



Great Dane Trailers

Date

Customer Name

Attn:

Address

Address

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Great Dane has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2005 Dry Freight Semi-Trailers manufactured between 4/9/2004 and 11/18/2004.

The kingpin vendor supplying our plants with kingpins in 2004 supplied us with kingpins that did not all meet Great Dane's hardness specification. Subsequently three of these kingpins broke off as tractors were attempting to couple to the trailers.. Independent testing of the failed kingpins confirmed they were outside of Great Dane's hardness tolerances. If a kingpin were to break off during over the road operation it may result in the separation of the trailer from the tractor which could cause a catastrophic accident. A failed kingpin could lead to serious personal injury or death.

The kingpins in question were shipped to our manufacturing facility with a lot/heat treat code combination of NS 919 and PH 958.

The trailers referenced on the attached listing were produced during the time frame 4/9/2004 – 11/18/2004 when the suspect kingpins were in house and could have been utilized in the manufacture of your trailers. To determine if these trailers contain kingpins from these suspect lot/heat treat codes (NS 919 & PH 958), the below listed "Visual Inspection" procedure should be performed and the findings reported. This inspection can be done by you or by contacting any Great Dane Branch or Dealer and presenting the trailers to them for inspection.

1. Clean the bottom of the kingpin with a wire brush to allow the lot/heat code to be verified and recorded along with the trailer VIN.
2. Attachment #1 is an engineering drawing that details how to identify the kingpin markings and shows the affected lot/heat code combination.
3. Attachment #2 is the "Visual Pin Inspection Form" that is to be used to capture and report the required information in order to comply with the recall requirements. This form must be faxed to Great Dane Customer Service at fax# 912-644-2164.

Note: The trailer VIN and king pin information must be reported to Great Dane and recorded regardless of whether or not it is in the suspect lot and heat code in order to be removed from this recall.

Lathrop Avenue P.O. Box 67 Savannah, GA 31402 Phone (912) 644-2100 FAX (912) 644-2166

www.greatdanetrailers.com

A Division of Great Dane Limited Partnership

All trailers inspected and found not to be in the suspect group shall be noted on the inspection form and released for service.

All trailers identified with king pins within suspect lot and heat code must be removed from service and scheduled for field-testing. In-field testing will be arranged through and coordinated by Great Dane Customer Service at 912-644-2260.

Trailers that pass the field testing will be released to be returned to service. If testing proves the king pin falls outside of our hardness specification, the affected trailer must have the upper coupler replaced.

Upon notification of a king pin failing the testing requirements Great Dane's Customer Service will make arrangements for necessary field replacements of the upper coupler assembly through authorized Great Dane service facilities. Once the trailer's upper coupler has been replaced, the trailer can then be returned to service.

We regret any inconvenience this situation may cause but it is absolutely necessary because of the safety implications of a defective kingpin.

If for some reason this modification is not made without charge and within a reasonable period of time, you may wish to register a complaint with the following:

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Or you may wish to call them at their hotline number: 1-888-327-4236
(TTY 1-800-424-9153, or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>).

If you have any questions concerning this recall after you have contacted your nearest Great Dane Branch or Dealer, you may wish to call:

Great Dane Customer Service in Savannah, Georgia

Hotline Number: 1-877-369-3493

E-mail Address: Customer_Service@greatdanetrailers.com

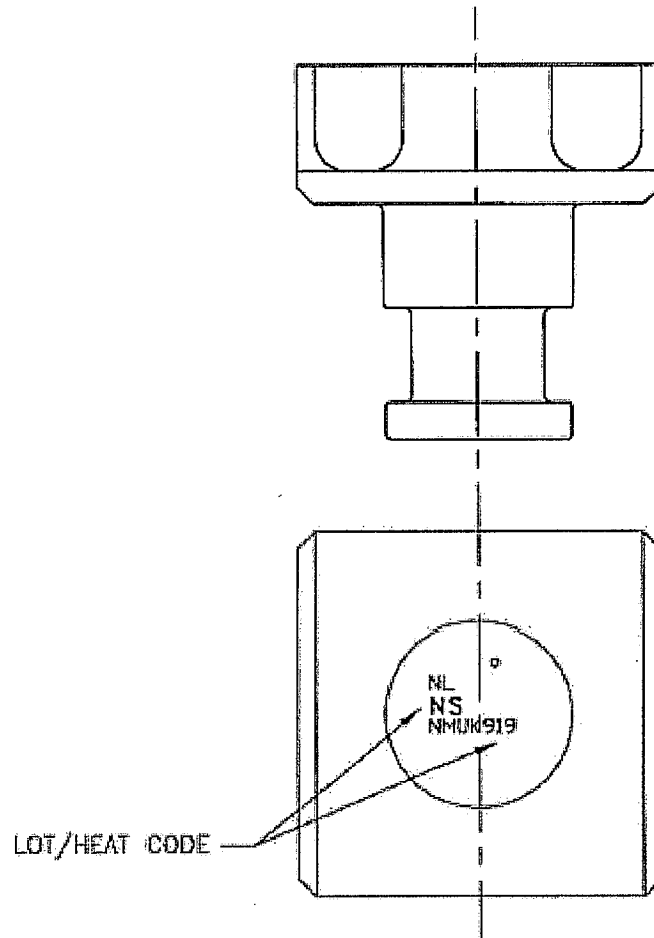
Sincerely,

Barry A. Mitchell
Director, Customer Service/Warranty

Attachments

/bam

ATTACHMENT #1



Recalled Kingpin Bottom View

Suspect Kingpin
Lot/Heat Code
Combinations

NS 919
PH 958

INSPECTION LOCATION:

KING PIN VISUAL INSPECTION FORM

ATTACHMENT #2

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE #: _____

INSPECTED BY	INSPECTION DATE	CUSTOMER	VIN NUMBER (LAST 8 DIGITS: 5KXXXXXX)	COMPLETE KING PIN CODE		
					LOT	HEAT
				NL		NMUK
				NL		NMUK
				NL		NMUK
				NL		NMUK
				NL		NMUK
				NL		NMUK
				NL		NMUK
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GREAT DANE CUSTOMER SERVICE RECALL PHONE NUMBER: 877-369-3493
GREAT DANE CUSTOMER SERVICE FAX NUMBER: 912-644-2164