



Great Dane Trailers

A Division of Great Dane Limited Partnership

August 1, 2011

SAFETY RECALL NOTICE – 08V-678

Customer
Address
Title
Address

Re:

This letter is being sent as a follow up to the above referenced recall related to potentially over hardened kingpins.

Great Dane had identified that our primary king pin vendor in 2004 had shipped a quantity of kingpins to our production facilities that do not meet Great Dane's hardness specification, subsequently three (3) of these kingpins have failed and broken off as tractors were attempting to couple to the trailers. Independent testing of the failed kingpins confirmed they were outside Great Dane's hardness tolerances and do not comply with Great Dane's material specifications for kingpins.

The failed kingpins were two (2) kingpins with a lot/heat treat code of NS 919 and one (1) kingpin with a lot/heat treat code of PH 958. Kingpins with these lot/heat treat codes were installed in Kewanee, IL built 2005 Model year Dry Freight trailers manufactured between 4/9/2004 and 11/18/2004.

Great Dane conducted a NHTSA recall on the trailers produced during the time frame 4/9/2004 and 11/18/2004 when the suspect kingpins were in house and could have been utilized in the manufacture of trailers.

Our records indicate that the trailers on the attached listing have not yet been presented or the visual inspection information has not been presented to Great Dane to remove these trailers from the inspection list.

We would ask that you bring these trailers in and perform the inspection procedure outlined below. If you have already performed this inspection simply fax the inspection information to (912) 644-2164.

The inspection procedure is as follows:

1. Clean the bottom of the king pin with a wire brush to allow the lot and heat codes to be verified and recorded along with the individual trailer V.I.N. number.
2. Attachment #1 is an engineering drawing that details how to identify the king pin markings and shows the affected lot/heat treat code combinations.
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 kingpin information must be reported to Great Dane Customer Service regardless of whether or not it is in the suspect lot/heat treat code combinations or not in order to have it recorded and removed from the recall.

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

All trailers identified with kingpins within the suspect lot/heat treat code groups must be removed from service and scheduled for field testing. Field testing will be arranged through and coordinated by Great Dane Customer Service by calling 912-644-2260.

Trailers that pass the field testing will be released to be returned to service. If testing determines the kingpin falls outside of our hardness specifications, the affected trailer must have the upper coupler replaced before being released for service.

Upon being notified of a kingpin failing the field testing, Great Dane Customer Service will make arrangements for the necessary field replacement of the upper coupler assembly through one of our authorized service facilities. Once the upper coupler has been replaced the trailer can then be returned to service.

We recognize the hardship that this situation has placed on your company, but it is absolutely necessary because of the safety implications of the affected king pins. A failed king pin could lead to serious personal injury or death. We ask for your continued understanding and patience as we work our way through the inspection and repair processes.

Sincerely,



Barry A. Mitchell
Director, Customer Service/Warranty



Great Dane Trailers

A Division of Great Dane Limited Partnership

August 18, 2011

Re: Kingpin Recall 08V-678
Trailer List:

Customer:
Address:
Address:
Address:

This letter is being sent as a follow up to the above referenced recall related to potentially over hardened kingpins. During the course of the administration of this recall it was found that kingpins supplied to Great Dane in 2004 for five manufacturing plants from lot and heat combination PH-955 were also outside of hardness tolerances and do not comply with Great Dane's material specifications for kingpins.

Our records indicate that the trailers on the attached listing have not yet been presented or the visual inspection information has not been presented to Great Dane to remove these trailers from the inspection list.

We would ask that you bring these trailers in and perform the inspection procedure outlined below. If you have already performed this inspection simply fax the inspection information to (912) 644-2164.

The inspection procedure is as follows:

1. Clean the bottom of the king pin with a wire brush to allow the lot and heat codes to be verified and recorded along with the individual trailer V.I.N. number.
2. Attachment #1 is an engineering drawing that details how to identify the king pin markings and shows the affected lot/heat treat code combinations.
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 kingpin information must be reported to Great Dane Customer Service regardless of whether or not it is in the suspect lot/heat treat code combinations or not in order to have it recorded and removed from the recall.

All trailers inspected and not found to be in the suspect group (lot/heat combination PH-955) shall be noted on the inspection form and released for service.

All trailers identified with kingpins within the suspect lot/heat treat code groups must be removed from service and scheduled for field testing. Field testing will be arranged through and coordinated by Great Dane Customer Service by calling 912-644-2260.

Trailers that pass the field testing will be released to be returned to service. If testing determines the kingpin falls outside of our hardness specifications, the affected trailer must have the upper coupler replaced before being released for service.

Upon being notified of a kingpin failing the field testing, Great Dane Customer Service will make arrangements for the necessary field replacement of the upper coupler assembly through one of our authorized service facilities. Once the upper coupler has been replaced the trailer can then be returned to service.

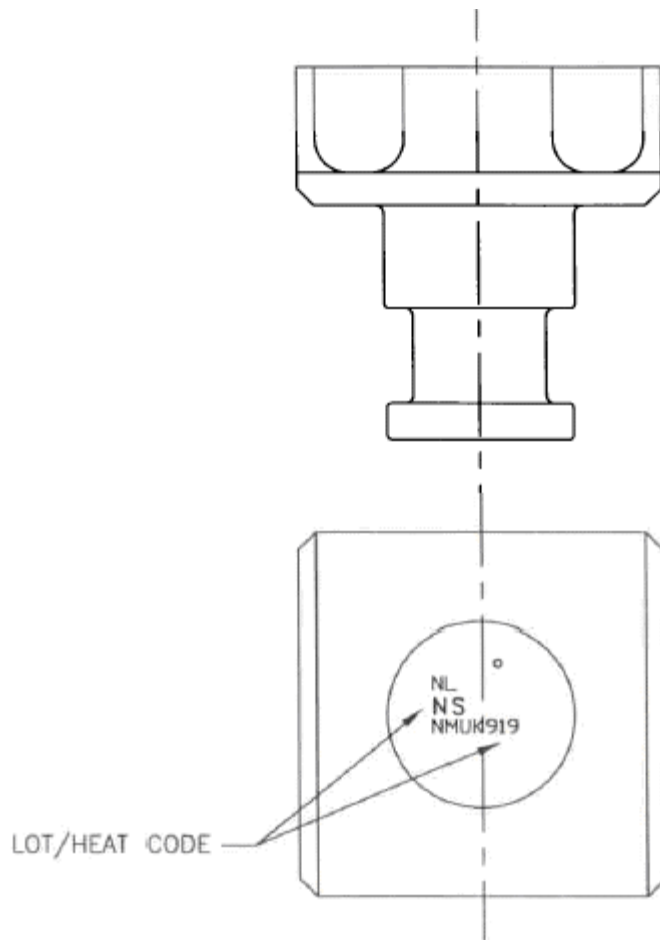
We recognize the hardship that this situation has placed on your company, but it is absolutely necessary because of the safety implications of the affected king pins. A failed king pin could lead to serious personal injury or death. We ask for your continued understanding and patience as we work our way through the inspection and repair processes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barry A. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive style. Below the signature is a horizontal red line.

Barry A. Mitchell
Director, Customer Service/Warranty

ATTACHMENT #1



Recalled Kingpin Bottom View

**Suspect Kingpin
Lot/Heat Code
Combinations**

**NS 919
PH 958**