



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

July 23, 2008

MR. JAMES ELLEFSON
PRODUCTION MANAGER
HAWKEYE TRUCK EQUIPMENT
5800 N. 2ND AVENUE
DES MOINES, IA 50316-0283

NVS-215paw
08V-333

SUBJECT: AXLE & SUSPENSION SYSTEMS/WATSON & CHALIN

DEAR MR. ELLEFSON:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hawkeye Truck Equipment'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:

HAWKEYE/DUMP TRUCK/2005-2007

HAWKEYE/TRACTOR/2005-2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-333

Mfg's Report Date: Received July 16, 2008

Components: SUSPENSION: FRONT: CONTROL ARM: LOWER ARM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 89

Summary:

HAWKEYE TRUCK EQUIPMENT (HTE) IS RECALLING CERTAIN DUMP TRUCKS AND TRACTORS FITTED WITH AN AUXILIARY LIFT AXLE, MODELS SL-1190 OR SL-890, MANUFACTURED BY WATSON AND CHALIN. THE LOWER CAST ARMS COULD FRACTURE WHICH COULD AFFECT THE SUSPENSIONS ABILITY TO LIFT THE AXLE WHEN IT'S NOT NEEDED.

Consequence:

A VEHICLE CRASH COULD OCCUR.

Remedy:

HTE WILL PROVIDE OWNERS WITH REPAIR KITS ALONG WITH REPAIR INSTRUCTIONS OR WILL REPLACE THE LOWER ARMS FOR THE CUSTOMER FREE OF CHARGE. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS CAN CONTACT HTE AT 1-800-622-8223.

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).

This recall was the subject of an Equipment Query, EQ07-005, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

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

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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

HTE must file a sample of the envelope which you intend to use to mail the recall notice to owners. The words "SAFETY", "RECALL", "NOTICE" in any order must be printed on the envelope in larger font than the customers name and address.

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

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 black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a stylized, cursive script.

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