XL/2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-215

Mfg's Report Date: May 9, 2008

Components: TRAILER HITCHES

Potential Number of Units Affected: 19

Summary:

VERMEER IS RECALLING 19 MY 2006 AND 2008 BC2100XL TANDEM AXLE BRUSH CHIPPER TRAILERS EQUIPPED WITH AN ADJUSTABLE LENGTH TONGUE TUBE ASSEMBLIES. BENDING AND/OR FATIGUE CRACKING IN THE TONGUE CAN RESULT IN TONGUE FAILURE AND SEPARATION FROM THE TOWING VEHICLE.

Consequence:

SEPARATION FROM THE TOWING VEHICLE COULD RESULT IN A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE TONGUE TUBE ASSEMBLY. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING MAY 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT VERMEER AT 1-641-621-7200.

Notes:

VERMEER RECALL NO. IK01-1460. 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).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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, Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Wallace".

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