



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 27, 2008

MR. JESSIE GRIGSBY
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
KAFFENBARGER TRUCK EQUIPMENT CO.
10100 BALLENTINE PIKE
NEW CARLISLE, OH 45344

NVS-215paw
08V-403

SUBJECT: AXLE

DEAR MR. GRIGSBY:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kaffenbarger Truck Equipment 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:

KAFFENBARGER/INTERNATIONAL/2006-2008

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08V-403

Mfg's Report Date: July 29, 2008

Components: SUSPENSION: FRONT: CONTROL ARMS: LOWER ARMS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 22

Summary:

KAFFENBARGER IS RECALLING 22 MY 2006-2008 INTERNATIONAL CLASS 8 TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH AUXILIARY AXLES SUPPLIED BY WATSON & 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:

KAFFENBARGER IS WORKING WITH WATSON & CHALIN TO PROVIDE REPAIR KITS ALONG WITH REPAIR INSTRUCTIONS. OWNERS CAN CONTACT WATSON & CHALIN MANUFACTURING AT 1-800-445-0736 OR KAFFENBARGER AT 1-937-845-3804.

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).

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).

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 your report, Watson & Chalin will be handling the remedy and quarterly reporting for this campaign. However, please be advised that 49 CFR 573.6 provides that the vehicle manufacturer is responsible for any safety related defect or any noncompliance in the vehicle or any item of original equipment. If Watson & Chalin's campaign is not satisfactory, you may be required to conduct a follow-up notification.

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". The signature is stylized and cursive.

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