



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 12, 2009

JOHN WALLACE
DIRECTOR OF CHASSIS ENGINEERING
FERRARA FIRE APPARATUS, INC.'S
27855 JAMES CHAPEL ROAD
HOLDEN LA 70744

NVS-215dgl
09V-210

SUBJECT: QUICK RELEASE VALVES/HALDEX/MERITOR WABCO

DEAR MR. WALLACE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc.'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 Federal law.

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:

FERRARA/IGNITER/2008-2009
FERRARA/INFERNO/2008-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-210

Mfg's Report Date: May 29, 2009

Components: SERVICE BRAKES, AIR: SUPPLY: QUICK RELEASE VALVE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 89

Summary:

FERRARA IS RECALLING 89 MODEL YEAR 2008-2009 INFERNO AND IGNITER FIRE TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH CERTAIN HALDEX QUICK RELEASE VALVES (QRV). THE RUBBER DIAPHRAGM INSIDE THE QRV MAY EXPERIENCE DELAMINATION RESULTING IN SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF AIR PRESSURE LEAKAGE PAST AND/OR THROUGH THE DIAPHRAGM, OR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BUBBLE IN THE DIAPHRAGM WHICH MAY TRAP AIR PRESSURE IN THE VALVE AND NOT ALLOW THE SERVICE BRAKES TO RELEASE.

Consequence:

MALFUNCTION OF THE AIR BRAKE SYSTEM COULD RESULT IN A VEHICLE CRASH.

Remedy:

FERRARA WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPAIR THE AFFECTED VEHICLES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR BEFORE JUNE 26, 2009. OWNERS CAN CONTACT FERRARA AT 225-567-7100.

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, EQ-09-003, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it does not meet all the requirements of Part 577.

The first sentence should read: "This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act."

The second sentence stating that, "Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain MY 2008-2009 Inferno and Igniter fire trucks equipped with quick release valves manufactured by Haldex between May 27, 2008 and October 15, 2008 for use in heavy duty, commercial vehicle braking system applications. Some of these parts..."

Under "**What is Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc. doing to resolve this issue?**" Last sentence i.e., "To correct this condition, your dealer will inspect and replace the valves in these units free of charge.

A statement offering reimbursement for those owners and purchasers that may have remedied the defect and their own costs prior to receiving your letter needs to be added. We suggest the following language: "If you had this repair performed before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information contact"

You must also include a statement advising owners that they may contact NHTSA if there is a problem performing the recall on their vehicles. “If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.”

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

Please provide us with the beginning dates for the build date range of the vehicles affected by this recall.

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 contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at 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 be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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