



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 29, 2009

MR. ROGER LACKORE, P.E.
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
PIERCE MANUFACTURING, INC.
2600 AMERICAN DRIVE P.O. BOX 2017
APPLETON, WI 54912-2017

NVS-215kjs
09V-238

SUBJECT: SCBA CYLINDER STORAGE COMPARTMENTS

DEAR MR. LACKORE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Pierce Manufacturing 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:

PIERCE/75' ALUMINUM LADDER/2003-2009

PIERCE/PUC PUMPER/2003-2009

PIERCE/REAR MOUNT PUMPER/2003-2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-238 **Mfg's Report Date:** June 29, 2009

Components: STRUCTURE:BODY:DOOR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 284

Summary:

PIERCE IS RECALLING 248 MODEL YEAR 2003 THROUGH 2009 FIRE APPARATUS BODIES MANUFACTURED BETWEEN DECEMBER 10, 2003 AND MARCH 9, 2009, AND MAY HAVE BEEN EQUIPPED WITH DUAL SCBA CYLINDER STORAGE COMPARTMENTS. THESE COMPARTMENTS EXTEND

INBOARD HORIZONTALLY FROM THE SIDE OF THE REAR BODY. THE SCBA COMPARTMENT DOOR LATCH MAY HAVE BEEN MANUFACTURED INCORRECTLY, ALLOWING THE DOOR TO POP OPEN WITHOUT WARNING WHILE THE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION.

Consequence:

IF THE DOOR OPENS, THE SCBA CYLINDERS MAY FALL OUT OF THE COMPARTMENT AND ONTO THE ROADWAY, POSSIBLY BECOMING ROAD HAZARD TO OTHER MOTORISTS WHICH COULD RESULT IN A CRASH.

Remedy:

PIERCE WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND WILL REPAIR THE VEHICLES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING JULY 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT PIERCE AT 1-920-832-3000.

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.

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

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).

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 Delia Lopez or Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525 or 202-366-5227, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or Kelly.Schuler@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 fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

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